

ROMA STATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



TERM 1 WEEK 5

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are now half way through the term. I am sure that like me, many of you are asking where the time has gone? We wish to acknowledge the efforts of our community, students, families, staff and wider community for their ongoing support and contributions to RSC.

Throughout the first half of the term, our classes have continued to focus on maintaining routines and understanding the expectations required to ensure that our school year continues to run as smooth as possible so that our students have every opportunity to do their best learning and our teachers their best teaching. We would like to extend a thank you to everyone involved in the lives of our students for working to ensure our students have the support they need to ensure they have a life of choice and not a life of chance.

This year, our 'Explicit Improvement Agenda' is focussed on Academic Achievement, Wellbeing and Engagement and Culture and Inclusion.

Roma State College EXPLICIT IMPROVEMENT AGENDA

*Vision: We inspire and empower all students to become lifelong learners within the school community and beyond.
Values: Respect ~ Strive ~ Contribute (RSC)*



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



WELLBEING & ENGAGEMENT



CULTURE & INCLUSION

As a college we continue to improve results and opportunities for our students and build upon our reputation. We are committed to getting even better, so we are furthering the implementation of research-based strategies to ensure that every child makes learning progress. We do this through a 'whole school' planned, coordinated and collaborative approach to teaching and learning. The infographic above outlines some of the how and where our targets lie.

Kind regards,
Mr. Grant

LEADERS INDUCTION AND RSC SENIOR AWARDS

Last Monday, our secondary campus held our induction ceremony for our 2024 student leaders and our senior (year 12) students. This annual occurrence is an important piece of the culture of our college and it was great to see our captains (school and house) be presented with their leadership badges by their parents. I'm sure a memorable experience for all. Equally so, it was great to see our year 12 students receive their senior badges from their form teachers. We had the pleasure of a guest speaker Mr Dave Atkin, General Manager Integrated Gas, Operating Model, HSE and Risk Assurance and Compliance who shared some insightful messaging around leaders and leadership.

On Thursday, a large number of secondary students were acknowledged at our RSC Awards Ceremony. The RSC Award not only reflects the name of our college, but also recognises students who consistently demonstrate our core values of Respect, Strive and Contribute. Students who received the award have demonstrated our College's core values across all of their subjects throughout Semester 2 last year, evidenced by outstanding effort and behaviour results on their reports and it was our great pleasure to recognise these students, for we are very proud of them all.

To be eligible for this award, students needed to have received all **excellent** or **very good** across the whole report for effort and behaviour, with no more than 2 satisfactory results. Some students received only **excellent ratings** across their whole report which is outstanding! To all of our students who received awards last week, we commend you on this award, and on behalf of our school community, congratulate you on your ongoing commitment toward our college's values.

STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME

A big thank you to all of the parents who have already paid their child/ren's 2024 Student Resource Scheme fees. We also wish to acknowledge and thank the many parents who have come into the school and arranged alternative payments (i.e., Centrelink or other payment options).

We understand life can sometimes be extremely busy and sometimes payments may get overlooked. Therefore, during the beginning of term, the college will be forwarding reminder notices to parents who may have overlooked the payment of these materials. If any parent is currently under financial hardship and would like to discuss alternative payment options, please do not hesitate to make an appointment or contact the college and one of our college leaders will be in contact.

By working together, we can ensure all students are provided all of their materials at a minimum cost.

SCHOOL FETE

DATE CLAIMERS

22 Feb: Beyond the Broncos Visit
11 Mar: Year 11 Catch Up Photos
11 Mar: Year 12 Geography Excursion
13 Mar: NAPLAN Begins
16 Mar: RSC Fete
28 Mar: Last Day Term 1
29 Mar: Good Friday
15 Apr: First Day Term 2



On **Saturday 16 March 2024** between **11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.** RSC will hold a school fete at the Junior Campus. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of our organising committee in working tirelessly to ensure the day is one to remember. This small group of volunteers have been meeting regularly to organise the event and to ensure there are plenty of activities, food, entertainment and rides for our attendees.

As always, we are on the lookout for volunteers who may be able to assist with the event. Setup and take down on the day, as well as donations and assistance throughout the fete. Every little bit helps so if you can help out, please reach out to the P&C or the college so we can point you in the right direction.

A reminder that donations are currently being collected at each of the administration blocks at each campus. Your assistance will help make the day a fun one for all.

AMALGAMATION OF PRIMARY

Some of the very clear feedback from of our 2023 School Review from our community was around the strong support for the amalgamation of the primary campuses to a single campus.

The feedback we received was frequently around concerns for the current location of Junior Campus and its proximity to the Warrego Highway with safety and noise concerns being raised. We also heard about the ongoing financial, resourcing and staffing implications of maintaining and running the two campuses and the sense having a single primary campus made

To prepare for the future amalgamation of our primary campuses, we would like to commence by inviting families to our first meeting on **Wednesday 28 February 5:00 p.m. in the Junior Campus Library**. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss considerations for the future move.

Both our Junior and Middle Campuses offer a range of wonderful opportunities for our students and we want to consider what this will look like when we have a P-6 Campus. What are the elements we would like to see remain and what might need to change? What are our opportunities and what might the barriers be as we carefully plan this amalgamation?

Please RSVP your intention to attend by emailing feedback@romasc.eq.edu.au.

If you are unable to attend and would like to provide some feedback or have any questions, please feel free to communicate through the same email address.

EVERYDAY COUNTS AT OUR SCHOOL

Our school encourages all parents and members of our community to support the State Government initiative to improve student attendance. The program – Every Day Counts – has four key messages:

- all children should be enrolled and attend school on every school day.
- schools should monitor and create ways to improve attendance in schools.
- attendance is the responsibility of everyone in the community.
- children may find themselves in unsafe situations if they choose not to attend or skip school.

While most students attend school consistently, there are a small number of students who are absent from school without an acceptable reason and this may harm their education. Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late and being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Research shows that if your child has a record of good attendance, they are more likely to achieve high results in the future.

If your child is away, you need to let the school know the reasons beforehand, or when returning to school. You will receive daily notifications if your child is absent from school as per legislative requirements.

We ask that should you receive a text, you contact the school to explain the absence either by phone, text, email or by the Q Parents app. If you have registered. Have a great term!

STUDENT ABSENCES

Procedure

Every day counts!

TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDS ABSENCE:

SMS - respond to the daily text message alert.

QParents - log in and advise absences through the app.

Email - admin@romasc.eq.edu.au

Phone - contact your relevant campus and advise administration staff.

Junior Campus

07 4620 1111

Middle Campus

07 4620 1333

Senior Campus

07 4620 4212

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

Unexplained absence letters are posted home at the end of Week 4 & Week 8.

Please take the time to account for these absences, and return the signed letter back to your relevant campus to keep our attendance data current.



MOBILE PHONE POLICY - 2024 AND BEYOND

As you are aware, there is a new state wide approach in education around mobile phones in schools. At RSC, the 2024 and beyond model is "Off and away for the Day". Students may use their phones before school, however when the first bell goes – and for the entire remainder of the school day – all student phones need to be "Off and away for the Day".

When phones are brought to school, the most appropriate safe space for student phones will be in their locked locker at secondary campus and handed in to the office for safe keeping at primary.

The implementation of this new approach has been largely well received by our students although there are still areas for improvement. Please continue to discuss the expectations of "Off and away for the Day" with your student/s so they continue to meet the expectation. For students who are having difficulties meeting the expectation, parents/carers will receive direct communication from the college seeking your support.

Phones **away** for the day



UNIFORMS

The policy on school dress standards for students has been determined by the Roma State College community in consultation with the College Principal and endorsed by the Parents and Citizens Association.

It is designed to contribute to and support a healthy and safe learning environment which allows students to participate in school activities. In this code, the term 'community' is used as a synonym for 'community members, parents, teachers and students'.

The main purpose of a uniform is that it identifies the person as a member of our community and secondly it removes the competitive element from dress style, presenting students more equally.

As we are a uniform school, we ask that students are in the appropriate uniform each day. As a college we are committed to supporting our students to be in correct uniform. Families who are facing difficulty meeting these expectations are encouraged to contact the office and speak with either myself, our Heads of School or our Deputy Principals.

It has been great to see approximately half our year 7-12 wearing their formal uniforms each Monday. Keep up the great job!

RSC – SENIOR CAMPUS



FORMAL
uniform
MONDAYS



Respect. Strive. Contribute.

Senior Campus students are highly encouraged to exhibit their school pride by wearing their formal uniform every Monday.

COLLEGE IMPROVEMENTS

At RSC we are continuing our work to enhance the appearance and facilities for our students, staff and community at RSC. We wish to acknowledge the work of our cleaning teams as well as our facilities and grounds teams who work tirelessly across the college. We are extremely grateful for their diligence and care for our college.

As you can imagine, maintaining our three campuses takes an enormous effort and comes at a great expense, however, undeterred, we aim to enhance our college for the benefit of all of our students, staff and community. Some of the works listed below have been completed, whilst some are underway or are in the pipeline.

- Installation of our Digital Sign on Cottell Street has been completed last week. We are looking forward to using this technology to showcase our school and provide event updates and other information.
- Senior campus, G Block dance and drama space refurbishment is well underway and nearing completion. We eagerly await the opening of this space to our students and staff.
- Senior campus, accessibility toilet is also nearing completion. We are awaiting the install of a new hoist as they finalise some of the works.
- Suppliers of our new lockers for Senior Campus suggest they are close to being delivered and being accessible to our students. We are all looking forward to their arrival.
- Middle Campus external re-painting of A, B, C and N Blocks has been completed. These areas are looking nice and fresh, and we look forward to continuing the work in the next financial year.
- The tendering process for our new senior playground at Middle Campus has commenced. We will be meeting with various companies in the tender process over the coming weeks and we look forward to the project being finalised by June.
- We continue to await the announcement of the Go for Gold Grant Round 2. Our application included the refurbishment of the Sports Hall at Middle Campus – including repairs and an upgrade to the flooring, improved ventilation including the installation of fans, and a number of other improvements.
- We have been working with our regional facilities team around a full refurbishment of J Block at Senior Campus (internal and external) and have made an application to the Federal Government Schools Upgrade Fund for an upgrade to J and K Blocks at Middle Campus.

FETE RAFFLE TICKETS

Thank you to all who have been diligently selling raffle tickets to support the RSC Fete. All ticket books, sold or unsold, need to be returned no later than 13 March.

If you are unable to sell the tickets, we would encourage all unsold books to be returned to the college ASAP so they can be distributed to others.

We thank you again for your contributions to this community event and look forward to seeing as many people as possible on 16 March.

OUTSIDE HOURS SCHOOL CARE AT RSC

We are seeking parent feedback to determine if there is a need for a potential outside hours school care at Roma State College.

Outside School Hours Care (OHSC) deliver vital support to families, especially working parents and guardians.

Qualified OSHC educators deliver a nationally approved program, where children have access to a wide variety of stimulating, developmentally appropriate activities.

OHSC's are facilitated by P&C's or external organisations on school sites and parents are charged fees for their children to attend.

To progress the conversation, families are encouraged to respond to the following survey. (<https://forms.office.com/r/vHm7K7R9Bt>). The survey will close on close of business **Friday 8 March**.