

ROMA STATE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



TERM 2 WEEK 1

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to Term 2. We hope you have had a wonderful Easter and you had a chance to recharge your batteries and spend time with your families, if you were fortunate to have some time off. It has already been a busy start to the term welcoming our returning and new families to the college.

Thank you to all of our families who have taken the time or are taking the time to meet with their children's teacher/s for our Parent Teacher Interviews. These parent/teacher interviews provide an opportunity for your child's class teacher to outline the areas that your child has performed well in during Term One. Parents who attend this interview process will be provided with direction for Term Two learning and other areas of their school performance that may require additional attention. Parental involvement and interest in this process will send a very clear and positive message to your child.

We are excited to be completing our postponed Senior Cross Country and Junior Colour Run early this term. It is always a tough decision for the college to postpone events however due to the weather and the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff, we appreciate the understanding around these decisions. We will always plan these events to ensure that our eligible athletes still have the opportunity to move to the next level i.e., district or regional competitions. We once again thank our staff and student leaders for their planning and support of these events and we look forward to welcoming families along to cheer on our athletes.

We have made it to the end of term one. I have come to realise that every term in a school is a busy term and that has definitely been the case at our college. Thank you again to our students, staff and community for your ongoing support of Roma State College throughout the term. Across our entire College, we all work diligently, whether it be at Junior, Middle or Senior Campus to ensure that we continue to work towards our school vision: We inspire and empower all students to become lifelong learners within the school community and beyond all while upholding and enacting our school values of Strive, Respect and Contribute.

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)*



READING

ENGAGEMENT

LEARNING

Kind regards,
Mr Cyant

ANZAC Day



ANZAC Day will be acknowledged by the College in a number of ways again in 2024.

- We will hold a combined ANZAC Day service on Wednesday 24th April at Middle Campus for our Senior and Middle Campus students.
- Junior Campus will hold an ANZAC Day service after assembly on Tuesday 23rd April – lead by our Primary Leaders.
- School leaders will attend the dawn service and have also been invited to the Roma Cemetery for a ceremony lead by the Roma & District Family History Society.
- Students are invited to march in the Roma ANZAC Day parade. We will congregate outside the Roma Railway station from 9am. Students are asked to wear full school uniform and ideally come with their hat. A letter containing additional details will be emailed home.

We thank you all for your support of our involvement in these events.



2024 P&C EXECUTIVE

At our P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of last term, we took the opportunity to congratulate the P&C on the outstanding year and thank the executive for their work. Our dedicated group of volunteers give up time to ensure that our college continues to receive the support of our community and to raise funds for projects that support the college.

A part of the AGM is to elect our new executive and we would like to congratulate and thank the following members for taking on the following roles:

- President - Megan Proud
- Vice President – Megan Bardon
- Treasurer – Nicole Wilcox
- Secretary – Stacey Johnson

Please join us in congratulating our 2024 P&C Executive.

We would also like to pass on our thanks to Di Garvie and Carly McGlinchey for their work on the 2023 executive.

DATE CLAIMERS

25 April: Anzac March



2 May: Colour Run

6 May: Labour Day Holiday

9 May: Walk to School Safely

10 May: Show Holiday

24 June to 5 July: July School Holidays

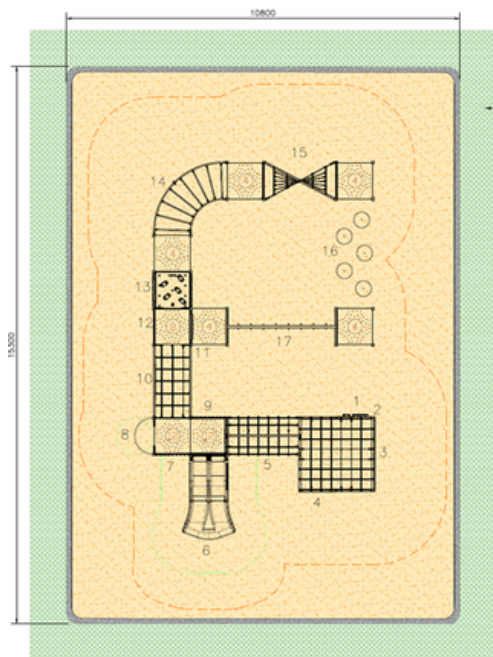


COLLEGE IMPROVEMENTS

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.

- The tendering process for our new senior playground at Middle Campus has finalised and we have selected our successful tender. We have finalised the design and have selected our colour scheme. The pictures are examples of the design and layout and are not accurate depictions of our colour scheme. We look forward to the project being completed around the June/July holidays.



- Our work with the regional facilities team around a full refurbishment of J Block at Senior Campus (internal and external) has now entered into the tendering phase. As a college we have begun planning for the works which may occur as soon as in term three. We will continue to keep you informed as these works near commencement.
- 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 also continue to await news on our application to the Federal Government Schools Upgrade Fund for an upgrade to J and K Blocks at Middle Campus.

EVERY DAY 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 through the QParents app if you have registered.

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.

A reminder that Monday at Senior Campus is formal uniform Monday. We wish to compliment our students and families for the uptake of the concept and we regularly see a large number of students wearing their formal uniforms. We look forward to this continuing in term 2 and seeing more students join in.

As the cool weather is upon us, jumpers are very important, but they seem to go missing so easily. Trust us, we will be regularly talking to our students about not just throwing their school jumpers onto their bag, rather putting it inside of their bag. Our lost property is located within our administration blocks at each campus, so should any items go missing (and they are unnamed) this is where you should find them. Don't forget to have each of your child's items clearly named.

Historically, we notice a number of students wearing non-school items of clothing especially jumpers. We ask that families adhere to our uniform policy and ensure their children have access to a school jumper. Students who wear non-school items may be asked to remove the item and may be supplied with a clean, school approved replacement to borrow. If you are having challenges with this, please let us know and we will work out a solution together.



QPARENTS

QParents is a free online application that enables Queensland state school parents to conveniently access and view a range of their child's school data and efficiently complete school-related administrative processes.

All data accessed by parents in the app is surfaced directly from OneSchool, with no additional data entry required. Schools control what data parents have access to by choosing which of the application's modules to switch on and off.

Benefits of using QParents

QParents provides parents with 24/7 online access to:

- receiving and responding to consent requests and automated reminders
- receiving and paying invoices
- viewing attendance records and providing absentee notifications
- academic reporting data
- timetables
- assessment planners
- schedules of upcoming events.

This access enables parents to communicate with their school and complete school-related administrative tasks quickly and easily. It also assists schools by streamlining administrative processes and reducing the volume of parent information requests, resulting in significant efficiencies.

QParents

Enjoy convenient and secure online access to your child's student information.

You can easily:

- provide digital consent
- read or download report cards
- notify of absences
- pay invoices
- see your child's timetable and school events.

Visit qparents.qld.edu.au

Learn more about QParents

Register or login at QParents

Download the free app

Android Apple

Tips for Sending Kids Back to School After School Holidays

During your child's extended breaks from school, it's easy for them to fall out of a routine. For days or weeks, kids no longer have to wake up early for school, so they may stay in their pyjama's, go to bed later and spend most of the day playing or in front of a screen. When the break is over, the return to school may be a challenging adjustment for both students and parents.

How can you make the change as easy as possible?

1. Don't Let Return to School Sneak Up on Children

While there is a countdown to the start of winter and spring break and some pomp and circumstance regarding the end of school holidays, the end of those breaks can seem to end abruptly. For younger kids, make a calendar to help remind them of the return to school, and have older children and adolescents write it on their own calendar or enter it in their mobile phone. A calendar can also be a helpful reminder for teens of school assignments they have during a break.

2. Return of the School Sleep Schedule

Whether the student is a 5-year-old or a 15-year-old, getting enough sleep at night is critical to their ability to learn. The American Academy of Sleep Medicine says that without enough sleep, children and teens are more likely to have behaviour, learning and attention problems when they return to school. Lack of sleep also places them at a higher risk of developing a variety of health issues, including:

- Depression
- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Obesity

It's important to transition youth back to their regular sleep patterns before they return to school. For younger children in particular, move bedtime back 15 to 20 minutes during the nights leading up to return to school until your child is back on a school sleep schedule.

3. Let's talk about it

Talk to your child or teen about upcoming school events, projects they may have forgotten about and what they're looking forward to when they go back to school. You can also discuss worries they may have about returning to the structure of school and re-engaging with peers. This can help relieve anxieties and remind them of what they like about going to school.

4. Show them who their friends are

For some students, returning to the classroom means returning to the pressure and hard work associated with school, especially for students in high school. If your child is fretting about going back to school, try setting up a small play date with their school friends (for older kids, encourage them to connect in person with friends over the break). This can remind them of the friends they have and that returning to school can be fun. It also breaks the ice after having not seen their classmates in a while, which can make them more confident as they re-enter the classroom.

5. Avoid the trap of putting off important school tasks

Kids are apt to forget about homework that is due after break, or obtaining supplies they need when returning to the classroom. Putting off these activities can cause undue stress for both children and parents. Remind older children about their assignments throughout the break so they don't feel rushed and harried before going back to school.

Also, you can set yourself and your kids up for success by prepping the night before school starts. Try laying out your child's clothes, prepare easy breakfasts and lunches, and pack their backpacks to help make the first day back less stressful.

6. It's OK not to be OK

Despite your best efforts, your child may still have mixed feelings when returning to school after a break, and that is perfectly normal. Encourage your child or teen to express how they feel, and contact the support network at the school if they're struggling.

If your child has a hard time getting out the door during the first week back to school, let a teacher or other school staff members know. This gives the school a heads-up that the student may need a breather, and it lets your child know that both you and their teacher will support them as they return to school.

Though it may take a little time, your child should soon be back in the swing of things. If all goes well during the first few weeks back at school, consider a small celebration – in the form of a weekend activity that your child can look forward to.

Have a great term!