

Richmond  
High School

# In Focus



*Your Coeducational School - To Create, To Prepare, To Achieve. Make a Difference.*

## ■ From the Principal

Last week, we celebrated Cultural Diversity Day at RHS – a day on which some of our key values are highlighted and recognised. Many of us took the opportunity to wear something representing our culture, and our school was decorated with flags from all over the world. A very memorable event was the Mzuri Dance and Drum performance in our courtyard, in glorious sunshine and with many staff and students involved in drumming and dancing. It was a great celebration of our creativity and diversity as a school. Thank you to everyone involved in organising this event, including students Awa, Jodie, Sarah, Stella, Aleisha and Bai Yang, as well as staff members Ms Kelly Bruce, Ms Selina Braine, Mr Jordan Michael, Mr Nasir Mussabehe, and Ms Jess Hayes.

This week is Science week – a time when we explore and engage with some great ideas and resources in the scientific field. A real highlight for students was eating cricket pancakes, demonstrating the possibility of consuming insects as a high-protein, low-impact food in the future. Other great events included an AI art project, a film about UFOs, a

session on Coding & Robotics, and today a presentation of AI soccer robots with RMIT Professor John Thangarajah and Dr Timothy Wiley. Thank you to the whole Science faculty for organising this week of events, in particular our acting Head of Science, Ms Frances Good.

On the topic of Science, can I also take this opportunity to promote the new student-led STEAM club, starting on Monday at lunchtime in Room 224. This club will explore a range of pracs, incursions and activities related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

## ■ The Writing Revolution

Over the course of 2022 and 2023, English teachers at RHS have been implementing the Writing Revolution, a method designed by Judith Hochman to promote the development of writing skills in students in English classrooms. As a result, we are now seeing many students in Years 7-10 using complex sentences, embedded clauses and other elegant, stylistic choices in their writing in English.

Since the publication of an article by our teacher, Mr Seamus Kavanagh,

by the Victorian Institute of Teaching, on the topic of our implementation of the Writing Revolution, we have been visited by teams of teachers and leaders from other schools to learn more about what this looks like at RHS.

It has been great to share this successful initiative with other schools, and also to see the positive impact it has had on our students' writing, as evidenced by the results in this year's NAPLAN tests.

## ■ Smile Squad

For the past fortnight, we have had the wonderful team from the Smile Squad Dental Van at Richmond High School, providing free dental treatment to students at RHS. This is a great service that is offered by the Department of Health in Victoria, and it includes not only dental check-ups and treatment but also oral health promotion, with all RHS receiving a free water bottle, toothbrush and toothpaste.

Lars Andersson

### ■ Key dates coming up

22 August: Solo Soirees

1 September: Curriculum Day for RHS staff (pupil-free day)

9 September: Ignite Music Festival at RHS

14 September: Parent Teacher Student conferences

15 September: Last day of Term 3

Our school is located on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, we pay our respects to them. They are the Traditional Custodians of our Land.

We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Kulin Nation and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians.

As a school, we aim to embrace difference in its many forms. In culture, gender and religion. We ask you to respect everyone, yourself included.



### ■ About us

Richmond High School is a bespoke, multi-level co-educational learning space created to serve the local community.

We are welcoming and inclusive, embracing difference and diversity in its many forms. We offer a strong academic focus that encourages creativity and original thinking.

We have high expectations of our students, balanced by care and support whenever it is needed. We hope to equip the students in our care for an ever-changing world, encouraging them to embrace learning for life and the desire to make a difference.

### ■ Contact

Richmond High School,  
4 Griffiths Street, Richmond, 3121  
Post Office Box 201, Richmond, 3121  
[richmond.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:richmond.hs@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
[www.rhs.vic.edu.au](http://www.rhs.vic.edu.au)  
Telephone: 8396 6399

### ■ Respectful acknowledgment

