Welcome to 2015
The school year has now begun! Bright bubbly students, with one or two tears that lasted a few fleeting moments, entered the classroom ready to begin a year of learning adventures.

Kindergarten …
…the class of 2021! Welcome to Allira, Ella, Isabelle, Turner, Trae, and Jai as they start their schooling at RPS.

School Leaders
Congratulations to our school leaders for 2015 – Jack, Kate and Harry.

Dates for your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 February</td>
<td>Book Club due</td>
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<td>10 February</td>
<td>Mobile Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 February</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting (proposed)</td>
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<td>17 February</td>
<td>Swimming carnival</td>
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Timetable
Please find a classroom timetable attached. This will give you an idea of how subjects are spread across the week. It might also help guide dinner conversation when you ask your children, “What did you do at school today?”

Lunches
Rand Public School, along with all schools in NSW, promotes healthy eating. It has been terrific to see the healthy lunches and snacks that have been packed into lunch boxes this week. Parents are encouraged to limit the number of pre-packaged snacks sent to school e.g. muesli bars, roll ups, biscuits – one or two of these types of snacks at most. An extra sandwich, wrap or piece of fruit is a much healthier option.
Please do not send chocolate or sweets to school as part of your child’s lunch – these are great for a sometimes treat at home.

Swimming Carnival
The Walbundrie Small Schools swimming carnival will be held on Tuesday 17 February at Jindera pool.
Further information will be sent home as it becomes available.
The students will be asked to select the events in which they will be participating.
Home Learning

will commence next week. This year the students will be given a Home Learning clipboard folder with a new page for each week. Home Learning folders and sheets are to be returned each Friday for marking.

The purpose of home learning, as stated in the Department of Education and Communities Policy, is as follows:-

Home Learning is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class. Home Learning provides training for students in planning and organising time and develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources. Additionally, it establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline.

Students are encouraged to ask for assistance at school during the week if they are experiencing difficulty with any part of their home learning.

Home Reading

Home reading diaries will be sent home with each student next Monday. Students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will be able to select readers from the classroom for home reading. Students in Years 3 – 5 are encouraged to borrow from the library or utilise reading resources already at home.

Please record the title of the book read … and for those reading chapter books please indicate the page numbers also.

It is beneficial for ALL students to spend some time reading aloud to an adult.

School Library

will be held on Tuesday afternoons. The students are encouraged to borrow from the wide range of titles available. These can be read as part of their home reading each night. Students need a library bag to help protect the books borrowed. Library bags may be made of material or plastic but are required to help protect the books when being transported to and from school, and to provide a place to store library books when at home.

Mobile Library

will visit school every second Tuesday from 10 February. New students have been given a Library Card Request Form. Please complete and return the form if you are happy for your child to borrow from the Mobile Library, Please bring a library bag if borrowing.

Friday Cooking

It would be wonderful to continue the cooking program on Fridays. Please see the attached note for more information, and return the form to indicate whether you are able to help or not.

School Hats

All students must have a school hat for outdoor activities. Kindergarten students have been given a hat. Students in other years may purchase a new hat for $10 if one is needed.

Book Club

Forms for Scholastic Book Club have been given to the students today. Book Club forms will be sent approximately twice each term. This is to provide families with the option of purchasing books, often at special prices. Families do not have to make a purchase – this is optional. Payment options are listed on the form. Order forms are returned to the school with the chosen payment option. The books will be given to the student when the order arrives at school.