Dear Parents and Carers,

During Term 3, we will be reviewing and reporting on some of the achievements we’ve made against the targets set out in our school plan.

Our three Strategic Directions are:

**Strategic Direction 1 - Student Learning, Engagement and Wellbeing**

**Strategic Direction 2 - Teacher Quality**

**Strategic Direction 3 - Leadership**

Under each of these Strategic Directions, we have established mini-action plans, called milestone plans, that we work towards achieving over the course of the year.

For the remainder of the term through our newsletters, we would like to give the parent and community body some insight into each Strategic Direction and milestone plan.

A brief overview of some of the things we are trying to achieve under Strategic Direction 2 are outlined below:
Strategic Direction 2 - Student Learning, Engagement and Wellbeing

Assessment and Reporting

We are continuing with our Spirals of Inquiry into the Mathematics Syllabus. This inquiry framework allows teachers to have greater control and ownership over their own professional learning and development, by putting their students' learning needs at the centre of the inquiry processes. We try to embed assessment for, as and of learning in our teaching programs to gauge how our students are progressing.

We are also continuing to link up with Kentlyn PS. We are collaboratively working on Consistent Teacher Judgement across our two schools with assessment. Teachers collaboratively developed a pre-assessment task and analysed the results to develop a series of lessons, targeting those areas where the data showed the greatest area of need. After the lessons have been delivered and the post assessment given, Kentlyn and Ruse will moderate the assessment to see whether our judgement is consistent across the schools.

We continue to hold our half-day data days, where teachers reflect on, monitor and triangulate students' assessment data against our Syllabus markers and the Learning Continuum. During these days, teachers hold robust discussions about student assessment data and ways that we can improve our teaching in order to improve student learning outcomes.

Inquiry Based Learning

Over the past two terms we have been investing time into Inquiry Based learning (IBL) Pedagogy. This pedagogy puts the students in the front seat with their learning. All teachers were set the challenge to embed this pedagogy into their teachings of Science. They were required to develop an understanding of IBL by being immersed in this learning approach.

At the end of Term 2, teachers developed and delivered a presentation about how this pedagogy was embedded into their teaching programs and what successes they had with their classes. All the presentations were outstanding and the teachers reported high levels of student engagement using this learning approach in their classrooms.

During Term 3, we have continued to develop our skills as teachers in this approach and we are involved in a number of different initiatives across the Region. These initiatives are a professional learning exercise for our teachers because not only are they showcasing their use of this pedagogy, they are learning from other schools. So far this term, we have participated in, and are planning on participating in, the following initiatives: At the beginning of this term, all teachers delivered our Term 2 presentations to other local schools, as they were interested in embarking on a similar journey.

Representative teachers delivered a presentation at the Student Engagement workshop (Week 6) on how we integrate technology effectively into our IBL Programs to improve engagement. They were asked to base their presentation around a question and answer they developed:
How has technology improved engagement at Ruse Public School?

Here is the answer:

As a result of the effective integration of technology at Ruse PS, improved student engagement is visible in the active role played in collaborative decision making, the strong student voice in curricular and co-curricular design and the involvement in extra curricular activities, such as the XO mechanic program.

**Rural and Remote Schools Project** - Last term, we also got involved in a Rural and Remote School Project with Mount Annan PS, Colyton PS and Narrabri West. We are investigating engagement across our schools under many different initiatives and practices being implemented, such as Genius Hour, Inquiry Based Learning, innovation in technology and embedding technology effectively, quality assessment practices and student leadership. We will be meeting in Week 9 to share some of our class Genius Hour projects that we will post on School Parents.

**Project EPIC** - A number of our teachers are involved in this project. Mirroring the work teachers did in Term 2 at Ruse PS in the area of IBL, they are exploring how they have taken it to the next level. Teachers involved in this program will share what they are achieving in their classroom with teachers from other schools at a Project EPIC night.

I would personally like to thank all our teachers, because a lot of these presentations and professional learning experiences happen outside of school hours. They also spend a tremendous amount of their time outside school preparing engaging and purposeful lessons and programs in order to improve student learning outcomes.

![The Inquiry Process](image)

**Technology**

With the amazing support of our P&C, Ruse PS has a ratio of one device per child. We always continue to look at ways to embed technology in our teaching and learning programs more effectively. We realise our students are ‘Digital Natives’ and really respond well to using technology authentically and purposefully in their learning.

Students as young as Kindergarten are using technology under their teacher’s guidance, making educational videos and posting them online. [https://youtu.be/yUWldYMPinU](https://youtu.be/yUWldYMPinU)

We have developed an XO Mechanic Team, consisting of 25 students who assist with fixing technology problems around the school. These students are completing self-paced technology lessons and are putting their new skills to great use. Last term we hosted an XO Kids Meet day that was run entirely by our students. This was an amazing opportunity for some of our mechanics to network and learn from other students around the Region. As a result of this Kids Meet, students have given valuable feedback to developers of the XOs to make their future technology and software even better. We are hoping to hold another XO Kids Meet in Term 4.
This term, some of the technology committee are hosting a Teach Meet after school, when a number of visitors from other schools will be demonstrating how they are using technology to engage students.

The technology committee have also investigated purchasing some new and emerging technologies for our students. We have recently purchased 5 Raspberry Pis and are also investigating the purchase of a Sphero to support our Computer Coding Club in the library at lunch times. This is still in its infancy, but we have a number of very eager students who are interested in participating in this technology program.

New Scheme Teachers

At Ruse Public School we have a mix of experienced and early career teachers. Early career teachers are teachers who are in their first 5 years of teaching. These teachers are supported and mentored in various ways which include: demonstration lessons being taught by experience teachers, support to plan and implement quality literacy and numeracy programs, co-developing their professional learning plans with their supervisor, and assistance in completing the teacher accreditation process.

Cross Network Regional Creative Arts Initiative

Congratulations to all our Drama, Dance and Band Students who performed at the Cross Network Regional Creative Arts Initiative at Bankstown Sports Club on Friday 28 August.

We were amazed by the depth of talent from our regional public schools. Parents, teachers and the entire community are so very proud of the students who performed from Ruse PS. A huge thank you goes to our dedicated teachers, Fleur Brentnall and Jenna Wheatley, for their commitment to the Drama performances.

All the students who performed on the night were simply outstanding and we are very proud of their efforts and dedication to their group items.

Below are some photos of our very talented creative arts students.

Congratulations to all who participated.
Book Week

Last week was Book Week and students from Ruse Public School have been engaging with the books that were nominated by the Children's Book Council for 2015. Students from years 3-6 have been creating trailers and book reviews to share on our new Oliver Library System. Student in years K-2 were invited to enter a colouring-in competition and winners will be announced shortly.

See below information regarding our upcoming book parade.
Book Parade

We have decided to combine our celebrations of Book Week and National Literacy Week by hosting a book parade on Tuesday, September 15th. We will be having the parade on the same day as our Celebration of Learning Assembly.

The agenda for the day is as follows:
9:30 Book Parade on Quadrangle
All students K-6 are invited to participate. They should dress as a character from a favourite children’s book. Children may also like to dress as generic characters such as a king, princess, fairy, witch, etc.
10:15 Recess
10:40 Celebration of Learning Assembly in hall
12:00 Picnic lunch

Parents/Grandparents are invited to bring a picnic lunch to share with their children. Parents may leave any picnic items in their child’s classrooms during the assembly if it is more convenient for them.

Coding Club

Our lunch time computer coding club is becoming more popular as the students learn the basics. Students are learning to code using Scratch, SonicPi and Python.
We have purchased 5 Raspberry Pi devices and have been able to recycle some of our old monitors and keyboards from decommissioned workstations.
The Raspberry Pi devices have cost us approximately $80 each, which is relatively inexpensive. Information about the Raspberry Pi(s) can be found on this website https://www.raspberrypi.org/
We look forward to sharing some of students’ creations.

Stage 3 Report

This term in Stage 3, in and out of the classrooms, students have been learning many skills to take on for next year. Our HSIE unit theme is Global Connections. We are researching how we import and export our goods. Recently, we had a visit from Mr Bush, who has travelled to Cambodia. He told us about his experiences and the similarities and differences between our countries.
In classrooms, students are doing hands on experiments using bread and the bacteria on their hands. Every day we watch the mould growing on the bread and see how different levels of bacteria affect the bread.
In Literacy, Stage 3 have been practising their book reviews, so they can be published on Oliver. Oliver is an online cataloguing system where students can borrow books and see what’s available in our school library.
A variety of students have been selected to represent our school in performing arts and sports, such as; cross network performance groups, knockout basketball and knockout football. These students were very successful and we are very proud of their results.
As the year is coming to an end, the Year 6’s have fundraised $1400 at the BBQ and Monster Raffle to go towards their Year 6 farewell. We are also getting ready for our camp in term 4 week 5. As our last term is close, the Year 6’s are preparing themselves for high school and a huge change. We are making the most of this fantastic school that we will miss dearly. Stage 3 has had a great term so far, and another great term to come. 
Jayde P and Sarah W

**Fun Run Funds**

The SRC Executive met yesterday to draw up a proposed plan for playground supplies, utilising the fun run money. SRC Representatives held meetings in their classrooms in Week 7 and suggestions were collected to help guide their decisions.

Two areas of need were identified: repairing old equipment and purchasing new supplies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repairing old equipment</th>
<th>Purchasing new supplies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lowering the monkey bars in the fixed equipment</td>
<td>Picnic Tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowering basketball hoops and replacing nets.</td>
<td>Purchasing a storage bin from Bunnings (to store and transport playground equipment, which will be borrowed at lunch time. This will be monitored by House and Vice Captains)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removing concrete and bitumen</td>
<td>2 X Basketballs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing the netball court surface.</td>
<td>2 X Netballs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing chess pieces</td>
<td>10 X Skipping Ropes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removing, repairing, repainting the exercise equipment</td>
<td>2 X Cricket Set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing the portable basketball stand.</td>
<td>2 X Badminton Sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 X Hula Hoops</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New T-Ball equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Softball Equipment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A ball pump to be stored in the sport-bin.</td>
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**Structured Play Resources**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lego</th>
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<tr>
<td>Board Games</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chalk Boards with Chalk.</td>
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Purchasing, ordering, distributing, etc will be conducted by the SRC Executive under the guidance of Mrs Smith.

Thank you,
Shirley Smith and the SRC Executive
A visit from Russell Matheson to our Kindergarten Students

Russell Matheson, the Federal Member for Macarthur, will be visiting our school on Wednesday 2nd September from 2-3pm to read a story to our Kindergarten students. Russell will be greeted by our student leadership team and then taken to the Library. Students will be presented with a book that they will be able to keep and read at home.

Ruse PS would like to thank Russell for taking the time out of his schedule to visit our wonderful school.

Octonaut Little Library

Synopsis

The Octonauts follows a team of adventure heroes who dive right into action whenever there is trouble under the sea.

In a fleet of amazing aquatic vehicles, the Octonauts explore incredible new underwater worlds, rescue wonderful sea creatures, and often save the day before returning safely home to the Octopod.

Under the leadership of Captain Barnacles Bear, closely flanked by Lieutenant Kwazii Cat and Medic Peso Penguin, the Octonauts are always ready to embark on an exciting new mission!

Review by Ruse Public School

Class 1V
Kids Matilda, Ashton, Elizabeth, Noah

Matilda: Save the Day - The book was about the Octonauts what they used to help save people. The professor looks at maps and books to learn more about the ocean.

Ashton: Explore - The Octonauts explore the sea, we get to find out things out in the sea.

Elizabeth: Rescue - The book was about the Octonauts keeping the animals in the sea safe.

Noah: Discover - My book was about all different the animals in the sea that the Octonauts found.

Matilda: Protect - The Octonauts went around the ocean telling us how they protect the sea

Overall

The children each read a book on their own needing some help with some words. They were happy to tell each other what their own books were about and what happened.

Special thanks to Simon and Schuster Australia.

Sale of this book can be found in store or online at:
Sydney South West Rugby Union

Congratulation to Toutai L who played outstandingly at the SSW Rugby Union last week. You have demonstrated excellent talent and are to be commended on your sportsmanship.

Ms Clark
Sports Coordinator

Gala Day

The next Gala Day will be on **Friday week 8**. The venues and sports remain unchanged.

Last Gala day in week 4 was a great day had by all teams. The senior Netball girls won all their games with the juniors displaying excellent team work.

The soccer was also reported to be a success, with all teams demonstrating their excellent balls skills.

In the Rugby Union, the senior boys were undefeated while the junior boys won 3 and draw 2, still keeping them in the top spot.

Good luck to everyone in week 8.

Library News

Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported the Book Fair. With the proceeds made from books sales we were able to purchase a lot of new resources for our new look Library. New books will be covered and ready for borrowing in the coming weeks.

Tell them From Me - The *Partners in Learning* parent feedback survey

Thank you very much to the parents who have completed the Tell them From Me Survey.

Last Thursday, 27th August, 35 Surveys had been completed

Tuesday 1st August, 55 Surveys have been completed
Thanks so much for your responses. If you haven’t yet completed the survey we would really appreciate your input. We look forward to using your feedback to make our school even better.

To participate in this anonymous survey, please visit the following link:

https://www.tellthemfromme.com/login.htm

**Username:** parent18201  
**Password:** Rus4489

Once you have completed the survey, please cut off the return slip that was provided (also available on School Parents - http://www.schoolparents.com.au) and send it into the school with your child by the end of Term 3, to go in the draw to win a hamper of school supplies and other goodies worth $100.

Thanks very much,

**Kindergarten Enrolments 2016**
We are now accepting enrolments for 2016. Please call at the office to collect an enrolment pack and return as soon as possible as interviews are being held in Week 9 and letters have been despatched.

**Voluntary Contributions**
Voluntary contribution payments are now due. Payments can also be made via the Parent Online Payment method on the school website.

**Woolworths Earn & Learn**
We are excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. You can help our school by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between **Monday 15th July and Tuesday 8th September 2015**. We will redeem these for awesome educational resources for our school.

Simply pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and once it's completed, just bring it back to school or drop it into the Collection Box at your local Woolies. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program, and we'd like to get lots of new gear! Products in the range include resources for Mathematics, English, Science, art & crafts, through to sports gear, library supplies and more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at school.

**School Banking**
Concerns have been raised regarding the “Cosmic Light Beam Torch” reward item due to the inclusion of four button batteries that can be accessed by unscrewing the back of the torch. Whilst this reward has been independently tested and deemed to meet relevant product standards the Commonwealth Bank have made the decision to withdraw this item from the School Banking Rewards Program.

**Changes to Busabout School Bus Numbers**
Information sheets regarding the change of school bus route numbers were handed to children last week. New school advice sheets are available from the driver or can be downloaded via the website http://www.busabout.com.au/schoolservices.html. Any queries regarding the change please call 4631 4200 or email customerservice@busabout.com.au
P&C News

At the last P&C meeting it was discussed and voted on to change the meeting from a Tuesday night to a Monday night. Therefore the next P&C meeting will be in Term 4 on Monday 2nd November in Week 5 at 7pm sharp in the staffroom.

As this is our AGM as well as a general meeting, all positions will become vacant. We encourage you to look at positions and consider taking on a role or just simply attending and showing support.

President
- Chairs meetings and liaises with Principal. Oversees the general organisation of P&C.

Vice President Fundraising
- Assists the president and organises fundraising.

Vice President Publicity
- Assists president and publicises P&C organisation and events in Ruse News.

Secretary
- Takes minutes at the meeting and types up at home, responsible for all correspondence.

Treasurer
- Responsible for all monies. Pays all bills, keeps records and prepares monthly statement and report for meeting.

Assistant Treasurer
- Assists treasurer with the above.

Canteen Coordinator
- Responsible for daily organisation of the canteen. Organises rosters, orders all food, reports at monthly meetings and liaises with the principal and president.

Assistant Canteen Coordinator

Canteen News
The special meal deal notes have been sent home. Please ensure you pre order so as not to miss out. It is a cheeseburger, small chocolate and either a small bottle of water or small soft drink for $5.00. All orders must be back by 4th September. No late orders will be accepted as we need to pre order stock.

Thank you.

Fundraising
Thank you to all families who assisted with orders for our slice dive. It was very successful with $812.00 raised in profit.

Uniform Updates
Just a reminder for any preloved clothing items, parents or carers can also contact Maria to arrange alternative times to try on clothing if required. Maria 0416 639383.

Community News

SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINICS

WHEN ARE THE CLINICS HELD? Monday – Wednesday both weeks.

- SEPTEMBER 21st – 22nd – 23rd (FIRST WEEK)
- SEPTEMBER 28th – 29th – 30th (SECOND WEEK)

WHERE = Wests Tennis Club - 16 Old Lewisham Rd Lewisham

COST = $95.00 for 3 days (9am till 3pm)

OPTION 1 = $55.00 per day (9am till 3pm)

OPTION 2 = $20.00 per day (9am till 12noon)

WHO CAN COME? - Any children from the age of 5 up to 16 (beginners welcome)

TO REGISTER OR MAKE ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL JAN ON 0411 330 107
**SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINIC**

Where will the clinics be held?
September 2015:
1st, 2nd, 3rd Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 30th, 31st, 1st Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

How much does it cost?
OPTION 1: $10.00 per child, for the 3 days (9.00am-12.00pm).
OPTION 2: $20.00 per day (9.00am-12.00pm).
OPTION 3: $30.00 for 3 days (9.00am-12.00pm).
(Timer starts) Refunds are made if event is canceled due to wet weather.

Who can come?
All children aged 8-13 yrs old. Beginners, intermediate and advanced players welcome.

Our aims:
To teach and nurture the tennis techniques that will allow for future improvements.

What is included?
A 3 day course covering drills and techniques.

How to sign up?
Call: Central Tennis on 0412 369 380.
Email: tennis@centraltennis.com.au

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**MODERN MUSIC LESSONS**

**GUITAR, BASS, SAX, MANDOLIN, UKULELE.**

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- Rock band workshops
- All ages and styles
- HSC Elective Music Coaching
- Beginners to advanced

Studios at Campbelltown and Narellan. Easy off street parking.

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**EATEN BY SNAKES EDUCATION SERVICES**

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