Our Vision:
Inspiring all learners to be resilient, ethical citizens who will thrive in a global, innovative and sustainable community.

TRIBES Agreements:
Mutual Respect, Personal Best, Safety, Appreciation, Right to Participate/Pass, Attentive Listening

VALUES:
Responsibility, Honesty, Pride, Support

From the Principal’s Desk

Home School Communication
Thanks to our staff and families who have started the year in such a positive way with our Getting to Know You interviews. These are an opportunity for you to tell your child’s teacher all the things that you think will impact on his/her learning. This helps us know your children better and prepare for their year ahead. Other forms of communication include diaries for older students and communication books for younger students. Do not hesitate to use these when you have something to share.

COMPASS Update
All families should have received their Compass login details (username & password), which were sent home with your child last Friday. We will be actively using this Portal as a means of communication to families, so please login and change your password immediately, so you don’t miss out on anything. At this stage, you are able to access links to our newsletter and start to find your way around the site.

The attendance module, for parents, will become active on 2nd March with teachers beginning to use the ‘Learning Tasks’ area from the beginning of Term 2. Information will be sent home prior to these modules becoming active. If you did not receive your login details or your letter stated that we did not have an email address listed for your family, please provide this to the office as soon as possible.

School Council
I have been chatting with a few parents in the school grounds, before or after school to invite parents to consider school council participation. Our school programs are enriched when we add the experience and thoughts of others with different skills and knowledge. We all want what is best for children; we don’t all agree on how to get there. Do you have ideas about how our school grounds could be enhanced? Are you a great organiser? Do you like a celebration? Please feel free to chat to Ms Moore or myself about the commitment of time and the types of support you could offer.

School council meets once a month, currently we meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (that could be negotiated.) Sub-committees have different commitments with respect to time and the tasks they undertake. See page 2 for information on these.

FEBRUARY
20 Assembly, 2.30pm—Gym (Hosted by 5/6W)
24 Chinese Lunch Day
26 School Photo Day
27 Clean up Australia Day

MARCH
3 Gr 6 LHS Transition/Sports Day
4 Gr 5 Lilydale Heights Discovery Day
6 Assembly, 2.30pm—Gym (Hosted by 5/6F)
9 Labour Day Public Holiday
10 Multi-cultural Day
11 P&F Meeting, 7.30pm - Staffroom
16-20 Foundation Info Night, 7-8pm
20 Swimming, whole school
23 Twilight Working Bee, 4-6pm
24 Foundation Ambulance Visit
27 Last Day of Term 1
**Staff Profile**

**Name:** Tim Wilson  
**Role:** Level 5/6 Teacher

**Background**
I have lived in the local area my whole life, except for one year when I lived in Shepparton. I attended both Primary school and High school in Mooroolbark. I am the youngest of four boys. I have four nephews and one niece who keep me very busy. (I am their favourite uncle!)

**Career**
As a child, I always wanted to be a teacher. This is my tenth year of teaching, my seventh at Rolling Hills PS and I have taught at two other schools. In my younger days, I also worked at Safeway.

**My Favourite Things**
I enjoy both going out for dinner and cooking for friends. I am passionate about the mighty Hawthorn Hawks and hope they can make it three in a row this year. My favourite TV show is The Big Bang Theory and I enjoy reading a good book.

**Favourite Foods**
There are too many to choose, but I would have to say lasagne, fried rice, pumpkin soup and risotto. ( .... and chocolate!)

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**School Council Sub-Committees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Education</strong> — meets monthly, the week before school Council</th>
<th><strong>Oshcare</strong> — meets at least twice per term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Reviews policies and DET initiatives</td>
<td>• Monitors compliance issues, policies and staffing</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Organises educational information evenings</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Canteen</strong> — meets monthly, week before school council</th>
<th><strong>Marketing</strong> — meets monthly, week before school council</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Organises weekly management of canteen</td>
<td>• Liaises with pre-schools to distribute brochures</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Organises special lunches</td>
<td>• Monitors calendar of events for promotion</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>School Development</strong> — meets once per term, prior to working bees</th>
<th><strong>Finance</strong> — meets monthly, week before school council</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Manages some projects</td>
<td>• Monitor budgets</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Check safety of ground</td>
<td>• Check statements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Maintains garden beds</td>
<td>• Approve spending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**School Photo Day**

*Have you got the correct order form?*

**Thursday 26th February**

Don't forget, Thursday next week is School Photo Day!

Individualised envelopes were sent home last week. If your child did not receive a specific envelope for them, with their order number and unique code, please contact the office, as we are able to provide these. If your child received an envelope which did not belong to them, please return it to their class teacher, so it can be re-directed to the correct student.

You can pre-order online at [www.schoolpix.com.au](http://www.schoolpix.com.au) or fill in an order form and return it to your classroom teacher up until school photo day, Thursday 26th February.

All students should be in full school uniform on the day.

School Leadership photos will be taken from 8.30 –9am. All school leaders (including Nature Protectors & Junior School Council) are to be at school by 8.30am on this day.

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**Accidents at School and Personal insurance**
Families are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

We have stopped promoting companies who offer insurance as many families have adequate coverage through their health cover. Please note if we cannot contact a family and we consider it to be appropriate we DO call an ambulance, so ambulance insurance is vital.
WORLD CLASSROOM DAY:
Our students at RHPS are so fortunate to participate in wonderful programs supporting our school vision. Understanding how others experience life reinforces our TRIBES agreements of Mutual Respect and Appreciation in particular, and our school values of Responsibility, Pride and Support. DET has several aims for internationalising education as does RHPS, including:
- To create greater global and meaningful educational connections and understandings
- To enhance our school vision
- To learn about themselves in relation to others

To support World Classroom Day, I thought I would share what classrooms I have been in. Around the world in a clockwise direction...

Kande Beach, Milawi, Africa: Students travelled to school from long distances. School is not compulsory here, yet classes had up to 175 students in each grade. Many students in the Year 6 and Year 7 classes did not have parents, so slept at school on gym mats so they had a chance to get to high school. Students from Year 4 upwards had toilet duty once a week – and the toilets were mostly drop toilets. Duty was done before school. The staff room had lots of English donated text books and the teachers had staff meetings just like us. However, the children did not have access to exercise books or pencils and many school aged children would be begging, not for money, but for bags, books and biros!

Livingstone, Zambia, Africa: Again, students came to school voluntarily and walked a great distance [or rode with many on one pushbike]. The school near our homestay was built from donations from Norway and other materials donated from Germany. It was, like Kande Beach, a simple, bessa brick building with holes for windows. Toilets were drop toilets. The principal lived at the school like Kande Beach, a simple, bessa brick building with holes for toilets. Duty was done before school. The staff room had lots of English donated text books and the teachers had staff meetings just like us. However, the children did not have access to exercise books or pencils and many school aged children would be begging, not for money, but for bags, books and biros!

La Sable de L’On – France: Students here have Wednesdays for the specialist programs and go to school on Saturdays until lunchtimes. Schools were similar to here with academic rigour.

County Wicklow, Ireland: My cousin is Principal of this 3 teacher school. It is very much like an Australian classroom with lots of things happening – interschool sports, Sustainability programs and children’s displays around the rooms. All primary schools are Catholic – called National Schools. Many schools teach Gaelic. My other cousins teach in Dublin at gaelscollenas, which are Gaelic immersion schools.

See you at the school gate, Mary Moore Assistant

STUDENT WELL BEING - ANXIETY

For those who participated in MindGym here in 2013, or who are interested in mindfulness for creating calm and increasing focus, the Smiling Mind program has started a 7 day challenge. You can start any time – worth a look for sure! My husband and I have started the challenge and finding it really worthwhile. http://smilingmind.com.au/ Smiling Mind also has an app and you can find them on FaceBook – many schools are subscribing to Smiling Mind and it is Australian.

See you at the school gate, Mary Moore Assistant

Goreme, Turkey: I actually snuck into this school to spend the day there. They were a bit nervous as visiting teachers normally have to have a lot of paperwork and be okayed by the Central Government. Must have been the Aussie good nature that won out. I spent time with the English teacher. Not all schools teach English. Many teach French. The curriculum was from a text book. Classrooms were very bland with huge prints of Ataturk in the staff room and each classroom. There was a HUGE coffee urn in the staffroom, which was nothing like our staffroom. All students went home for lunch. Teachers often had lunch time jobs and most had second or third jobs. Across Turkey, all students wore the same uniform – blue and white.

Singapore: I visited a kindergarten gifted school in Singapore where there was a strong focus on dance and drama. Students had to pass tests to get into this preschool and it was very popular to attend before starting primary school. It was based on Suzuki and Montessori. My friend was teaching there and the parents paid a lot of money for their students to attend.

Canada: There were many similarities and also many differences.
No staff meetings or team meetings, text book curriculum and most buildings are multi-story. The weather means different routines. Full time janitors [from really early until 11:30 at night] made life easier for the Principal class. All Gr. 3 and Gr. 5 students undertook the EQAO [equivalent to NAPLAN]. Each school belonged to a “Board” who made most of the decisions for staffing, funding and programming. French is taught daily for each class, meaning the class teacher teaches all subjects including Arts, Music, PE, eLearning, etc. Some schools are French immersion at different year levels. In Quebec, there is very little English spoken. Primary school goes up to Year 8 and starts at Junior Kindergarten (3 year olds) – all at the one campus. Resources are very limited compared to Aussie schools – many teachers have Staples cards [Staples is like Officeworks] for their colour copying, laminating and any classroom display materials.

Next newsletter we visit USA, Peru and Argentina!

ANXIETY


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See you at the school gate, Mary Moore Assistant
World Classroom Day
On Tuesday 10th March, your child will be participating in WORLD CLASSROOM DAY. Students will be learning about how schools and classrooms in other countries are different to our own, here in Australia. For a portion of the day, teachers will transform their approach to teaching and their classrooms so students can experience differences between school here, and overseas. Each class will first be investigating Australian identity, classrooms and schooling and then exploring other schooling experiences. What FUN!

Connecting with China
Exciting News!!
We are very excited to be hosting another group of students and teachers from our sister school in July/August. Dates are to be confirmed. We will be inviting families, who are interested in hosting one or two students for a week, to complete expressions of interest in March. A letter with further details will be sent home on Tuesday 24th February. We will also ask families who hosted students before to share their experiences. Please contact Ms Spottiswood if you wish to discuss this before making a decision. Below are comments from two families who hosted students in 2013.

Chinese Lunch
On Tuesday 24th March, there is a Chinese lunch day where students can enjoy their choice of rice, spring rolls and dim sims. Yum!

Chinese Lion Dancers Visit
Xu Lao Shi has organised a group of dancers to visit RHPS on the same day as our Chinese lunch. All students will watch a special performance of a Chinese Lion Dance. A few lucky students will participate in a workshop with the performers to learn some of the dance. The cost of this program will be through the excursion levy.

Why is the RHPS community engaging with China?
(The following excerpts are from the ‘National Statement for Engaging Young People with Asia in Australian Schools’, published by the Australian Government in association with the Asia Foundation.)
“For Australia, the countries of the Asian region are of critical importance. They are our closest neighbours and major trading partners. They represent the cultural heritage of a growing number of Australians and their rich traditional and contemporary cultures provide opportunities for our social, creative and intellectual development.”

“Globally the Asian region is of great significance. Asia includes:
- 60% of the world’s population and 30% of world land mass
- the world’s two most populous nations, China and India
- some of the most dynamic civilisations of all time
- a great diversity of belief systems including Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Christianity, and Indonesia, the world’s largest Muslim country
- the world’s second largest economy, Japan, and the two fastest growing major economies, China and India.”

“If China rises, as predicted, to be the world’s largest economy in 2050, five-year-olds starting school today in Australia will be at the peak of their working lives.”

Feedback from two of our hosting families from the 2013 visit...

We had the most amazing time last week. I know this was probably meant to be an experience for the children but I feel like a got as much or even more out of the experience than the boys and maybe even my students. Showing the girls some of our beautiful country, Australian animals and cultural ways and watching their different expressions (which I think included horror when watching the boys eat!!), brought a lot of laughs...

We enjoyed many visits with other host families, including Sky High, Mt Dandenong, Yarra Glen park, Rye beach and the Melbourne Museum. I am sure Amy was happy in our home as when she telephoned her mother she was smiling and obviously telling stories of what we have been doing (and eating)!...

We have a new website. Our address is the same, but that’s all that is! Check out the new look at www.rollinghillsps.vic.edu.au. More info on page 4.

Have you checked out our Facebook page? Make sure you like us for daily updates on events, activities and exciting announcements!
Canteen News

CHINESE LUNCH DAY:
Canteen’s first “special event” for 2015, will be a Chinese Lunch Day on Tuesday 24th February, for all year levels. Thanks to all of the families who have supported this day; it’s looking like another very busy day in the canteen. Keep an eye out for an Easter Morning Tea notice, which will be coming home next week!

SPECIAL!!
The special for the next fortnight will be home baked Lemon Slice. Lemon Slice will be available in lunch orders or can be purchased over the counter for $1 per slice, between Friday 20th February and Wednesday 4th March.

FROZEN BERRY RECALL:
A second brand of frozen mixed berries and raspberries has been withdrawn from supermarket shelves across the country. One-kilogram bags of Nanna’s frozen Mixed Berries have been recalled. Patties Foods on Tuesday extended the recall to a fourth product, Nanna’s Raspberries 1kg pack. The recall has been extended to Creative Gourmet mixed berries in 300 gram and 500 gram packets. Health officials have confirmed ten cases of hepatitis A linked to the product in Australia. Consumers have also been told not to eat fruit from the Nanna’s one-kilogram packets with best-before dates up to and including November 22, 2016. The brand of frozen berries used in RHPS canteen is Riverina, and is a product of China. For this reason, I have decided to dispose of them. Mixed Berry muffins will not be available until Term 2.

Thank you,
Wendy Schilling & Canteen Sub-committee

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 23rd February</th>
<th>Wed 25th February</th>
<th>Fri 27th February</th>
<th>Fri 27th February</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Sheedy</td>
<td>Annette Deltondo</td>
<td>Lynette Podesta</td>
<td>Lynette Podesta</td>
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<td>Debbie Hughes-Gage</td>
<td>Adrienne Ruddock</td>
<td>Jo Salter</td>
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<td>Melissa Woolhouse</td>
<td>Jenny McIntyre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 2nd March</td>
<td>Wed 4th March</td>
<td>Fri 6th March</td>
<td>Fri 6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqui Avery</td>
<td>Ruth Scott</td>
<td>Janet Ruddock</td>
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<td>Alison Allan</td>
<td>Melinda Collins</td>
<td>Geraldine Pasinati</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fleur Cousins</td>
<td>Kimberly Reid</td>
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RHPS shines for NoiseCraft

Our music lessons began last week with our new company, NoiseCraft. Here is a wonderful quote from the Manager of the company, Matt, reflecting on their first two weeks teaching at Rolling Hills. You should all be very proud.

"The children are fantastic, very enthusiastic and all very polite. That’s a wonderful testament to RHPS. Your school has a wonderful classroom environment, all my teachers commented on it and I was totally blown away by how at 8:50 most of the kids were at school in the classroom and ready to go."

STAFF CAR PARK (Landscape Drive entry)
A reminder to families NOT to park in the staff car park. We have 30+ staff at RHPS who all work different hours. There has been a lot of double parking lately and staff have been unable to park. Please do not park in the staff car park.
Thanks.

SUPER SIBLINGS
Super Siblings is a group of students who meet about twice a term as support. If you have a child who would benefit from this fun group, please see the Assistant Principal, Mary Moore. Typically, siblings have a student either here at RHPS or siblings who are younger or older who have special needs, such as physical, intellectual, ASD, depression, anxiety, or other needs. The sessions usually involve a bit of art and a game to support feelings and emotions and attentions of being a sibling to someone in the family with special needs. I’m a super sibling too!
**Staff Profile**

**Name:** Jake Mutimer  
**Role:** PE Teacher

My name’s Jake, I’m 28 years old and I live with my parents in Diamond Creek. I play and coach basketball most nights of the week and am looking forward to working with the students at Rolling Hills PS for Hoop Time. I love to travel and have been to the United States of America and did some teaching in Singapore but my favourite place so far is Bright, in the Alpine Valley of Victoria.

So far, I’ve been overwhelmed with the kindness and community feel from the staff, students and parents here at RHPS. I taught Grade 2 last year (my graduate year) in the biggest Primary School in Victoria (1400 students) and am excited to get to know and teach the students here at Rolling Hills. What a beautiful school to be at for 2015!

---

**Maths Matters — by 4P**

4P are enthusiastic about their learning in Mathematics and have been thinking about why Maths Matters? We asked the students the following questions about Maths, here are their responses!

### Why do we need Maths?

For cooking, banking, reading maps and working out width. – Cam  
For cooking, shopping, following directions, money...everything really! – Malia  
So we can count and finally pay our bills! – Travis  
Because if you want to be a teacher you have to be good at Maths! – Caitlin  
So when we have a job, we can count our money! – Tanisha  
To fly planes and get to places! – Declan  
Because without it, we couldn’t count or calculate – Zach  
You need Maths in a lot of jobs and I want to be an architect! – Alice  
We need Maths to survive! – Chloe  
So we can work out our change and make sure we don’t pay too much – Connor

### What do we enjoy about Maths?

I like playing games to help me learn – Kyle  
I like adding because I’m very good at it and it’s fun! – Caleb  
I like working quietly to help me focus and I like to check my answers with a calculator – Billy  
I like to do fractions because they are easy and fun – Isabella  
I enjoy making maps and using co-ordinates – Thomas  
I like to draw to work things out and work on the computer – Alice  
I like using Mathletics to learn – Connor  
I love working in Maths groups and doing sums – Emma  
I like challenging myself in Maths - Jarvis  
I enjoy using Cool Maths Games to help me learn – Charlie

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**Financial Matters...**

**2015 School Levy Payments**

A reminder the second instalment for school levies, was due on Monday 2nd February, 2015. The third instalment is due Monday, 2nd March. Please contact the office if you have any queries or need assistance. Thank you.

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**Thank you!**

to Heathmont College for your generous donation of 17 iPads to Rolling Hills this year. This has really enhanced our IT program and we are very grateful.

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**Heathmont College**

You are invited to attend the Heathmont College **OPEN NIGHT**  
**Tuesday 21st April 2015, 7pm – 8.30pm**

**Growing Through Knowledge**
Mathletics at School and Home

Welcome to another busy and bustling year of learning at Rolling Hills Primary School. In recent years our school has integrated Mathletics as an important part of our Maths learning program. Mathletics is a web-based learning program that integrates home and school learning via the Internet; it is one of the world’s most used educational websites. As an online learning resource it helps students to enjoy Maths and improve their understanding in all areas of the Australian Curriculum. Mathletics covers all aspects of Mathematics. It contains more than 1000 learning activities which are suitable for 5 – 18 year olds.

Your child has been enrolled into this year’s Mathletics Program and student logins and passwords will shortly be sent home.

Benefits of Mathletics for Schools
- Students enjoy using Mathletics
- Students are engaged and motivated to learn
- Students increase their understanding of Mathematics
- Easy to use
- Students have access to Mathletics 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- It provides a strong link between home and school learning.

How to get the most out of Mathletics
- Take an active role in your child’s Mathematical progress
- Encourage your child to use Mathletics at least 3 times a week
- Encourage a balance between the Full Curriculum section and Live Mathletics
- Take time to work together with your child. The Support Centre will help show how to solve a particular problem.
- Encourage your child to do activities that challenge, rather than those he/she finds easy.
- Mathletics is designed to meet the individual learning needs of your child and enables them to work at their own pace. If the curriculum level is too difficult or too easy for your child, then speak to their teacher and they will adjust the level.
- Celebrate your child’s successes. Print the Certificates out and put them on the fridge!
- Access all available learning areas such as; Rainforest Maths, Problem Solving, Concept Searches and Times Tables Toons!

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child’s class teacher.

Good luck and have fun!

Llinos Poole
Sustainability at RHPS

“Schools Clean Up Day” 2015
Friday 27th February!

Rolling Hills students will again take part in this national event to help improve the environment.

Grade 6s will help our community by conducting a clean-up at Rolling Hills Reserve (All year 6 students must have their permission form returned so that they can walk to the park). Students from Foundation to year 5 will pick up rubbish within the school grounds.

It’s a great idea to bring gardening gloves on the day!

(Please don’t use disposable plastic gloves: this creates more rubbish!)

“Weed Wipeout” Working Bee & Family BBQ
Friday 20th March, 4pm – 6pm

Hooray! We have been awarded a Victorian Government “Communities for Nature” Grant for our project titled “Weed Wipeout & Conservation Classroom.” We are excited to be able to regenerate the forested area behind the Boorai building.

BBQ dinner provided for all helpers!

Dress Up Day, Friday 13th February— “Just for fun”