

I am here to present the School Sport Victoria Sporting Achievement Award.

The intent of this award is to reward a Grade 6 student from Kalinda Primary School whose skills, knowledge, values and behaviours have led them to achieve consistent sporting improvement and achievement.

I am pleased to announce the winner of the School Sport Victoria Sporting Achievement Award for 2021 is... **Rory Gibson**.

Rory has achieved so much in terms of sport while at Kalinda Primary School.

In 2018 Rory was invited to compete in district and then division cross country, and district athletics representing Kalinda Primary School in Discus, 1500m run and the 4 X 100m relay.

In 2019 Rory progressed one level further from the previous year in cross country, he progressed from district to division and then to eastern metropolitan region. Rory again competed at district athletics, representing Kalinda Primary School in 1500m run, 800m run and the 4 X 100m relay.

Rory was a part of the Junior All Stars Boys Basketball Team, who played exceptionally well together as team in the Hoop Time Basketball Competition, and as result progressed and played in the state finals.

This year Rory was a part of the Inter School Sport Basketball team, who were undefeated in the Ringwood North District summer sport competition, and competed in district cross country, finishing in an outstanding second place and was invited to compete in the division cross country. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 he was unable to compete in these next levels of competition.

Majority of sporting opportunities were cancelled throughout both 2020 and 2021 which is very unfortunate as I'm in no doubt that if Rory had of been given further sporting opportunities in his final years of primary school he would have gained many more memorable sporting achievements. I am excited for what is ahead of him as he is a very talented and gifted athlete.

Rory is an all-rounder, he demonstrates a wide array of skills and excellent game sense in all sports. The effort he applies when participating in sport is absolutely outstanding, he is always seen striving to achieve his absolute best.

Rory has shown excellent personal development. He is well respected by his peers and shows great leadership. He makes a great effort to support others to help further improve their sporting skills, he is always seen providing direction and encouraging others which motivates them with their own sporting experiences and creates a positive learning environment.

Most people when injured sit themselves off to the side. Just yesterday in PE, Rory who is clearly on crutches at the moment, stood there on court, smiling and laughing with his classmates as they participated in sporting activities, providing lots feedback and lots of encouragement to his peers.

Rory you are very deserving of this award. I admire your passion for sport, continue to share your love of sport with others by offering support and encourage, and continue to work hard to achieve your own sporting goals

Just remember sometimes things may not go your way, it's a part of sport.

I'm going to end with a quote from an all-time sporting great - Michael Jordan; I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.

Rory we wish you all the best with your sporting endeavours moving forward. Can we all please give Rory another big round of a applause, well done.

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