

4TH MAY 2021

# THE NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School*



## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL *by Scott Moorhouse*

May and April will provide the school with challenges and also great opportunity. As you will be aware NAPLAN is occurring this month and planning has been in full swing for quite some time. Our staff have been working hard to fine tune the process and make sure the students are prepared for the testing ahead.

We do this by exposing students to the type of questions they may receive, they are also exposed to the format that the questions are asked. This is not to 'teach to the test' however it is designed to reduce anxiety by breeding a wave of familiarity and make them feel as comfortable as possible about the process. At Foster PS we value growth in learning, this is how we acknowledge achievement and NAPLAN is no different. This means that we expect to see each child in grade 5 grow 2 bands since grade 3 and the current year 7's do the same.

Of course in any data set there will always be anomalies, those who were sick or unsettled on the day, those who were overawed by the situation and those who were able to 'guess right' on multiple choice answers can make a difference. What NAPLAN does however is give us an overall look at how our students are performing against the rest of the state and also gives our school and our education system valuable data on where it can improve and better place resources.

At Foster Primary School we believe that your child's self-esteem and wellbeing should not be tied to a test result - ever. In this regard we only ever expect students to continue to do what our school always expects which is 'Our Best Always'. We would expect this effort classroom tasks and activities and NAPLAN is no exception. Our students are well prepared by our staff and in case of challenging sessions our skilled wellbeing staff will be on hand.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Check Compass for Calendar Dates also.

### May 2021

3rd Incursion Sean Choolburra  
10th Cross Country Event all school  
11th, 12th, 17th, 18th NAPLAN  
12th House Cross Country at Foster Golf Course  
27th District Cross Country Stony Creek  
31st Student Free Day

### June 2021

3rd Regional Cross Country Lardner Park  
11th Student Free Day  
25th Term 2 ends

### July 2021

12th Term 3 starts  
16th Incursion Steve Schulz

If you have any concern about NAPLAN or your child's involvement please call me at the school on 56316000.

At Foster Primary School our leadership team is made up of 4 staff. Jenny Young, Jane Power, Chantelle Wanklyn, Sue Duggan and myself. Each member has very specific roles for improving our school and the learning that takes place at Foster PS.

In 2021 Miss Sue Duggan will embark on introducing our Instructional Model. This is a model that teachers will use to structure lessons in their classrooms. The reason we do this is to make expectations similar across all grades with regard to learning. Sue will focus on one part of the model the 'I Do' part. This where teachers are responsible for giving clear and concise instruction, models and lay out what success for a student looks like. This improves our teaching because it assist children to unpack concepts knowing exactly what they must do and hence can reach positive outcomes faster.

Further in these discussions has come the need for a great emphasis on the Inquiry cycle in our PLC's (Professional Learning Communities). These are designed so that teachers can work together on solving common problems with our students. Teachers may find trends across grade levels, a sub school or even the whole school that can be worked on and solved together. This targeted approach assists us to identify and find solutions to learning problems with a high degree of specificity. This in turn really helps students to thrive as key concepts and assessments are analysed in depth and stop students falling through the cracks. Our juniors will work on Writing and our senior group are working on Maths.

Our school will continue to embrace the School Wide Positive Behaviour model. This work has been going on in the school for some years and the results are clear that it works. Our current crop of grade 5's and 6's are testament to this. This philosophy helps to breed a positive culture of inclusion and fairness and comes from a strength based approach. Ms. Jenny Young and Ms. Kristie Moore continue to manage this program and some recent digital upgrade may assist to analyse our data faster so we can find solutions to trends that we see.

Next Wednesday the whole school will compete in a fun day of Cross Country running around the Foster Golf Course. We thank the Foster Golf Club manager Caleb and the committee for always supporting our school with this event. We have put a call out for parent helpers to assist with directing the runners around the track and many have come forward already. However we still need more helpers, so please let Kylie know if you're available to help on Wednesday 12th May.

Winter sport for Grades 5 and 6 started last Friday when we travelled to Leongatha to play football, netball, basketball, soccer and T Ball. A great day was had by all with some mixed results, but many smiling faces. Our next game is at Foster on 14th May. Thank you to all the parent volunteers and local sporting clubs, including Foster Secondary College who help to make these events successful for our students, we couldn't do it without you.

## August 2021

3rd-6th Melbourne Camp Gr 5/6

## September 2021

10th Division Athletics at Casey  
17th end Term 3

## October 2021

14th Musica Viva Incursion  
15th Junior Athletics Carnival  
18th - 20th Waratah Beach Camp  
Gr 3/4

## November 2021

2nd Melbourne Cup Day

## December 2021

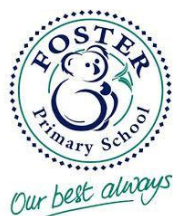
9th School Concert at Foster Hall  
17th Last Day Term 4

## 2021 School Term Dates

Term 1 Thur 28th Jan - Thur 1st Apr  
Term 2 Mon 19th Apr - Fri 25th Jun  
Term 3 Mon 12th Jul - Fri 17th Sep  
Term 4 Mon 4th Oct - 17th Dec



**Be Respectful**  
**Be a Learner**  
**Be Safe**  
**Be Caring**





# Classroom links

click on links below



[Grade 01W](#)



[Grade 00B](#)



[Grade 12J](#)



[Grade 12M](#)



[Grade 23D](#)



[Grade 34T](#)



[Grade 45Y](#)



[Grade 56J](#)



[Grade 56P](#)



[Community](#)



[Parents & Friends](#)



[Child Safe](#)

## Parents & Friends Group Events

### May

7th Mother's Day Stall  
22nd Kitchen Garden Market stall

### June

Fundraiser TBC  
19th Kitchen Garden Market stall  
23rd Lunch order day

### July

17th Kitchen Garden Market stall

### August

Music gig  
21st Kitchen Garden Market stall

### September

3rd Father's day stall  
15th Lunch order day  
18th Kitchen Garden Market stall

### October

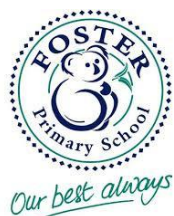
Golf Tournament date TBC  
17th Kitchen Garden Market Stall

### November

Colour Fun Run date TBC  
20th Kitchen Garden Farmers Market



parent information



# Everyone can learn to learn