



21ST OCTOBER 2021

THE NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School



NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL *by Scott Moorhouse*

Welcome back to all of our students and I must say how exciting it has been to hear students 'en masse' once again in our school. It has been really heart-warming to hear the conversations in the corridors and the animated din of children playing and re-connecting. During the remote learning time it has given the leadership team and the wider staff a chance to make decisions regarding next year. There will be several staff changes for 2022 and several key program changes.

Miss Sue Duggan has decided to retire from our teaching service. Sue will fill an assistant principal role in 2022 part time and take care of our teacher coaching and implementation of our instructional model during 2022.

Mrs. Megan Vuliermann has joined us in a more permanent role 2.5 days per week. The school has made this commitment as part of our plans to alleviate anxiety and improve mental health amongst the school community. Megan has some excellent skills in addressing individual needs but also the needs of large cohorts of students. We are very fortunate to have someone with as many qualifications and skills that Megan brings. She will work along side Jo Moloney who has filled part of the wellbeing position in 2021.

Ms. Melanie Crynes will be leaving us for a Melbourne based school in 2022. Mel has only been with us for 12 months but her teaching prowess has been very evident from the start. Holding a very unique skill set in teaching Indonesian and Art she has unlocked some extraordinary creativity in the students at FPS. A highlight was the Indonesian Independence Day activities and assembly which showcased our students' incredible abilities. We thank Mel for her service and wish her the best, a little closer to home.

IMPORTANT DATES

Check Compass for Calendar Dates also.

November 2021

- 1st Student Free Day
- 2nd Melbourne Cup Day
- 3rd Prep Learning Together Program *
- 5th George Bass Coastal Walk *
- 19th Colour Fun Run
- 25th Grade 2 Sleepover*
- 29th - 1st Dec Gr 5/6 Camp Coolamatong *
- 30th Health Education Parent Information Session

December 2021

- 7th Statewide Transition Day
- 9th Foster PS Transition Day
- 10th, 13th, 14th Junior Water Safety Program at Foster Outdoor Pool
- 17th Last Day Term 4

Dates to be confirmed:

- Grade 6 Graduation
- Senior Pool Party
- Junior Christmas Party

With changes going on we also will have some slight role changes for 2022. Mr. Nick Carver will teacher both Music and Art/Drama. Mrs. Marion Paulette will teach Indonesian to the senior cohort as part of her classroom teaching role. Mr Craig Couper will continue to teach PE.

Grade structures for next year are as follows:

Prep/1, Prep/1

Gr 1/2, Gr 1/2

Gr 3/4, Gr 3/4, Gr 3/4

Gr 5/6, Gr 5/6, Gr 5/6

The wellbeing team and I have met to put plans in place for 2022 and address as many of the foreseen issues. The DET has given the school money for 2022, 23 & 24. We will continue to develop the plan in conjunction with needs our team see arising. As such the following has been put in place for 2022.

1. Smaller class sizes.
2. The employment of a permanent Counsellor (Megan)
3. Staff PD around managing Anxieties and PTSD called 'Making Space for Learning'
4. Full Implementation of the Zones of Regulation through (SPiS)
5. Respectful Relationships modules to be audited and needed modules to be rolled out through the school.
6. Small groups and 1:1 counselling for students who require it.
7. Some funding to be targeted to the initial set up of a therapy animal.

At the time of writing many of the plans for the remainder of the year are still uncertain. Camps and excursions are still not able to go ahead. We are expect this can change any day so we are continuing to plan.

With any luck we will be able to get back to some sort of normality for the remainder of the year. We will continue to support all students and give them the maximum range of learning opportunities possible.

Mr Moorhouse
Principal

January 2022

28th Teachers Back to school
31st Term 1 begins for all students

February 2022

3, 4, 7, 8, 9 Senior Water Safety
Program
11th House Swimming Carnival

*Please note dates with * may be subject
to change or cancellation*



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring



What is the process for grade placement for 2022?

Opportunities to build relationships and the sense of belonging underpin the process of allocating students to classes. The process has been developed collaboratively with staff and is reviewed annually.

The process of class placement begins with this information:

1. The first step is I invite parents to write to me with any educational concerns or needs in regard to their child/ren's class placement for 2022. This information must be in writing, addressed to the principal and received by Friday October 29th, 2021.

2. In late October, early November each child nominates three students when they are asked:

Who are three students you think you can or want to work well with and you would like us to consider being with you in your new class next year?

3. Students write their choices on a proforma and they are photocopied. The original is placed in the student file. Teachers check the file for student's nominations and previous parent requests.

4. Then, teachers work individually and in year levels to form classes using the following criteria:

- each student has one student listed in his or her proforma and if that can't be done the parents are contacted and the situation is explained to them
- there are groups of like-minded students (ie students working at the same level academically)
- students' social and emotional needs are taken into account
- students with special needs are placed with a supportive group
- students with behavioural needs (ie those who require extra support to access the curriculum) are carefully placed
- there is a balance of gender
- there is a mix of students from previous classes.

5. Following this step, the parent letters are given to team leaders, then each letter is placed on the individual student's file.

6. Next, the specialist teachers look at class lists and identify any issues they have encountered with students or groups of students.

7. Finally, teachers review the lists a number of times to ensure all criteria are met before finalizing classes. The final class lists, along with the parent information, are passed to leadership for input and to deal with confidential issues.

8. On Orientation day, Tuesday December 7th, students will meet their classes and teachers for 2022. A follow up date on the 9th December will allow teachers to discuss learning expectations and class systems with students.

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

2022 School Term Dates

Term 1 Mon 31st Jan – Fri 8th April
Term 2 Tue 26th April – Fri 24th June
Term 3 Mon 11th July – Fri 16th Sept
Term 4 Mon 3 Oct – Tue 20th Dec

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Classroom links

click on links below

Parents & Friends Group Events



Grade 01W



Grade 00B



Grade 12J



Grade 12M



Grade 23D



Grade 34T



Grade 45Y



Grade 56J



Grade 56P



Community



Parents & Friends



Child Safe

October

17th Kitchen
Garden Market
Stall

November

19th Colour Fun Run
date
20th Kitchen
Garden Farmers
Market

December

Lunch order day
18th Kitchen
Garden Farmers
Market



[parent
information](#)



Everyone can learn to learn