



18TH NOVEMBER 2022

THE NEWSLETTER



NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Scott Moorhouse

Kinder update

We now have the keys! In the near future you will start to see the kinder be populated with all of the kinder furniture and supplies. The school are working closely with the kinder on management and curriculum alignment where possible. We look forward to having our partners come and join us on one big site where we are now able to supply kinder, primary school, after school care and vacation care!

Staffing 2023

Students are still being placed in grades. However I am happy to announce our grades and the teachers who will be teaching them:

P/1 Miss Emma Charlton

P/1 Mrs. Andrea Bell

1/2 Mr. Tim Davis

1/2 (Currently interviewing)

3/4 Mr. Andrew Murray

3/4 Mrs. Jenny Young

4/5 Miss. Chantelle Wanklyn & Mrs. Marion Paulet

5/6 Ms. Jane Power

5/6 Miss Katie Jones

Music/ Art Mr. Nicholas Carver

PE Health Mr. Craig Couper

Science Miss. Chantelle Wanklyn

Congratulations to our State Basketball team for an outstanding season. Winning 1 out of 3 games at state level this week. We are super proud of you and the way you have represented our school. Thank you Jade Storr for coaching and all the parents for getting the girls to training and games.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2022

15th State Basketball Finals

17th Gr 2 sleepover

25th Lunch Order Day

December 2022

2nd, 5th, 6th Gr P-2 Water Safety @ Toora Pool

12th - 14th Gr 3/4 Summit Camp

13th Statewide Transition Day

13th Grade 6 Graduation

15th Gr P-2 Christmas Party

16th Gr 3-6 Pool Party

20th Last Day Term 4 - Student Free Day

Reading

All students at FPS should be reading – every night (or morning) 5 days per week. There is no substitute for the time spent doing this. Research supports this whole heartedly and is true in everyday life – the more you practice the better you get. Our staff are working hard to get to the core of how children both understand language and read. This is being done in conjunction with our SSS network of speech therapists and psychologist. In particular Mrs. Anushka Chandramohan. Much more will be said about this in the coming publications but for now encourage your children to read both aloud and for pleasure. Attached is an excerpt from an article by Schwartz et al. research has shown that reading is not a natural process, and it's not a guessing game. Written language is a code. Certain combinations of letters predictably represent certain sounds. And for the last few decades, the research has been clear: Teaching young kids how to crack the code—teaching systematic phonics—is the most reliable way to make sure that they learn how to read words. Of course, there is more to reading than seeing a word on a page and pronouncing it out loud. As such, there is more to teaching reading than just teaching phonics. Reading requires children to make meaning out of print. They need to know the different sounds in spoken language and be able to connect those sounds to written letters in order to decipher words. They need deep background and vocabulary knowledge so that they understand the words they read. Eventually, they need to be able to recognize most words automatically and read connected text fluently, attending to grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure. Further information can be found here: [The Reading Process](#).

Leadership Day

Once a year our leadership team takes a day out to start setting the strategic direction for the school for the year. I was lucky enough to able be to triangulate Rob Juratowich (DET Senior Education Improvement Leader) for part of this day and his input was very invaluable. The day was spent pouring over the school data from the last 12 months. Given that in 2023 there will be a review the AIP will be a very 'cut down' version of what we/you are used to. There will be only 2 goals in 2023 Numeracy (number) and Wellbeing (community connection). We are still in the process of finalizing the targets for these goals, which is a prolonged process due to the missing data which occurred during 2021.

Be Kind!

Our students are amazing (you already know that though). I am seeing and staff are noticing more and more acts of kindness that students are showing everyday – we encourage this and strongly encourage this at home. The focus for this week is making sure that we are speaking nicely to each other, in particular (but not limited to) the way boys speak to each other and to girls. It is very important that we are not using discriminating words based on 'gender', race or background. Thankfully we do not see a lot of this at school although we are being made increasingly aware of this occurrence at home or out in the community. At FPS we teach all of students to be upstanders and call out this behaviour if it occurs.



January 2023

27th Book Collection Day
30th Students Start School

February 2023

9, 10, 13, 14, 20, 21 Gr3-6 Water Safety Program Foster Pool
8th Swim Time Trial Day
15th House Swimming Carnival
24th Division Swimming

2023 Term Dates

30th Jan – 6th Apr
24th Apr – 23rd Jun
10th Jul – 15th Sept
2nd Oct – 20th Dec



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Junior School News

The Junior school students have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Kaleidoscope program alongside local Artist Lucy and their classroom Teachers. The students have collaboratively shared creative processes through the exploration of different Science elements immersed with textile Art. Last week the students created Sun prints using their borax crystal trees and natural materials located from around their school. A collective "WOW" was overheard once the students observed the results from the Sun printing experiment.

Our P-2 students have also enjoyed reading and writing poetry. The creativity from our poetry unit has enabled students to play with language and sentence structure whilst shaping expression and creating meaning. In Maths our P-2 students have been learning multiplication (groups of) which has built upon their prior learning of addition and subtraction facts up to 100. This week Prep and Grade One students have progressed on to learning more about time, with lots of laughter filling the room whilst completing a number of tasks in the timeframe of One minute.



Now is the time to check under the beds, behind the couch and in the dog's kennel for library books, school sports uniforms and all the other bits and bobs you'll find during the holidays.

Please search high and low and return to school asap.

Thank you



Everyone can learn to learn

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Middle School News

We have been very fortunate to have the Year 9's join us for two different programs.

As part of the Year 9 Community Program, a couple of Year 9's have been coming into our classrooms every Wednesday for a couple of hours. They have been helping us with our Maths, Writing, Projects and Reading. Watching relationships grow and students learning from each other has been a highlight of this program.

Shem has also been bringing up some Year 9's as part of the You Be The Coach program. Year 9 students planned and prepared sessions in a selection of various sports. They taught us many skills as well as having the opportunity to have some fun with some older students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Year 9's and their teachers Rhonda Mayo and Shem Hawking for working with us to give our students these opportunities.

Check out some of the reflections from our students.

Bronte - "It was good because they had lots of fun games and activities. I really liked when we played octopus"

Jake - "I liked it because it was fun doing things we might have never done, and everyone should be proud of themselves for doing the games because they were really hard"

Ashlee - "I liked it because they taught us how to play new sports and we got to learn with new people"

Oscar - "It was fun because I got to learn how to play netball"

Gabby - "It was really fun"

Joriemar - "It taught me new games and it was nice to play with people who were older than me"

Frankie - "It was fun because we played dodgeball and the older kids were nice"

Violet - "It was really fun because we played lots of games, and everyone was nice, and it was really awesome. Octopus was my favourite game"

Stella - "It was fun playing with them because we got to do lots of games"



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Senior School News

Hi everyone this is Foster Primary School's review on this year's public speaking for year sixes. The five people that made it to the final were: Holly Hurst, Willow Zeeman, Mila Dinsburg, Zephyr Davis and Milly Barnes. They all had very good speeches. I think everyone can agree that it was so close. Even the teachers were saying they were happy to not be judging. In the end, Mila Dinsberg won the competition with her great speech about Issac Newton. Now I am going to interview Willow.

Willow's scientist was Hedy Lamarr who is a scientist who created WiFi, frequency hopping, bluetooth and GPS. Willow thinks that she gave her best but had room for improvement. She thinks that Mila (the winner) did amazing. She was quite happy with her effort. Everyone that made it to the finals should be proud of their effort.

In the semi-finals there started off with 11 people. The people that didn't make it were: Joshua, Tom, Archer, Alex, Perry and Dylan.

Here is some short feedback from random students: "They were very good" "They were all good, they didn't walk around the stage too much" "They were all long" "They were polite" "They were fascinating and all unique." "The semi's were a bit controversial in my opinion" "They were interesting people that made it to the semi finals) They think that they gave it their all and had lots of information to share"

Now in an interview with Archer Gee, Perry Sumaru and Tom Vale (they made it to the semi's but couldn't make it to the final) They think that their competitors did very well and deserved to go to the final. They say that they were happy for the others to make it to the final.

We had a surprise judge who was watching virtually (Ms Hutchinson) and she said it was like listening to a podcast. Also Kyle Materia, Wendy Vitols came from the high school to listen to these speeches. Ms Duggan was judging as well.

Overall, I think everyone can agree that they were all incredible, interesting, detailed speeches. From Issac Newton to Daedalus to Hedy Lamarr. They were all scientists that made a difference.



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ATTENTION LOCAL BAKERS:

THE GRADE 6 STUDENTS ARE HAVING A CAKE STALL

to be held in the main street of Foster on
Saturday December 3rd

**WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE
DONATIONS OF CAKE AND SLICES**

Donations can be dropped off at the school on
Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd of December

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE
GRADUATION CELEBRATION



Last Monday I went to Warragul to compete in the School Sports Victoria (SSV) Regional Golf Tournament. It was a really nice sunny day and it was heaps of fun! Thanks to all the people who helped it to happen, from the competitors to the parents to the Warragul Golf Club. Overall I came 4th and if you ever get the chance to play golf I'd strongly encourage you to have a go!

- Alex White -

PEACEFUL KIDS

EVERY TUESDAY MORNING A SMALL GROUP OF GRADE 5/6 STUDENTS WORK WITH MEGAN ON HOW TO RELAX.

WE LEARN STRATEGIES ON HOW TO DEAL WITH OUR ANXIETIES AND WORRIES, SUCH AS BREATHING TECHNIQUES, MINDFULNESS AND JOURNALING.

STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO APPLY THESE TECHNIQUES TO HELP THEM WITH DAILY STRESSES



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School Wide Positive Behaviours

Classes have been working on clarifying their classroom expectations. Clarifying our classroom expectations helps reduce classroom disruptions and increase student learning. Each class looks at our whole school expectations and discuss how our values might look like within their classes. Students and teachers work on these together by looking at their classroom data which helps them set future goals.



ANSA
EARTHMOVING

Andrew Lees
0438 841 236

WELSHPOOL VIC 3966
ansaeearthmoving@hotmail.com

Thank you to the Lees family for landscaping our new garden beds. Support those who support us.

WHAT OUR EXPECTATIONS 'LOOK' LIKE IN 1/2J
Everyone can learn to learn
Be Respectful Be Safe Be a Learner Be Caring

Be Respectful
Say please, thank you and excuse me when speaking to each other.

Be Safe
Keep our hands and feet to ourselves and use inside voices.

Be a Learner
Strive our hardest to be in the Learning Zone

Be Caring
Be kind to each other and to people's belongings.

WHAT OUR EXPECTATIONS 'LOOK' LIKE IN 3/4M
EVERYONE CAN LEARN TO LEARN
BE RESPECTFUL BE SAFE BE A LEARNER BE CARING

BE RESPECTFUL
Listen to others and speak respectfully.

BE SAFE
Use objects appropriately and keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

BE A LEARNER
Stay focussed and try our best.

BE CARING
Be helpful and treat others how they like to be treated.

WHAT OUR EXPECTATIONS 'LOOK' LIKE IN 3/4Y
Everyone can learn to learn
Be Respectful Be Safe Be a Learner Be Caring

Be Respectful
Use our manners and ask permission to leave the room.

Be Safe
Keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

Be a Learner
Strive our hardest to be in the Learning Zone

Be Caring
Be kind to each other.

WHAT OUR EXPECTATIONS 'LOOK' LIKE IN P/1C
EVERYONE CAN LEARN TO LEARN
BE RESPECTFUL BE SAFE BE A LEARNER BE CARING

BE RESPECTFUL
We share and look after other people's belongings

BE SAFE
We use the emotion chart to decide when we need a break to stay safe and calm

BE A LEARNER
We make sure other people can learn in a quiet and safe classroom.

BE CARING
We let others share their thoughts, feelings and opinions



Student & school wellbeing news

This too shall pass...

Have you even been in a situation where you thought this was the way it was going to be forever?

I have found over the past couple of weeks there have been a few things happen where I have shared the following words with parents 'it wont always be like this...'

Where as those words may offer some degree of comfort, the hard thing when you are in the thick of things is actually waiting for that storm to pass.

Little kids can have big feelings and watching this can be super upsetting for parents (and for staff), when we really want to help but maybe don't always know what we can do.

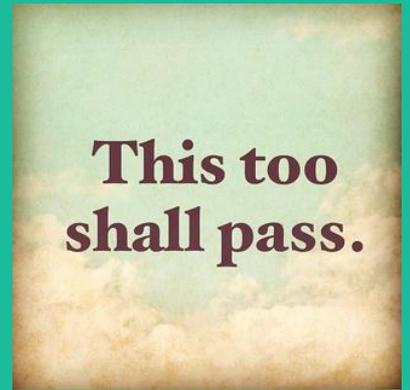
Kids need to know they are safe, so one thing we recommend is not leaving them on their own, make sure they are in a safe space with safe people. Try to remain as calm as you possibly can, we all know that yelling at someone when they are in a heightened state, no matter what age you are, doesn't work. Who ever calmed down when someone yelled at them to calm down!

Giving little kids permission to experience their emotions is also a good thing to do (as long as they are safe). Try saying 'its ok that you are upset / crying / yelling, you can keep doing that until you feel better. I will be just over here and waiting for you when you are ready to talk / need a hug / be ok'.

Nobody can cry or scream forever so sometimes when you give permission for it to go on, you may find it stops a little quicker.

For when these things don't work, you can always seek extra support. I heard this little story not that long ago and Id love to share it with you. Someone was walking along a river and saw a single rower in a boat; they were struggling to move at all let alone forward and keep the boat in a straight line. The rower looked exhausted and downhearted. Another boat came along with 6 rowers in it. They were all in unison rowing together, encouraging each other along as they flew past the single rower.

It got us to wondering, which boat would you prefer to be in? The one with the 'team' seems to be the easier one to be with don't you think? Never underestimate support.



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Holly's Poetry

What A Wonderful World

Imagine a world
Where we could be free
From this never-ending war
That they call humane and fair
It can't be further.

Further away from the truth,
Away from his home,
His protection, his shelter
That is a cardboard box
Undignified, torn.

He watches as we walk by,
Our frivolous coats
And far too expensive shoes
Defining us, who we are
And what we will be.

In truth we could learn a lot
From this unknown man
Fighting his unknown battle
And treating each day like gold

How a human heart
Can contain such pure love
I have yet to know
But as his hand rests gently
On a pile of ruffled fluff,
I realize he knows

Two transparent eyes emerge
Frail, yet twinkling
With love and adoration
She turns to the man
And her graying whiskers twitch
As her pale pink tongue draws out

With a drowsy leap
She sprawls onto the mans lap
And blankets his face
With joyous, slobbery licks
He laughs, a deep, booming sound
That is utterly human

It is strange, how impact works
How moments can touch;
Touch hearts, touch souls, touch lives
Tears brim in my eyes
I hold my hand to my heart
As something dawns upon me

We spend days dreaming
Of a fairer world for all
But looking deeper
There are many happy lives
That don't need money or fame
These people are loved.

This man watches us passing
With our troubled lives
But if we paused to focus
We will see this man with his
Smile beaming beauty
And a dog that loves him so

We live in a world
That will never be enough
For some, but others
Love what they have, and I think
That they by so far,
Are the happiest around

The next day I find
That the man has disappeared
From his decrepit
Shelter, flooded and flimsy
Memories of the fierce storm
That ravaged this home

At my tiny apartment
I write a letter
The only thing I see is
Ink on paper sheets
But what I hope he sees
Is an invite to safety

I leave the envelope at
His old housing
An abandoned, dreary place
I hope against hope
That he will read my letter
And consider my offer

My mother once said
That some cannot be helped
And you shouldn't try
But that look on the mans face
Brimming with pure delight
Is making me try

Weeks since I left the letter
I hear a short knock
I breathe, and open the door
It's the man and dog
His face gaunt and powerless
But he knows that he is home

He is quiet, first
Excuse the many thank yous
His dog adores me
And the mans wariness melts
He smiles, brightly; my
World illuminates



Holly was recently announced as winner of a Highly Commended placing in the Anglicare 'Pens Against Poverty' writing competition Gr 5/6 section. This was a national competition with many entries from all over Australia, and she has been invited to accept her award at Government House in Canberra! We are very proud of her fabulous work.



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Parents & Friends Group

Planning meeting for 2023 - Friday 18th November 9am

We had a great turnout in the staff room this morning to discuss all things p&f! Thanks to Lisa Lees for providing some yummy snacks and to all those who were able to come and contribute their enthusiasm. The main outcomes from our meeting were:

Fundraising focus for next year (at least!) will be a junior playground upgrade/revamp! Stay tuned to hear more about these plans as they develop. We are looking at an inclusive, sustainable playspace integrating nature & equipment to serve our junior side for many years to come!

Events for 2023

The following events are flagged as important fundraising opportunities for 2023 - they are listed with their coordinator.

Pearl Park Music Festival BBQ - Shannon Gee

Prep Welcome morning tea - Tania Staley

Whole school welcome BBQ (Term 1) - Lisa Lees

Colour Fun Run - Shannan Bailey

Movie Night - Tiff Wightman

Mothers & Fathers day stalls - Jade Storr

Variety Childrens Program Car Rally - Katrina Need

Music Night - ??? we need someone for this!

Social Events - Lisa Lees / Katherine Sumaru

Kitchen Garden Market Stall - Kimberley White

Reconnection

Next year we will add in some more social occasions to our calendar to give opportunities for our school families to meet each other and/or reconnect. Keep an eye out here for dates to be added in for next year as we get organised.

Facebook page

We will re-activate a facebook page we set up to help keep parents & friends in the loop of whats going on and what resources we need...please join up or seek an invite if you are interested!

Thank you to:

November

**Farmer's Market
Stall Sponsor**



Parents & Friends Events

November

19th KG Farmers Market Stall

25th Lunch order day

December

16th P&F AGM - 9am

17th KG Farmers Market Stall

January 2023

21st KG Farmers Market Stall

March 2023

17th P&F Term 1 meeting time

TBC

DID YOU KNOW: The funds raised from our Kitchen Garden Farmers Market Stall go straight back to help pay for the cost of providing the amazing kitchen & garden classes for our students in years 3-6.



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