



16TH DECEMBER 2022



THE NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School



NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Scott Moorhouse

The last day of school for students is Monday 19th December, school finishes at 3.15pm. Term 1 starts back Monday 30th January 2023. We wish you all a very happy Christmas and new year. Enjoy the holidays.



We all made it to the end of another year! Thank you one and all for the efforts that you have put in to make our school a happy place. Thanks to Kim White and parents Club for putting that little bit of cream on top that makes our school a special place.

At the end of every year we have a number of families that finish up with our school, some with many, many years of an educational relationship that grows into friendship. We thank these families for their support no matter how small over the journey.

In no particular order:

Student	Parents/Caregivers
Alex Budge	Mary Fitzgerald
Holly	Roxy & Paul Hurst
Jackson	Karen Noad & Tamara

IMPORTANT DATES

December 2022

19th Student's last day, school finishes 3.15pm
20th Last Day Term 4 - Student Free Day

January 2023

27th Book Collection Day
30th Students Start School

February 2023

9, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21 Gr3-6 Water Safety Program Foster Pool
8th Swim Time Trial Day
10th House Swimming Carnival
15th District Swimming
24th Division Swimming

March 2023

2nd School Photos
10th Wheelchairs for Kids Event
13th Labour Day Public Holiday
15th - 27th NAPLAN
30th Prom Coast Athletics

Jack Maryann & Peter Rivers
Josh Sean & Angela Taylor
Kaleb Dianna & Daniel Bertoli
Milly Chris Barnes & Jess Mitchell
Noah Brenda & Jay Accardi
Rosalie Ann & Matt Pearce
Taite Steve Clarke
Tom Louisa Vale
Willow Arjan & Emily Zeeman
Zarli Danielle Hepburn & Jarrod Richards
Zephyr Tim & Remy Davis

As we wind down for Christmas as a school it is important to remember the purpose of these holidays and I believe that this year more than ever it is important to focus on what is important. What is important – Family those who love us, what ever the strange make-up, whether your blood related or just drawn together because you are like spirits does not matter. Be with the people you care for and who care for you. Spend as much time with them as possible doing the simple things; sharing a meal, going down the park, spending time at the beach, going for a bike ride, try a new walking track and having a laugh with friends. These are easy and simple things I like to call ‘Soul Food’ they enrich your life without having to spend (much) money but have a huge emotional benefit. I encourage all of our families to get out and enjoy everyday of these holidays.

Have a merry Christmas, a restful break and look forward to great new year.

See you all in 2023

Warmest regards,

Scott Moorhouse
Principal



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring



Mr Moorhouse's graduation speech

Good evening and thank you for this opportunity to say some brief words of farewell and congratulations to our Graduating Class of Year 6, 2022.

Acknowledge guests in the room (Teachers Power, Paulet and Moldrich) Dr. Laurie Warfe (Rotary) and Lucy Allsop (School Council Vice-President) You have led the Primary school during a year of reengagement after COVID had ravaged our social fabric and norms.

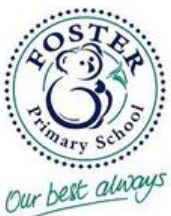
It is my sincere hope that you do feel ready to cope with this big transition from the familiar faces and surrounds of Primary school, to the new routines, teachers and classmates of Secondary school. I feel very confident you are ready because I know the very good work that Ms Power Mrs Paulet and Mrs. Moldrich have been doing with you academically to prepare you. I have seen the great leadership you have shown throughout the year and I got to see you managing yourselves relatively independently when we went to Coonwarra and Coolamatong. These are very good signs that you are ready for all of the new challenges of Secondary school.

It is also a night for parents to ask themselves the very big questions about whether they are ready to cope with the big transition ahead. Traditionally Principals will have been standing up here imploring you to "let go of your child" and "take a step back". Tonight I want to dissuade you of that prevailing mindset and say that this is the time to "hold on" and step up your parenting. Adolescents need active and courageous parenting more than any previous stage. I encourage you to remain profoundly interested in your child's friends (especially their on-line friends), engage actively with their learning and remain firm in your modelling of values and ethics to your young person Secondary schools are great at packaging up and teaching knowledge, but behavioural practices will come from home. So if you want your Year 7 to use technology responsibly model good boundaries around your own use of smart phones and other personal devices; if you want them to have responsible attitudes to drinking try to conduct an audit of what they see you drinking. Your 12 and 13 year olds are unlikely to admit this to you but you are still super-heroes to them. Adolescents are malleable and while they are in formation for their future life you want to make sure your influence does not stop with your genetic inheritance. Nurturing and modelling are your great parental privileges. Used well they will enrich your life as much as your child's. If there is one piece of advice I could super-glue to every Year 6 tonight so that it was front and centre of their thinking for the next 6 years of schooling it would be to protect your good name and reputation.

It is a slow process to build your reputation up, but it can be lost in a moment. I therefore urge you to be constantly aware of your own dignity and precious individuality. Don't easily give away what you will never get back. Protect your name, reputation and individuality as you would your most prized possession. A good name will open many doors for you both while you are at school and beyond. A poor reputation will haunt you and restrict you in ways you might never be aware of until the damage is done. That is particularly so now with social media and its capacity to record for posterity every foolish decision you might make.



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring



Right from the beginning of Year 7 start about purposefully building up a good reputation with your family, your classmates, your teachers and other significant people in the community.

These are some of the ways you can build up a good reputation once you get to Secondary School:

- Be kind and caring- it is the best reputation to have and far outlives any short term fame based on looks or achievement
 - Be sincere and respectful - a reputation of being false will damage your credibility. Don't try to be too "cool". The energy you put into creating a false image would be much better spent on just getting out there and being a good friend.
 - Be honest - Be genuine and truthful. Lying and deceiving will always come back around to haunt you later down the track.
 - Be positive - the world is better when you look on the bright side and help illuminate the good in yourself and in others with humour and optimism.
- Be a Learner - continue to learn from other and genuinely be interested in their journey - it might save you a lot of bother down the track.
- Be encouraging of others - if you want the best for others people will recognise this fine quality and reciprocate that for you.

In conclusion let me please thank each of you for the great life and leadership you have provided to the Primary school community this year. You are a talented and compassionate group of young people with a bright future ahead. I have been proud and honoured to know you. You are no longer quite as cute but just as unique and precious. Enjoy your celebrations tonight. Let your family take lots of photos of you - in the future you will look back at your time at FPS with beauty and wide-eyed excitement. Spend your last days of Primary School in gratitude to your teachers and parents; heal any difficult relationships, aim to work hard - nothing is ever given to you - and make big plans for your future.

Award winners:

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Perry Sumaru
Foster Medical Centre Sports Excellence Max Johnston
Don Wogan-Browne English Excellence Holly Hurst
Binny Lester English Excellence Mila Dinsbergs
School Council Public Speaking Award Mila Dinsbergs
School Council Academic, Leadership & Citizenship Award Holly Hurst
Rotary for Giving their best Josh Taylor
Rotary Maths Award Alex Budge
Toora Lions Maths Award Tom Vale
Rotary award for displaying school values Abbey Best
Tess McCracken Learning to Learn Award and Being Curious Dylan Cowell
Jim Pickersgill Learning Growth award Milly Barnes & Alex White
FAMDA for the performing Arts Willow Zeeman
Toora Lions Community & Citizenship Archer Gee & Zephyr Davis



2023 Term Dates

30th Jan - 6th Apr

24th Apr - 23rd Jun

10th Jul - 15th Sept

2nd Oct - 20th Dec



Be Respectful

Be a Learner

Be Safe

Be Caring



Junior School News

Interview from a prep:

This week we have been doing lots of fun Christmas activities. We have also been packing up the classroom ready for next year. Transition day was fun. We got to meet our new teachers and friends. It is nearly school holidays and we are ready for a rest.

Interview from a grade one:

This week we got a letter in the mail from Santa! He replied to the letters that we sent him last week. We were all so excited. We also went to the Toora pool on the bus. My favourite part was when we got to use the noodles to jump into the pool.



Everyone can learn to learn

Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring



Middle School News

The Summit Camp

Wow, what an incredible three days at The Summit Adventure Camp in Trafalgar. I would like to give a massive thanks to the students for their incredible attitude, efforts and behaviours. The weather did make for some trying conditions, but that did not stop our children from giving 200%. We have had many positive comments from everyone involved. The Summit Camp made particular mention of our students, staff and volunteers. They were absolutely amazed how everyone got involved.

A massive thank you to our fabulous staff (Miss, Wanklyn, Miss Jones, Mrs. Taylor & Carolyn) and volunteers (Tiff, Bree, Shannon, Breanna, Matt, Tim, Terry, Dean and Miss Trewarn) who truly did an amazing job enabling our students to have the most amazing experiences. Thank you to the parents/carers for getting your children ready for camp and sorting the mess in their bags when they returned during this busy part of the year.

I am sure the stories will be retold a few times over the holidays.

Thanking you all

Ms Young

This week we had the Summit Camp at Trafalgar East. The activities were:

- Water Slide, Mud Run, Tash's ladder, Snakes and Nails, Laser Skirmish and lots more.

My favourite activity was Laser Skirmish because you had two teams (blue and red) and you had to shoot the other team. The team with the most hits wins the game. (Mason C)

It was extremely funny when Ms Young joined in with the Monster Course and went into the mud pit - Stuart

Snakes and Nails:

It was cool when we walked on nails and it didn't even go through our feet!! - Zac

My favourite thing was Snakes and Nails because the teachers went on it too! - Alex

Laser Skirmish:

Laser Skirmish was soooo good. I only got out once! - Azariyah

I was team blue and I won round 2 and round 3. - Cody

My favourite thing was Laser Skirmish because the blue team won! - Alex

My favourite activity was Laser Skirmish because you had two teams, red and blue, and you had to shoot the other team and the team with the most hits wins the game! - Zac

In Laser Skirmish we played it outside and it was so much fun! - Tully



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring

More Middle School News

Flying Fox:

You must gear up because the Flying Fox is massive!! When I went over the lake it was so much fun!! - James

At the flying fox I went first and I was really scared but I loved it! The flying fox was really awesome. I watched everyone else too. - Levi

We got harnessed up and walked to Cabin 3. We hopped on a box.

On the Zipline we went across the lake. - Jaycee

The Flying Fox was incredible because we went so fast! - Dylan

Mud Run / Monster Course:

We rolled around like pigs in mud. We jumped into a ball pit and Sam W lost his shoe in it. We had to go under a rope and log. It was very challenging! - Jasmine

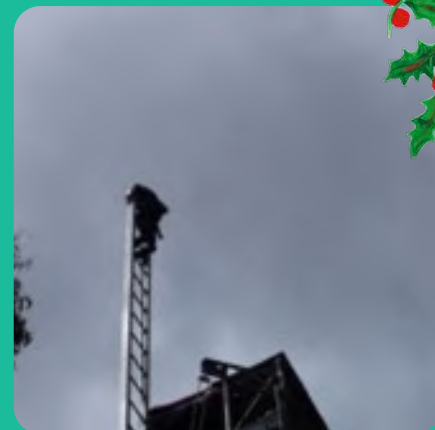
The Mud Run was so much fun. I think it was fun because I like mud and getting dirty. I also liked the ball pit activity that was a part of the mud run. I thought it was fun because I had never actually been in a real ball pit. - Molly

Water Slide:

I thought the water slide was amazing. It was scary but exciting at the same time. I loved it! We had to have partners and I was Ashlee's partner. It was so epic! - Maddie W

Food:

My favourite meals were: Waffles and Ice-cream, Cheese Cake, Croissant, Pancakes, Bolognese and Garlic Bread. I liked the waffle because it was toasted and warm! - Ziggy



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring

Senior School News

The car ride to the golf club was exhilarating. Every bump, every pothole got me more and more excited! So many thoughts were rushing through my head: what are other people wearing? Are the decorations going to be fancy? What's for dinner? Are there good songs on the disco playlist? And so on and so on... But Then in a blink of an eye, we were there! I scanned the car park for any sign of my friends or teachers, but there were none. The next thing I knew I was walking through the doors under an enormous sign that read: Welcome to 2022 Grade 6 Graduation! Immediately I was stunned by what everybody was wearing! The decoration! The noise of excited chatter! I walked to find my friends in the crowd, and 10 minutes passed, then the party started! Around 2 hours later, all was over, the disco, the awards, the speeches, were just memories in our minds. Guests were leaving, photos were being shot, and as I was ushered out the door; with 2 awards, a yearbook and a permanent smile, I thought,
7 YEARS OF PRIMARY ALMOST OVER!

By Mila Dinsergs

On Tuesday the 13 of December the grade 6's had their transition day up at the high school, we all met at the Flex then got split into our grades for next year. We all had fun meeting new people and learning new skills. We did things like Digital tech, P.E, Science, Kitchen and Art.

First we did digital tech but our teacher wasn't there so we got to play games to learn other students' names. Next in P.E we played games like terminator, kick ball and a lot of other games, in science we were seeing how all our eyes see things differently then looking in microscopes .in Kitchen we made vegemite cheese rolls and in Art we drew lizard eyes but over all we all had an amazing day and can't wait to start at a new school next year.

By Ava Piasente



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring

More Senior School News

On Friday we went into Grade 6 for the day. It was really fun and I got to meet my new teacher Miss Jones. Miss Jones is an amazing teacher and helps us get work done quickly. We played this game called crumple and shoot. It was really fun and I got to know my classmates so much better. Transition is great because you get to know who is in your class for 2023. I am really excited for next year! By Millie Bravington

The last few weeks the BER building has been packed with excitement. And one of those exciting things is a bizarre bazaar ,where there are tons of different stalls and we sell different products. Some of the different products are felt teddies, lucky dips, tie dye socks and a whole lot more. So we first had a look at factories where they make products. Some of the products in the factories were crayons, tires and bowling balls. Then the whole BER came together and made groups of 2 or 3. After we decided on our product to make in our group we went to grades 1 and 2s and collected data based on our product . We then started to design and make our products and logo. We got to present and sell them on Thursday the 15th. Most people's products got sold out!

By Macca Gibson

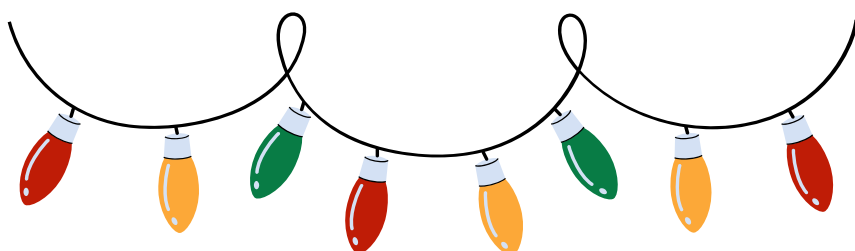
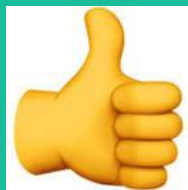


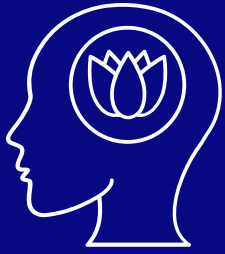
School Wide Positive Behaviours

A massive congratulations to all our students and staff for a tremendous effort in giving out and earning Thumbs Up cards this term. We have filled our wall. Today after lunch, we have had our Thumbs Up celebrations. A tremendous effort from students and staff.

Students have excitedly chosen an activity from the list- Paint, Sip & Snack, Sandcastle competition, tennis, movie & popcorn, creative play, rec reserve play, minecraft/mario kart and colouring/drawing & craft.

What an exciting way to finish the term!





Student & school wellbeing news

Christmas

I don't come across many people who are calm coming in to Christmas. Mostly people are just worn out and highly stressed. We went straight back to our busy lives after coming out of the lockdown didn't we, even though we said we wouldn't (or maybe that was just me).

We all know Christmas is supposed to be a wonderful time to sit and enjoy family and friends and yet I know too many people who would prefer to get to Boxing Day.

For many, Christmas will be a sad time thinking about those that are no longer here or maybe who are themselves struggling with health issues. For some, Christmas will be low key as they save money for those essentials they really need. And for some, children will be ferried between families who are no longer together.

Whatever Christmas is for you, this year, maybe you can get to pause and reflect on everything you are grateful for, whatever that is, and regardless of how big or small that is. Maybe you can sit, breathe and smile and let your family know you love them whether they are with you physically or not.

Maybe you can give thanks for anything and everything you have with you on the day. I personally love the tradition of saying Grace; acknowledging everyone around the table and being grateful for our good health and love.

How ever you choose to spend your day and the holiday season, I hope you can slow down and take the time to be grateful and present. If ever we wanted time to slow, this is how it happens. And remember, your kids don't need things, they need you; be present to them, sit with them, play with them; they will remember this more than the gifts.

I wish you all a very safe, healthy, joyful and calm Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in 2023.



Everyone can learn to learn

Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring

Parents & Friends Group

Kitchen Garden Market Stall - this Saturday!

Come on down to the Foster Memorial Hall tomorrow morning for a bacon & egg sandwich, a sausage, a peice of brownie or to purchase some of the goodies we have been growing in the garden and cooking in the kitchen! Thanks as always to our major sponsor Foodworks & also to Oak & Swan Sourdough for their very generous donations both for the market tomorrow and for EVERY market stall this year! We couldn't do this without this support!

THANK
YOU

Thanks also to our:

December Farmer's Market Stall Sponsor



If you'd like to sponsor a market stall for 2023, please contact Kimberley on 0400 315 211!

Thanks and farewell!

While we are on the subject of thank you's...there are a few people that are leaving the FPS community as their children are heading to high school. Lou Vale, Roxy Hurst, Mary Fitzgerald and Brenda Accardi - we can't thank you enough for all you have done for our school over many years as part of the parents and friends group. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

THANK
YOU

Parents & Friends Events

December

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.



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

Kitchen News



What a great year we have had in the kitchen! The kids are finishing of the year with Christmas sugar cookies and gingerbread making! I got the chance to celebrate with the grade 6's at their graduation, with Perry Sumaru recieving our Kitchen Garden Award for 2022, great job Perry! Thankyou to all our volunteers we have had this year helping in the kitchen and garden, it is very much appreciated. I hope everyone has an excellent Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring



Child Safe Standards

Child safety and wellbeing at Foster Primary School: information for families and the school community.

The Victorian Government has announced new Child Safe Standards to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Foster Primary School has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on our [website](#) or a copy from the office is available upon request.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices. If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Scott Moorhouse or Sue Duggan.



Everyone can learn to learn

All of our policies are available to view on our school website
<https://fosterps.vicedu.au/school-policies/>

All DET policies are available at
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal>

Be Respectful
Be a Learner
Be Safe
Be Caring