



17TH FEBURARY 2023

# THE NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School*



## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*by Scott Moorhouse*

What a wonderful start to the year we are having! I am pleased to report that our students and teachers have begun this year with some really sound learning and orderly, sensible and safe conduct. It has also been really pleasing to see our students go the 'extra mile' for others. I have witnessed students helping those as mentors, buddies helping each other and students who are really socially conscious. This makes for an extremely harmonious place to learn.

Last Friday we had our swimming sports for 3-6's. I was amazed to see almost every student get into the pool and have a go. It is fantastic to watch children conquer their fears as well as experiencing some success. A really special shout out to Miss Jones who made sure that every student made it up and back down the Foster pool. She assisted them with noodles, swam with them in the pool and made quite a few students day! A super big thanks to Mr. Couper and Kylie who put together a fantastic day and ordered the correct weather. Thank you also for the huge amount of parent support - we could not have done it without you!

## IMPORTANT DATES

### February 2023

9, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21 Gr3-6 Water Safety Program Foster Pool  
24th Division Swimming

### March 2023

1st School Photos  
10th Wheelchairs for Kids Event  
13th Labour Day Public Holiday  
15th - 27th NAPLAN  
16th Regional Swimming  
21st Harmony Day  
29th Prom Coast Athletics

### April 2023

5th District Athletics  
6th Last day term 1  
7th Good Friday  
24th Term 2 starts - Student free day  
25th ANZAC Day  
28th State Swimming

NAPLAN will soon be upon us. At the moment our teachers in this area are preparing students for this assessment. We do this by way of test literacy, this is 'what the question is asking you to do?'. We do not 'teach to the test'. Grade 5's and 3's will complete a practice assessment online on the 21st of February with some observers in the room to see how they are handling the answers. After this time we will assess what, if anything, needs to be done to assist the students further with their understanding.

A big shout out to our leadership teams within the school! The Early Act club has met for the second time and has officially formed. This will be ratified at a dinner in March with the Rotarians. We thank Mr. Barry Standfield, Dr Laurie Warfe and Mrs. Liz Hall for their extensive contribution to making this happen. Their first major project will be the Wheelchair project in March before the Prom Coast Festival. A sponsorship form is attached, a separate information sheet will go out in the following week. Our SRC are starting their efforts around delivering important messages to the school about many things. This includes our Nude Food Policy, the role NAPLAN plays for students and the school and they are looking to add to our school uniform (watch this space).

This really is a fantastic group of students to work with and I can't wait to see what they achieve.

Scott Moorhouse  
Principal



### May 2023

3rd & 4th Foster PS Got Talent  
8th Stocky's birthday  
11th School incursion & Foster PS Got Talent GF  
12th Gr 5/6 Winter Sports rounds commence  
17th House Cross Country  
17th IDAHOBIT Day  
19th Gr 5/6 Winter Sports  
25th Division Cross Country  
26th Gr 5/6 Winter Sports & Sorry Day  
29th Reconciliation Day

### June 2023

1st Regional Cross Country  
2nd Gr 5/6 Winter Sports  
7th School incursion  
9th Student free day  
12th Kings Birthday Public Holiday  
15th Division winter sports  
19th NAIDOC Celebrations  
23rd Last day Term 2

### July 2023

2nd World Autism Awareness Day  
2nd NAIDOC Week  
4th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day  
10th Term 3 starts  
13th State Cross Country  
19th Regional Winter sports

### August 2023

9th - 11th Gr 3/4 Phillip Island Camp

### September 2023

8th Division Athletics  
15th Term 3 ends

### October 2023

2nd Term 4 starts

### November 2023

1st - 3rd Gr 5/6 Camp Coolamatong  
6th Student Free Day  
7th Melbourne Cup Day

### December 2023

20th Student Free Day  
20th Term 4 ends

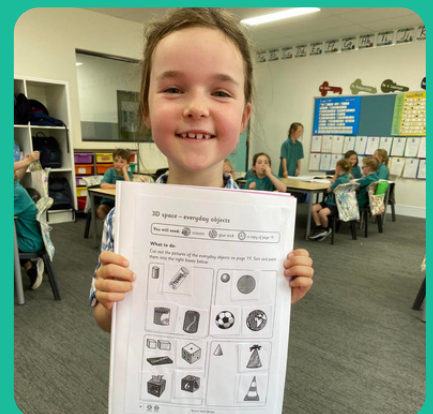
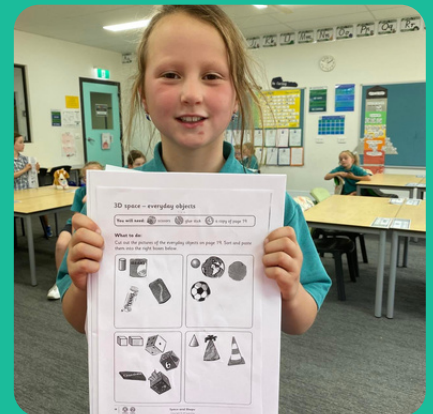
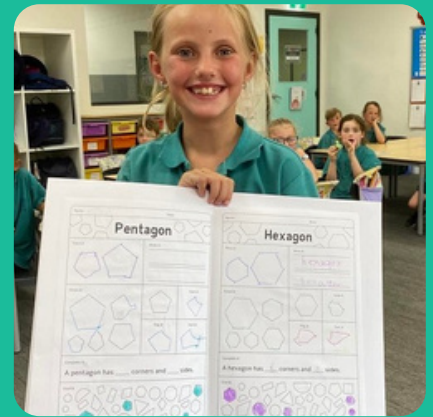




# Junior School News

In Grade 12D we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. Students have had fun counting sides, corners, faces, edges and vertices. We have played sorting shapes games, shape bingo and even put together cube nets. We also discovered that a shape has the same of sides as it does corners.

We have also been learning about the concept of identity and growing older. Students have brought in baby photos and we will be guessing which photo belongs to who. See if you can guess some of these baby photos.



# Middle School News

Grade 3/4 have had a great start to the year. The students are settling well into the routines and procedures of school, whilst enjoying new specialist classes such as Kitchen/Garden and Science.

The weeks have gone quickly with our water safety program and the House Swimming Carnival last Friday. It was fabulous to see so many of our students eager to participate and have a go at everything. Seeing the smiles of enjoyment and how proud they were when they may have stepped out of their comfort zone was absolutely amazing. They should all be very proud of themselves.

In class, we have been focusing on building relationships and friendships, looking at and understanding our emotions, persuasive writing, (there have been some great persuaders amongst us ) place value in Maths and for Reading we have been focusing on being organised and having a 'Just Right' book. It has been great to see most students remembering to bring their reading folders and diaries to school each day.

We are looking forward to a great year.

Jenny & Andrew



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



# Senior School News

We have had a busy few weeks in the BER building since returning to school. We have been busy over the last two weeks with our water safety program and the House Swimming Carnival last Friday. It has been great to see so many students stepping out of their comfort zones and giving different things a go in the pool.

We have also been fortunate to have two student teachers joining 5/6J and 4/5P. Leah has been in 5/6 J and Mr Paton has been in 4/5P. It has been great to have both of them involved in our classroom learning.

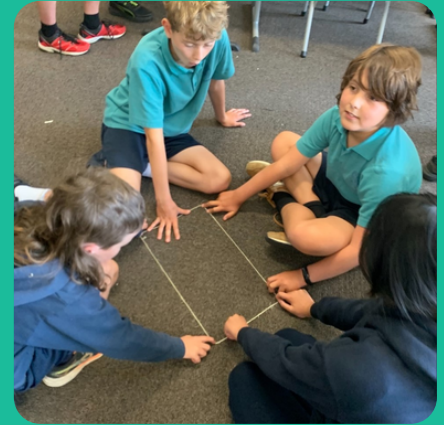
Over the last couple of weeks, 5/6J and 5/6P have been combining once a week to participate in our 'Be Curious' Maths. This has seen students working collaboratively in groups and being inquisitive by asking questions and trialling different things to find answers and solutions. Our last couple of sessions have been focussing on determining the perimeter and area of polygons (closed, straight-edged shapes).

Our student leaders have been keen to get stuck into their new roles and are keen to make a difference, which has been exciting to see.

We have also enjoyed getting to know and spending time with our new junior buddies in the Prep/1 classes.

It has been a great start to the term and we look forward to the year ahead!

Katie, Jane, Marion & Chantelle



**Q. How do bees get to school?**

**A. By school buzz...**

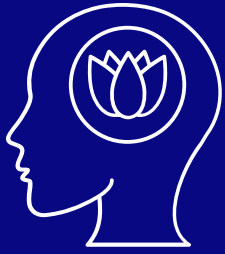
**Q. How do the fish get to school?**

**A. By octobus!**

**Q. What does a gorilla learn in school?**

**A. His Ape B C's.**

**Be Respectful**  
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# Student & school wellbeing news

It seems to me that the start of the year and the end of the year have a bit in common...everything has to be done straight away with what feels like a degree of urgency. Most of the students are doing swimming at the moment, we have had morning cuppas, evening BBQs, department meetings, staff first aid trainings x 2 to name a few. This all seems to happen as before school music and after school dance lessons and sporting commitments kick in again too. All of this is terrific, don't get me wrong. And, I believe we have started the school year strong and really well. The kids have been amazing.

As the weeks have started to go by now however, we are noticing some students beginning to misbehave. This is also normal. With new grades, new staff, new friends and new routines, kids hold it together to start well. This can be tough to do for prolonged periods of time so now, as we get tired from so much more activity than what we are used to than school holidays, our kids are letting their guards down. I imagine family members are seeing this at home a fair bit too. Your kids may be coming home after holding it together, being on their best behaviour for the past couple of weeks, and letting their bundles drop.

Whilst I am not condoning letting bad behaviour get a leave pass, I am encouraging everyone to go easy on the kids a bit and allow them to have a bit of a melt down in the safety of their home. They will be super tired and they need to express their emotions in a safe way if they can.

Maybe change routines a little if you can in these early days. If there are ways to minimise the after school rush in any way, this would be great for them. Outside play, slow walks in nature or reading in beanbags are great ways for kids to unwind. Or maybe some earlier nights and ensuring they continue to get healthy meals as opposed to take away meals on the run in between lessons and training.

We know everyone is doing their very best, including the kids. We need to remember this.



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



Everyone can learn to learn

# School Wide Positive Behaviours



## Our Whole School Expectations

Everyone can learn to learn

Be Respectful Be Safe Be a Learner Be Caring

### Be Respectful

- I look after my own, others and the school's belongings and equipment.
- I speak to everyone respectfully.
- I use good manners by saying please, thank you and excuse me.
- I listen to the person who is speaking.
- I am patient and wait politely for my turn to speak.
- I have a good attitude, speak politely and show positive body language.
- I follow an adult's instructions.

### Be Safe

- I keep my hands and feet to myself.
- I walk when I am inside and in undercover areas.
- I care about the safety of myself and others before I act.
- I make safe choices online.
- I ask permission or let an adult know before I leave my learning area.
- I return to my classroom and line up.
- I listen and follow an adult's instructions.

### Be a Learner

- I have a go at all learning opportunities and allow others to do the same.
- I use metacognition strategies to better understand myself as a learner.
- I view my mistakes as a learning opportunity.
- I challenge myself to improve by being in the learning zone.
- I make my best effort to manage my distractions.
- I use technology for the intended purpose.
- I am resilient when something does not go my way.

### Be Caring

- I am friendly and kind.
- I treat others how they would like to be treated.
- I am an inclusive person by showing empathy and tolerance.
- I recognise my strengths and show pride in my growth.
- I speak nicely about my peers and teachers.
- I use the bins to put rubbish in.

## Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships/School Wide Behaviour Positive Behaviour Supports – SWPBS

The RRRR program is designed to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours through the teaching of eight different topics. It teaches students how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

Throughout our Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships (RRRR) program, classes have been focusing on the topic of Emotional Literacy. Students in the junior grades have been learning to identify different emotions, both positive and negative, and what these might look, sound and feel like. In grades, 3-6, students have been discussing emotional triggers and how emotions change across the day. Understanding emotions, being able to read other people's emotions and respond appropriately to them, forms a key part of our daily lives.

SWPBS is a framework that we follow, which brings together our whole school community to create and maintain a Respectful, Safe and Caring Learning environment for everyone. SWPBS assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes. Our SWPBS lessons have been around our School Values of Be Respectful, Be Caring, Be a Learner and Be Safe and how they look, sound and feel in the classrooms. Building routines, positive relationships and developing a class culture around our school values has been a focus.

Attached is our whole school matrix for our expected behaviours that are displayed and used in all classrooms.



# Parents & Friends Group

## Kitchen Garden Market Stall - this Saturday!

Come on down to the Foster Memorial Hall Saturday morning for a bacon & egg sandwich, a sausage, a piece of brownie or to purchase some of the goodies we have been 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!

### Thanks also to our:

#### February Farmer's Market Stall Sponsor



<https://www.inspirepeopleconsulting.com.au/>

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

### Planning & events for 2023:

All parents and friends of FPS are welcome to come to our Term 1 meeting on 17th March to hear about the fundraising activities already planned for this year and to have a say in what the funds will go towards. Currently, a high priority is to raise money for a new junior playground - this is much needed and will be a costly project. Ideas on other avenues for fundraising are welcomed. If you think there is something more pressing we need to fund, we'd love to hear about that too!

Families attending the kinder with children who will come to FPS next year are also welcome to come to find out about what we do and to discuss playground ideas.



## Parents & Friends Events

### February 2023

18th Kitchen Garden Market Stall

### March 2023

17th P&F Term 1 meeting 9am  
18th Kitchen Garden Market Stall



**Join the FPS  
Parents&Friends  
Facebook Group  
to get involved  
and see what we  
are up to this  
year!**

**[Click here to join](https://www.facebook.com/groups/503984577353560)**

or visit

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/503984577353560>**

**Be Respectful  
Be a Learner  
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## Getting started with social media

**Social media platforms (like Facebook, Tik Tok and Instagram) are great for connecting with family and friends through messages, images and even videos.**

But there are also risks, like seeing harmful content, being treated badly, or being sent inappropriate messages.

### Three questions to ask

Most platforms need you to be at least 13 years old to join. But a child also needs to be able to manage the risks. Three questions to ask your child are:

- What would you do if you saw something harmful online?
- How can you tell if an online message or person is safe?
- Who would you go to if something bad happened to you online?

### Help your child

[The eSafety Guide](#) on the eSafety website can help you make your child's account safe.

It is also a good idea to supervise your child when they use social media because children are more likely to ask for help when adults are interested and nearby.

### Using social media safely

Talk to your child about how they want to use their account. Encourage them to:

- be kind to themselves and respectful of others
- avoid sharing details that could make it easy for someone to find them (like their school uniform or home address)

- use app features to set limits on how much time they spend on social media
- learn more about being safe online using eSafety's information for [young people](#).

### Dealing with issues on social media

It is never okay for someone to be pressured, bullied or harassed online. Use The eSafety Guide to find out how to report any problems to the social media platform. If the platform doesn't help, [contact eSafety](#) to help find the right support.



For more information about how to keep your family safe online, search for [eSafety Parents](#) on our website.

# FPS Upcoming Events

2023 . FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 FARMERS MARKET
19	20 GR 3-6 WATER SAFETY PROGRAM WITH PJS	21 GR 3-6 WATER SAFETY PROGRAM	22 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	23	24 DIVISION SWIMMING KORUMBURRA	25
26	27	28				

2023 . MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 SCHOOL PHOTOS ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	9	10 WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS 1.00PM	11 PROM COAST FESTIVAL
12	13 LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	14	15 NAPLAN ASSEMBLY 2.30PM SCHOOL COUNCIL	16 NAPLAN REGIONAL SWIMMING SALE	17 NAPLAN	18
19	20 NAPLAN	21 NAPLAN HARMONY DAY	22 NAPLAN ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	23 NAPLAN	24 NAPLAN	25
26	27	28	29 GR 3-6 PROM COAST CLUSTER ATHS @ FOSTER SECONDARY	30	31	



Everyone can learn to learn

