



2ND JUNE 2023

# THE NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School*



## NEWS FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

*by Ashton Webster*

### School Representatives

Congratulations to all the students who have represented our school in the next level Cross Country and with Winter Sports. It been great to see and to hear the positive feedback from parents and other schools on how our students have conducted themselves. Ben Crowe who is a Sports Mindset coach who has worked with Kathy Freeman, Dylan Alcott, Ash Barty, Dusty Martin and Stephanie Gilmore to name a few, talks about the importance of being a good person first and an athlete second. So to see our students showing great sportsmanship by encouraging the opposition and shaking hands after each game really is evidence of the work that parents, the community and our staff have put in to make sure we are raising good people.

### Colds and flus

With the rise of the flu's and colds that happens at this time of year, the school has been taking measures to reduce the spread however there has been a number students and staff that have been ill and so there may be on occasion where we need to get in replacement teachers while the regular teacher is away.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### June 2023

- 1st Regional Cross Country
- 2nd Gr 5/6 Winter Sports
- 7th School incursion & Yr 7 Transition Day
- 12th Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- 13th Student Free Day
- 13th State Cross Country
- 14th Biggest Morning tea at school
- 15th Division winter sports
- 19th NAIDOC Celebrations
- 22nd Movie Night
- 23rd Last day Term 2

Alternatively due to some classes having low class numbers, we have been able to combine classes which we have found to be the preferred choice as the students generally are more familiar the ongoing staff here at Foster PS. The staff here will do our best to communicate the changes when they come up however sometimes when we are having to make last minute decisions due to unforeseen circumstances. I thank you all for your patience and understanding during these times.

### Communication

One aspect of the feedback from the process of the School Review was that some parents weren't overly sure on what everyone's role was within school staff wise and so over the year we will be sharing a profile of two staff members each newsletter. I would like to thank Troy and Katie for being the guinea pigs this week and I hope you enjoy reading their profile as much as I did.

Finally I'd like to wish Tim Davis all the best on his long service leave starting the week after next. Narelle Buttigieg will be taking that class who has been doing a lot of fantastic work with the Junior Students already so will be a great fit for that class.

### July 2023

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

### August 2023

9th - 11th Gr 3/4 Phillip Island Camp  
22nd School Incursion

### September 2023

6th & 7th Jungle Book Production  
14th Division Athletics  
15th Term 3 ends

### October 2023

2nd Term 4 Starts  
10th Regional Athletics  
13th Colour Fun Run  
30th - 1st Nov Gr 5/6 Camp Coolamatong

### November 2023

6th Student Free Day  
7th Melb Cup Day  
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Junior Water Safety Program @ Toora Pool

### December 2023

1st Student Free Day  
Grade 6 Graduation TBC  
20th last day of term, Student Free Day



**Cancer Council** Celebrating 30 years!

# Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.

**WHEN:** 11 am Wednesday 14th June  
**WHERE:** Foster Primary School

A reminder to get the raffle tickets back for all to be in the draw for a lovely Jane McGrath miniature rose bush. Each family who returns tickets will go into the draw for a book.

Come and join the staff on the Wednesday for morning tea with a gold coin donation or scan to donate. Foster Secondary College will have their coffee van here for coffee \$5 and hot chocolates \$3. Payable at the office for a token. Please bring a keep cup with your name on it.

Scan to Donate  
Unique ID: 5000119455



**Assembly Wednesdays from 2.30pm in the BER Building. All welcome.**



# Junior School News

What a fantastic week we have had. Week 6 has brought some valuable learning aligned with National Reconciliation Week. On Monday we had Kane visit us to talk about his culture and to read us *The Rainbow Serpent*. We learnt about the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, cultures, languages and connections to the land. Kane gave us great insight into his connection to Gubbi Gubbi country and how the land differs to Boonwurrung and Kurnai country. Thank you, Kane!

## Sounds-Write:

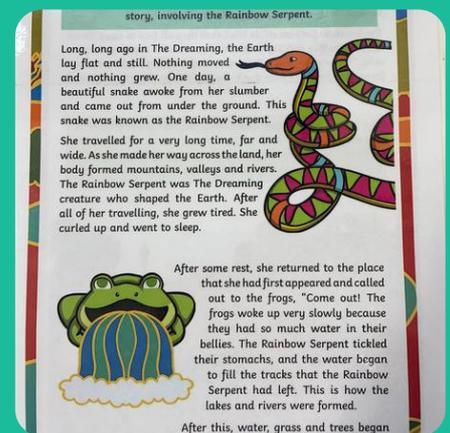
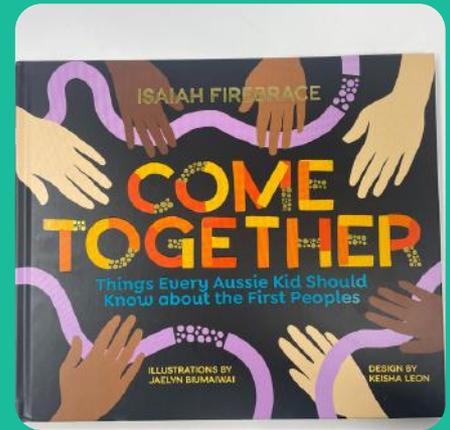
We are excited to share that Emma Charlton, Andrea Bell, Sue Duggan, Scott Moorhouse and Andrew Murray have completed their Sounds-Write training. This will take over our previous literacy programme as more staff are trained. Sounds-Write is a phonics programme based on the 'science of reading'. Lessons are engaging and interactive. We look forward to sharing our knowledge and learnings with not only our students, but also the school community. You can find out more by visiting: <https://sounds-write.co.uk/>

## Interview with Max:

We have been doing a lot of writing this week. We wrote the bush tucker recipe. I am proud of doing my best. We learnt about people who we can talk to if we need help or if someone is not being kind to us.

## Interview with Emelee:

I loved watching the Bush Tucker cooking video. They made ice-cream with special bush tucker jam. I miss Stocky, he is away for the week because of his operation.



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# Middle School News

It is Reconciliation Week this week and students in Grade 3 and 4 are continuing on their learning journey about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, history and cultures. We have been looking at the meaning behind Reconciliation Week, the significance of the dates that this week begins and ends on, and how this year's theme of 'Be A Voice For Generations' can be applied in our own lives. All this learning has also helped us in deepening our understanding around the purpose of, and differences between an Acknowledgment of Country and Welcome to Country.

This term we have been fortunate enough to have Year 9 students from Foster Secondary College visiting us over a few sessions to deliver 'You Be The Coach'. This is an opportunity for the Year 9s to take on the leadership role of teaching different sports to the Grade 3s and 4s. The sports being taught include hockey, netball, basketball, soccer and t-ball. It has been fantastic to see students embracing the challenge of learning new skills, getting active, developing their team-work and participating in learning from other students.

Keep your eye out on Compass for our weekly 3/4 newsletter, that will keep you up-to-date with all the happenings in our classrooms and beyond.



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# Senior School News

## 5/6P Maths

This week we were learning about factors and using tiles to make arrays to learn about them. We've also been having lots of fun with multiplication and division. 5/6P have loved having a go at lattice multiplication and some of the students have been seeing how big they can make their lattice problem.

## Winter sports

Friday the 2nd of June is our last day of winter sports. We loved playing football, netball, soccer, t-ball and basketball. A massive thank you to all the teachers, high schoolers, parents, and we loved getting to know the other students and playing against St Laurence, Korumburra, Mirboo North and Inverloch Primary Schools. It has been so wonderful to see students develop skills and work together in teams. And the biggest thank you to Miss Jones for planning the whole winter sports and making it lots of fun.

We would like to wish the AFL, basketball and Soccer teams the best of luck as they move on to district level in the Lightning Prem competition.

We have also been doing our Research project Events that changed Australia.

Macca, Milla and Lara are doing The Gold rush, here are some interesting facts from their project:

- Two brothers named Daniel and John Murphy found so much gold that they made 1.5 million dollars .
- The Australian population increased by 430,000 people during the Gold Rush.
- Parker Schnabel mined the incredible amount of 39,910 ounces of Gold, worth \$67.8 million dollars.
- So many people were leaving their jobs to find gold. It was a big struggle for business owners to find employees



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# Staff Profiles

## Miss Katie Jones

A bit about me: I grew up in the local area on my family's dairy farm. I attended Foster Primary School from Grade 3-6. I then attended South Gippsland Secondary College (now Foster Secondary College). I worked in Foster at Pulham's Furniture and Carpet whilst in high school, and up until I completed my university degree.

I enjoy playing a wide variety of sports including netball, basketball, and cricket. I have also previously played women's football.

I started teaching in 2017 and taught for two years at Poowong Consolidated School. During this time, I still lived and played sport in the Foster community. I started working at Foster Primary School in 2019 and am now in my fifth year at the school. This year I am teaching grades 5 and 6. I am a member of the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support team, and I enjoy working with students and staff to create a positive and safe learning environment. I have enjoyed being involved in the senior school sports programs this year and have loved seeing the growth of students during our recent Winter Sports program.

I really enjoy teaching and being able to support students through their learning journey. It is wonderful and very rewarding to see the progress and growth students make in all aspects of their learning and development.



## Mr Troy Maniatakis

I'm Troy, Garden Teacher, Teacher's Aide, and the Mowing Man (when my school schedule and the weather permit!).

I'm a new resident of South Gippsland, moving to Woorarra East with my partner and son in September 2021. We were planning our move well before covid hit, but lockdowns prevented us from viewing houses, so it took a lot longer than we would have liked.

I grew up in the suburbs of Melbourne, attending school and playing footy in the Mulgrave area. I was always very involved in the music scene, singing in punk rock bands, DJing at numerous clubs and bush doofs, working in record stores and ending up in music insurance at JB HiFi for a number of years! A desk job was not for me though, and I went back to working in retail Collectibles and Op shops.

I love Aussie Rules Football and I'm a passionate Sydney Swans supporter. This year I am Team Manager of the Corner Inlet Stingrays U10 Team, and one of the coaches at Toora Auskick. I really enjoy getting out at training and seeing the kids loving playing and working on improving their skills, but most importantly, having fun.

Outside of school and footy I am a volunteer firefighter with the Welshpool CFA and a not-as-regular-as-I-would-like attendee at Toora Produce Share. My family and I are really enjoying meeting people in the area and finding our place in the school and wider community.



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# Student & school wellbeing news

## Sharing is Caring

Each week I am presenting 15 minutes on a topic related to mental wellbeing to the grade 5/6 cohort. Finding time to run a full session with each class was proving difficult to achieve so we went with, 'something is better than nothing'!

The reality is that reaching children with short sharp messages frequently can be more impactful than sitting through a longer lesson and risk some losing interest.

Our first session was 2 weeks ago and I showed the students my school photo from grade 5 and grade 6, (sometimes I am sure children don't think adults were their age ever). I thought it may help to show them what I looked like then and this made it easier for them to listen to my story of not liking myself much in primary school.

I shared with them that I was picked on a lot for my bright red hair, fair skin, freckles and such fair eye lashes you could barely see my eyes. I shared that I don't remember if I was teased first and then believed the messages or whether I believed how I felt and the teasing was back up evidence of my thoughts. Regardless, I told them how damaging it was and why I felt so strongly about why working on ones own self worth is so very important.

We then went on to find something we like about ourselves, shared by their friends. I love watching students faces when they hear something positive about themselves.

The following week I showed a Youtube clip on the damage and hurt that gossiping can do to someone. This video of someone reading the story Mr Peabodys Apples by Madonna, shows the effects of telling stories you know nothing about which can cause a lot of distress.

This video was shared with me by a resident of Foster and I am so grateful she let me know about it.

We are really open to hearing about any recommendations whether that be books, programs, maybe an idea for a speaker or a topic, or just some feedback that you believe would be beneficial for us and our students.

Other topics I will be covering up to the end of the term include body image and shaming, anxiety and mindfulness. Honestly, we could run this every week and never run out of content but if you have something you really think should be on the agenda for any of our year levels, please share. Sharing is caring 😊

Megan & Jo



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# School Wide Positive Behaviours

## SWPBS/SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING

It has been a pleasure working with staff and students on our current focus What can we – adults/students do to make everyone feel more safe/happy and respected at school during recess and lunch?

All staff took this question to their classrooms to brainstorm and make a list of things that they feel we (our school community) could do to help improve the safety and happiness of our children during recess and lunch time.

There were many fabulous ideas, we have included a few here. Please feel free to contact Katie or Jenny Y if you would like to see the rest of the list.

- P/1B · Ask a friend to go find a yard duty teacher · The person who hurts you can then take you to get an ice pack · Outside games with the teachers (student V teachers) such as Twister, football, Spotto, Doctors, Cricket, Everyone's it · More cool trucks and derby cars for the sandpit · A toy dragon that glides in the wind (kite)
- P/1C Help others when they are hurt \* Let the yard duty teacher know if someone hurt you or hurt your friends \* Play games like tiggy \* More trucks to play with in the sandpit \* Have a 'Creative Play Day' inside so we can play with the toys, like the doctor's kit
- 1/2D Go to chill out room if someone's bothering you · Friendly bench on the junior side sign · Use quiet room(junior) with teacher permission · Go to chill out room if someone's bothering you · More lunch/recess activities
- 1/2A A quiet / calm area outside \* More recess/lunchtime activities run by teachers in classrooms or outside \* Equipment for the sandpit like plastic shovels and buckets (because there are not containers/buckets some kids carry water in their mouths from the taps to the sandpit and spit it into the sand) \* Signs and posters to remind everyone how to play safely and what NOT to do (specific for the oval, playground, sandpit etc) \* A room/class where a teacher can teach kids about being kind and getting along with everyone
- 3/4Y A picnic area where you can have your lunch and snack \* More chairs around the school \* More organised games ran by adults and responsible older children such as soccer & football, jumping castle ● Stocky at the front gate in the morning \* Educating us how to stop being with people who are being rude to us
- 3/4M New/improved playground (Grade 2 playground especially) · Use your friends more to feel safe · Book fair more often · More teachers on yard duty · Students to tell the teacher when there are problems
- 4/5PW · Detention students should do jobs or schoolwork/ hard schoolwork · Stop doing the thing that makes you feel unsafe · Teachers talk to the students who feel unsafe · See Megan or Jo · Do some mindful classes with Megan (whole class)
- 5/6J More equipment to use at recess and lunch \* More organised games \* Play with new friends who you get along with ● Soccer & cricket club \*Outdoor games
- 5/6P Kids are a bit bored at lunch \*We would like to have organised games of cricket, Football, Soccer, basketball and Netball. \* We are enjoying the lunchtime activities



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# More School Wide Positive Behaviours

We would now like to action some of these. The first two main actions that we are going to focus on are:

- Organised games/activities/equipment/clubs at lunch time
- Support for stopping bullying behaviours and teach us how to be more resilient and be able to remove ourselves from others who are being rude/mean

If anyone has any sandpit toys such as trucks and derby cars at home that they longer want, please send them to school. We would love them in our sand pit. As you can see from above the students would like more areas around the school where they can sit, eat, chat and play. If you would like to help in this area, we would also love to hear from you.

We currently have a couple keen students who would like to run some lunch time skills sessions, games and competitions in a few different sports. If you think you might be interested or know of someone in our community who would like to assist, please get them to contact us or send us their number and we can make contact. As the saying goes, more hands make light work. There would still be a staff member out there as well.

A huge thank you to everyone involved. We have some wonderful feedback from our students, now it is time to put these suggestions in action.

Please do not hesitate to contact Katie or myself (Jenny Y) if you would like to help or have any suggestions/ideas. Thank you.



**nab AFL Auskick**

## MID-SEASON ENTRY

**It's not too late to join the fun!**

Register for NAB AFL Auskick now for only \$55 plus receive an exclusive goodies pack!

[play.afl/auskick](https://play.afl/auskick)

The advertisement features two smiling boys in the top half. The boy on the left is wearing a yellow shirt, and the boy on the right is wearing a black and yellow AFL jersey. The background is a blurred outdoor setting. The bottom half of the ad is a dark blue banner with white and red text and graphics, including a QR code and a red button with the website URL.

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# Parents & Friends Group

We hope everyone is enjoying creating their picture plates. Money and plates are due back at school on the 8th June :) money raised will be going to new Netball uniforms for our winter sports. More templates are available from the office if you need.

Movie night is the 22nd June and we are looking for parent helpers to help out in the canteen from 5pm. Popping corn, selling drinks etc. Someone to cook the bbq, and help set up from 5. If you can help please contact Tiff Wightman on 0400083059.

FPS Parents and Friend's Group present

## Family Movie Night

Thursday the 22nd of June  
Foster Primary School

BBQ from 5pm  
Movies start at 6pm

The Jungle Book 2016 (PG)  
The Jungle Book 1967 (G)

TIX \$5 Each  
Refreshments \$2 each  
CASH ONLY

All children must be accompanied by an adult

## Parents & Friends Events

### June 2023

17th Kitchen Garden Market Stall  
22nd Movie Night

### July 2023

15th Kitchen Garden Market Stall

### August 2023

16th Variety Victoria Bash  
(catering)  
19th Kitchen Garden Market Stall

### September 2023

1st Fathers Day Stall  
17th Kitchen Garden Market Stall  
TBC Footy lunch order day



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>

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# FPS Upcoming Events

2023 . JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY	2 WINTER SPORTS GR 5/6	3
4	5	6	7 INCURSION YR 7 TRANSITION DAY ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	8	9	10
11	12 KINGS BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	13 STUDENT FREE DAY STATE CROSS COUNTRY	14 11AM BIGGEST MORNING TEA ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	15 DIVISION WINTER SPORTS @ WONTHAGGI	16	17
18	19 NAIDOC CELEBRATIONS	20	21 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM SCHOOL COUNCIL	22 MOVIE NIGHT	23 LAST DAY TERM 2	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

2023 . JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY NAIDOC WEEK	3	4 NATIONAL ABORIGINAL & TOREES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDRENS DAY	5	6	7	8
9	10 TERM 3 STARTS	11	12 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	13 STATE CROSS COUNTRY	14	15
16	17	18	19 REGIONAL WINTER SPORTS ASSEMBLY 2.30PM SCHOOL COUNCIL	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	27	28	29
30	31					



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