



21ST JULY 2023

THE NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School



NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Scott Moorhouse

Welcome to term 3 and I must say it's great to be back. Thank you to all of those students and parents who have been very kind with their words. At the moment my 'return to work plan' means on Wednesdays I will work from home, the bulk of this time spent on the school review. Over the next few Wednesdays while I'm away from the school Ms. Sue Duggan and members of the leadership team will be there to assist you and our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Ashton Webber for his contribution to our school while I was absent. Thank you also to our leadership team who continually uphold the values that our school stands for.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN results are being sent home today in paper copy via your child. This only applies to grade three and five students. There are many changes to NAPLAN in 2023 and I am writing to inform you of what this may look like. These changes have been introduced nationally by the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority or ACARA

NAPLAN will continue to measure student achievement in numeracy, reading, writing, spelling and grammar and punctuation but the results will now be presented in four proficiency levels. These are:

- Exceeding
- Strong
- Developing
- Needs Additional Support

This change will give schools parents and carers clear information that details student achievement against these proficiency scales.

Students NAPLAN reports will continue to show how they're tracking against their peers and provide an indication of their skill level against national and state averages and where we would expect them to be in order to get the most out of schooling. NAPLAN also provides valuable information to teachers about how we can continue to support children in the classroom.

IMPORTANT DATES

July 2023

24th Gr 3/4 Camp Meeting for Volunteers 4pm

August 2023

2nd - 4th Gr 3/4 Phillip Island Camp

19th - Farmers market

21st - 25th Book Week

22nd - School Incursion

26th - Music Night Fundraiser

September 2023

1st - Fathers Day Stall

5th - Grade 6 Transition

12th - 13th Jungle Book Performances

14th - Division Athletics

15th - Term 3 ends

16th - Farmers Market

It is important to note that this is one snapshot of your child's learning. NAPLAN results do not define your children in any way moreover it is one way that we use to provide further support to students who need it. Within your packs you will also find information that further explains the scales and the process used to derive scores.

As ever you are more than welcome to make an appointment to see your child's teacher to discuss the results.

SCHOOL REVIEW

The school review is a major process that all schools undergo every four years. This means that all sections of our school community are consulted. Several of these consultations have taken place over the course of the last term with parents, staff and students. This information is now taken and used by the review panel made up of myself Mrs. Lucy Allsop (Council President), Our review Mr Brian Collins, the area SEIL Mr Rob Juratowich, Ms Sue Duggan and our two challenge partners Mrs. Wil Pryen (PCCC) and one TBA.

This panel after performing its own investigation and inquiry questions will then make recommendations of targets for the school over the next four years. This we will share with our school community hopefully early in term 4.

Reviews are an exciting time for schools in that we get a chance to dig deep into things we may not usually have the time to investigate. This means that improvement targets are rigorous and based in real time, current data. As you can imagine this takes lots of time, at times teachers may be required to attend panel days or partial days. This may mean that teachers are missing for a short period of time from the classroom.

ILLNESS

As I sent out on Tuesday there has been an outbreak of Conjunctivitis across our school. Thankfully it has mainly been confined to the junior area. Our staff and cleaner are deep cleaning the area regularly multiple times a day to try and stop the spread. If your child contracts Conjunctivitis you need to seek medical attention. Children must remain home until symptoms have cleared up. A reminder that soap and water when washing hands is the best defence against any spread. Also encourage children to not touch their mouth or eyes as this is how it is easily spread. Please remember to notify the school if your child is ill for the day.

TARGET 10

Across Victoria schools are asked to promote student attendance. One of our school philosophies is that 'it is very difficult to teach children who are not here'. We encourage every child to attend as often as possible. Our school target is to have no child with more than 10 days absence for the year. We need your help! Please inform us when your child has a day absent from school or put it on Compass. The department categorise absences where some count against the overall number such as 'parent choice' Whereas others such as 'medical appointments' or educational events do not count against the overall numbers. If you are unsure please contact our office.

SCHOOL OFFICE

Our long-term office assistant Kylie Mitchell finished working with our school on the last day of term. Kylie was an extremely valued member of our staff and we think her for the years of service she has given our community. Currently Mrs. Alison Hodgson and Sandra Hoy have been fulfilling the office duties while our business manager Mrs Jenny Voros has been on leave. Our office continues to provide the same informative and efficient service they always have.

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



Foster Primary School, 75 Pioneer Street, Foster Victoria 3960. Phone 0356316000.
Email foster.ps@education.vic.gov.au Website fosterps.vic.edu.au

October 2023

2nd Term 4 Starts
10th Regional Athletics
13th Colour Fun Run

November 2023

1st - 3rd Camp Coolamatong
Gr 5/6
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 - Student Free Day (last
day of term)



Junior School News

What an exciting return to School term, celebrating NAIDOC week. This years NAIDOC Theme was FOR OUR ELDERS. A couple of our junior classes participated in sharing an Acknowledgement of Country to the whole school over the intercom speaker. The Prep and Grade One classes explored facts about the Boomerang and Uluru. Did you know a boomerang is cut from the elbow of a branch and that Uluru is 600,000,000 years old?

The Grade One and Grade Two classes explored facts about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and enjoyed creating Aboriginal art pieces. Did you know the three colours on the Aboriginal flag represent the Earth, Sun and the Aboriginal people? The four colours on the Torres Strait Islander flag represent the Water, Earth, Torres Strait Islander people and Peace.

The junior classes enjoyed learning more about the Rainbow Serpent through the teaching of Kane Horvath (This is Kanes totem) and collaborated on a large art piece during Art, which they displayed in the BER building during Assembly. We also learnt the 'Taba Naba' Torres Strait Islander song and performed this during Assembly.



School Uniform Reminder:

Students should be wearing appropriate Foster Primary School Uniform to school unless they hold a note to explain why they're out of uniform.

- This is a Foster PS hoodie or polar fleece zip up with the school logo on it. The softshell jackets with school logo.
- Navy pants, shorts, skirts or leggings.
- Foster Primary School beanies only.

To see our school policy on uniform, visit the school webpage <https://fosterps.vic.edu.au/school-policies/>

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Everyone can learn to learn

Middle School News

The Grade 3s and 4s have really enjoyed getting stuck into learning for Term 3. What an exciting term we have planned, with a massive camp to Phillip Island looming, that we promise will be remembered for many years to come. Jenny, Marion, Chantelle, Carolyn, Larissa and Andrew have been busily planning and discussing all the events and activities with the students, and Mr. Murray is particularly anticipating a good result from the giant swing. Please encourage no filming to prevent social media evidence.

Over the next few weeks, if everyone could return the camp forms as this is really important to the planning and organisation process, that would be greatly appreciated. If families could also please discuss the Camp Expectations sheet to ensure we all have the most enjoyable experience possible. This way all families are on the same page as to what is agreed upon for your children to attend this amazing opportunity.

In learning this week, our year levels have been very enthusiastic learning about Limerick and Haiku poems! Feel free to ask your children to share their learning with you and see if you can come up with a Limerick as a family. If you do, bring it into school and we will definitely share it in our classrooms. Make it humorous and add some personality for maximum enjoyment for your audience.

Maths has been very focused around fractions and how they appear in day to day life. If you can incorporate the discussion of fractions with your children we will all see the correlation with what is happening in the classroom. In a football, basketball, netball or soccer game, what does quarter time, half time, three-quarter time and full-time mean? What is a pizza you eat on the weekend divided into to? How do you share something like a bag of fruit or a treat amongst your family? What does half-past, quarter-past and quarter-to mean on a clock? What is half a tank of petrol?! These day to day discussions make all the difference when children are learning at school and are needed for children to activate the all-important 'background knowledge'.

Kind regards,
Jenny, Chantelle, Marion and Andrew



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More Middle School News

3/4Y Haiku Poems

Winter Poem
Shivery snowflakes
Landing on the slushy snow
Ground becoming glass
By Elle S

Winter
Twinkling in sunshine
The many facets of snow
To my heart's delight
By Nina W

Winters Cold
Everyone is cold
Snow comes falling from the sky
The snow was twirling
By Sam W

Snowy Winter
Winter is so cold
The fire keeps me warm
Gloves keep my hands warm
By Jake F And Callum J

Winter
The snow is falling
As the snow melts on my shoulders
The wind blows me back
By Stella T

Winter
Winter is awesome
Winter is where I cool down
I adore winter mud
By Matilda M

Winter
Winter is chilly
Winter is where I cool down
I cool down on ice
By Matilda M



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Senior School News

Welcome back to Term 3! What a busy week and a half it has been!

Last week we celebrated NAIDOC Week across the school. Our BER building students were fortunate enough to participate in a variety of learning opportunities that looked at our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture.

The 5/6 students had the opportunity to work with Kane to plan and create some dot paintings as part of our Art classes last week. Students used symbols and painted these using sticks collected from the school grounds.

Many of our reading and writing tasks for the week focused on Indigenous Australians. Students in 5/6J researched current and previous NAIDOC award winners and learnt about their achievements and contributions to their communities and culture. The students found this quite interesting!

In Maths, we have been working on developing our thinking and problem-solving skills. We have been doing this through our focus on addition and subtraction. We have also been learning about interesting number facts and tricks that we can use to help us when problem solving.

In Writing, we are focusing on response writing. We have been looking at how to respond to a range of different text types and short clips and episodes. We have integrated this with our NAIDOC work and have been learning about the first weapons used by our Indigenous Australians.

This week we have had some of our leaders participating in the Parliamentary Convention. This has involved students working through online workshops and developing an opinion around the topic: Should a sugar tax be adopted to help tackle adolescent obesity?

This has been a great opportunity for these students to participate in and develop a range of skills.

Katie, Jane, Marion & Chantelle



A reminder for all students to hand in their electronic devices to the office when they arrive at school. This includes phones, ipads, tablet, smart watches, gameboys, etc. They can be collected from the office at the end of the day.



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Staff Profiles

Ms Larissa Perkin

Hi. My name is Larissa and I work here at Foster Primary School as an Education support worker.

I've been at the school for 2 ½ years now having started as a volunteer while I was studying my cert 111 in Education Support and working my way up to a permanent position.

6 years ago, I moved from Melbourne to Sandy point where I happily live and enjoy all that South Gippsland has to offer. Working with children is not new to me. I spent many years working as a Nanny. I then went into business with my family in a bakery in Melbourne. I also spent many years working as a florist in Melbourne and in Leongatha. My love for flowers has now been transferred to painting them instead, after decades away from painting Covid gave me a chance to reconnect and I'm loving it.

I love working as an ES and my favourite part is developing connections with both the students and the teachers.

When I'm not working you can generally find me walking along our beach, playing indoor footy, basketball or soccer with my nephew or painting up a storm in my garage at home.

I look forward to continuing to offer my support and compassion to all at Foster Primary School.



Ms Marion Paulet

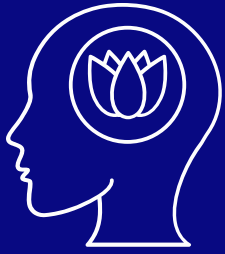
For those of you who haven't yet met me my name is Marion Paulet and I currently teach Grade 4/5 in conjunction with Ms Wanklyn. We have a fabulous class and I look forward to working with them for the rest of the year.

I have taught all grades, as well as some specialist roles, during my career which has spanned some decades. Teaching has changed and evolved during that time, but kids are still kids.

I count myself as lucky to have raised my children in this friendly community in a beautiful environment. I have travelled to many countries in the world and always feel fortunate to return home.



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Student & school wellbeing news

Emotions

Just for today, I will let go of anger.

Just for today, I will let go of worry.

Today, I will count my many blessings.

Today, I will do my work honestly.

Today, I will be kind to every living creature.

Mikao Usui

Last night at yoga, my teacher ended the session with the above little poem. I thought it was too lovely not to share with you all.

It also followed on from a conversation beautifully that I had with a student recently about emotions. I remember learning that we shouldn't label food good or bad as it can potentially lead to poor associations with food and cause eating disorders. I like the idea that we also shouldn't label emotions good or bad.

All emotions are valid and serve a purpose. I was explaining that it is very appropriate to feel sad at times, also angry, frustrated and shy, just as it is appropriate to feel happy, kind and excited etc.

What is important it how we behave with that emotion and if we get stuck for too long somewhere that isn't serving us. If we carry anger for far too long and take it out on the people around us, this isn't going to be for us or those we spend time with. Just like sadness is important, it isn't if we feel sad all the time for a very long time.

Having said that, what this tells us is maybe we need some help, and that's a good thing too.

Kids are great to have these conversations with. They can be innocent in their expression and also remind us of simple things. They also love learning.

The student I chatted with told me that when they feel angry at home, their Mum helps to remind them of things that bring them joy. Then they told me that their Mum was the best Mum.

This certainly bought a smile to my face 😊 Maybe it will yours too!
Megan



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Parents & Friends Group

Thank you to everyone that came along to our Movie Night last term. We raised more than \$1500 to put towards our major fundraising focus: a new Junior School Playground. A special thanks to Tiff Wightman & Tania Staley as well as all the helpers on the night.

Lisa and Katherine have been busy organising a music night for next month to contribute to the expense of sound, lighting and costumes – the things that really make the production an amazing experience – see poster below – spread the word and I hope to see you there!

If there are any parents that would like to help with fundraising and events please join the Facebook group!

Thank you, Cassie

Parents & Friends Events

August 2023

16th Variety Victoria Bash
(catering) TBC
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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FOSTER PRIMARY SCHOOL PRODUCTION

LIVE MUSIC FUNDRAISER • THE JUNGLE BOOK

Special Performances by

**'NIC CARVER'
'HURSTY' & 'NEEN'**

SAT 26 AUGUST 23

7PM

**@ THE FOSTER
EXCHANGE HOTEL**

\$25 PP

TICKETS LIMITED

<https://www.trybooking.com/CKAOM>

*\$3 FROM ALL FULL PARMAS
ORDERED, WILL BE DONATED
BACK TO THE SCHOOL*

18+ EVENT

Kitchen – Garden News

Kitchen Garden Market Stall

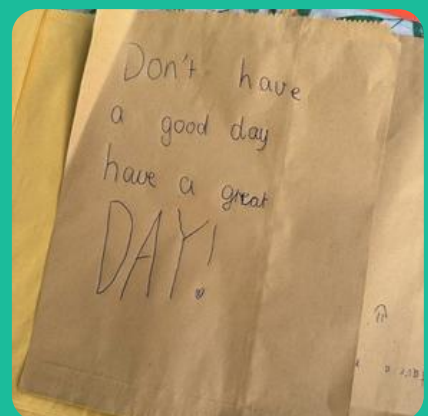
Our July stall last weekend raised \$549 to help fund the Kitchen Garden Program - it was a chilly day but there were still plenty of smiles, sausages and shoppers to make it worth while :)

Thanks to the FPS students (past and present) who helped run the stall on the weekend - they were able to work on their communication, marketing, merchandising, manners and upselling skills - a very valuable morning's work! Several customers commented on how engaging these students were. Warm and fuzzy all round! The market stall is a fantastic learning opportunity - aren't we lucky!

Next stall is on August 19th - please let me know if you'd like to help out!

Kim :)

Ph 0400 315 311



Reminder!

An important reminder regarding safety at our school
All late arrivals and early pick up of students must be logged on the iPad at the front office.

This is to ensure that, in case of an emergency, all staff are aware of student numbers onsite.



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School Wide Positive Behaviours

SWPBS/SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING Term 2/Week 2 2023

Oh wow, how exciting we have filled up our Thumbs Up wall in our hallway with a total of 272 cards for the year. This is a fabulous effort. Students are currently brainstorming ideas in how they would like to celebrate this great occasion as a whole school.

Some fun facts about our whole school positive data so far this year.

- There are currently 372 positive entries that have been recorded and notified to our families
- Out of these 372 entries, Darby = 113, Oberon = 116 and Waratah = 144
- Congratulations Waratah
- Out of the 372 entries, 272 were Thumbs Up cards.

This week, Ms Young and Miss Jones had the pleasure of presenting the definitions of our minor/major behaviours to our students and how they can be grey/amber or red behaviours. The staff have been working hard in defining these behaviours and their suitable consequences. Please check in with your child/children and ask them what this looks like at school. We were really impressed with the way they listened, asked questions and were extremely respectful to everyone.

As always, we love working with our students and reading/listening to their feedback from our surveys and class communication boxes. As part of their feedback, next week the Grades 3-6 students will be commencing Friday Electives. Students are currently selecting from a choice of 6 electives and will then work in mixed age groups. We are all looking forward to these fun and engaging activities. A big thank you to all the staff involved for planning these activities for our students.

**We are still looking for some sandpit toys such as trucks and derby cars that you might have at home that are no longer needed, please send them to school. We would love them in our sand pit. **

**The students are still keen for 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. **

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

Thanking you

Jenny & Katie 😊

Katie.jones2@education.vic.gov.au

Jennifer.young4@education.vic.gov.au



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.

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

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

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FPS Upcoming Events



2023 . JULY

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 23 | 24 CAMP VOLUNTEER MEETING 4PM | 25 | 26 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

2023 . AUGUST

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|--------------|------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 GR 3/4 CAMP TO PHILLIP ISLAND ASSEMBLY 2.30 | 3 GR 3/4 CAMP TO PHILLIP ISLAND | 4 GR 3/4 CAMP TO PHILLIP ISLAND | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 16 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM SCHOOL COUNCIL | 17 | 18 | 19 FARMERS MARKET |
| 20 | 21 BOOK WEEK | 22 BOOK WEEK INCURSION | 23 BOOK WEEK ASSEMBLY 2.30PM | 24 BOOK WEEK | 25 BOOK WEEK | 26 MUSIC NIGHT FUNDRAISER AT FOSTER PUB |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM | 31 | | |

2023 . SEPTEMBER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 GRADE 6 TRANSITION | 6 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 JUNGLE BOOK PERFORMANCES | 13 JUNGLE BOOK PERFORMANCES ASSEMBLY 2.30PM | 14 DIVISION ATHLETICS | 15 END TERM 3 | 16 FARMERS MARKET |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |



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