



10TH NOVEMBER 2023

# THE NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School*



## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*by Scott Moorhouse*

It is lovely to be back in the fresh air of Gippsland after travelling for the last 6 weeks. I would like to thank Mr. Ashton Webster for his efforts over this year in being here to provide consistency and stability over the time I have been away.

Before I left, the school review was conducted and it was great to see buy in for all sections of the Foster PS community. Mr. Brian Collins, our reviewer, was very complementary of the support and care that many members of our community show for our school. This includes our school council and in particular Mrs. Lucy Allsop who freely gave up her time and expertise to assist the school to improve.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### November 2023

- 13th - Dental Van visits this week
- 14th - 2024 Preps Morning Visit
- 15th - Junior Water Safety Program at Toora Pool
- 16th - Grade 2 Sleepover
- 18th - SAKG Farmers Market Stall
- 21st - 2024 Preps Morning Visit
- 22nd - Junior Water Safety Program at Toora Pool
- 22nd - School Council
- 28th - 2024 Preps Morning Visit
- 29th - Junior Water Safety Program at Toora Pool



# NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL .....

## Where to now?

The reviewer report has already been given to our staff and they have begun the process of analysing and reviewing this. They have spent many hours discussing and analysing what this means for our school. This analysis gets fed back to myself and the leadership team along with feedback from the School Council who will be presented the report on the 22nd of November. This feedback is then synthesized into the School Strategic Plan which road maps our next 4 years. This is then approved by the DET and the School Council. The Strategic Plan will be released to the school community when this approval is complete. A sincere thank you to every person that has contributed.

## Gardens - Working Bee

Troy Maniatakis is our school garden person and has the place looking amazing. He needs your help on the 25th November (Saturday) for a working bee from 9am-12. The work needs are mainly weeding and clearing as well as some mulch spreading. The more the merrier, hopefully we will see you then!

## Classes For 2024

In 2024 the following classes will be run

Class Teacher

P/1 Mrs Andrea Bell

P/1 Miss Emma Charlton

2/3 Miss Kristie Moore

2/3 Mr. Tim Davis

3 /4 Ms Jenny Young

4/5 Ms Marion Paulet/Miss Chantelle Wanklyn

5/6 Ms Jane Power

5/6 Miss Katie Jones

In 2024 we welcome back Miss Moore from leave but unfortunately Miss Ardley is leaving to take up a position at Toora Primary School and we wish her all the best! Miss Ardley has done some wonderful work with our 1 /2 students and builds fantastic relationships with teachers, parents and most importantly her students. We will miss her but she won't be too far away!



Everyone can learn to learn

## December 2023

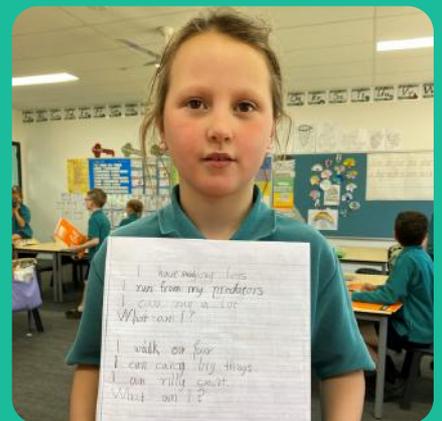
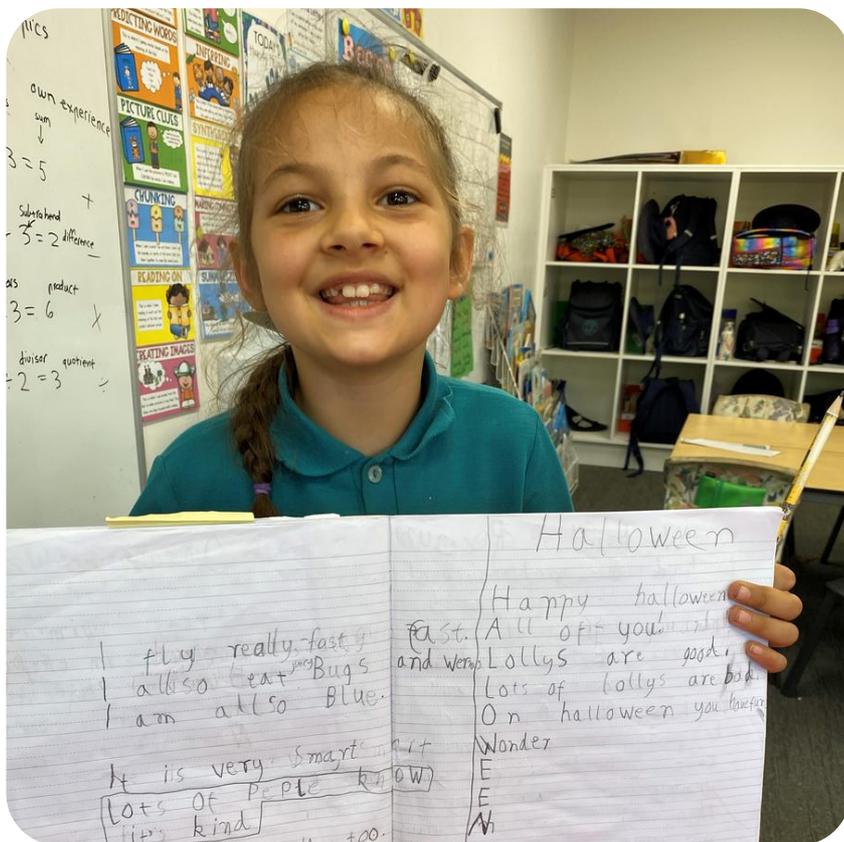
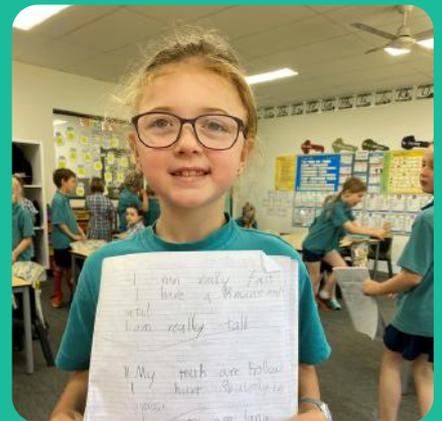
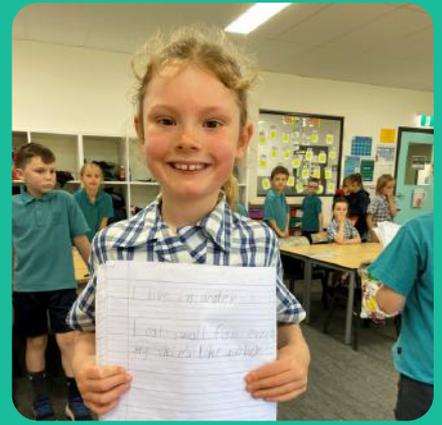
- 1st - Student Free Day
- 4th - Junior Water Safety Program at Toora Pool
- 5th - Junior Water Safety Program at Toora Pool
- 7th - 2024 Prep Morning Visit
- 12th - Statewide Transition Day
- 14th - Volunteer Morning Tea
- 16th - SAKG Farmers Market Stall
- 18th - Prep Christmas Party
- 18th - Grade 6 Graduation
- 19th - Grade 3-6 Pool Party
- 19th - Last day students attend school in Term 4
- 20th - Student Free Day (last day of term)

Be Respectful  
Be a Learner  
Be Safe  
Be Caring

# Junior School News

Here is what Grade 1/2's have been learning about recently:

Juniors have been learning about Poetry these past couple of weeks. We have defined a poem as a group of words that evokes a feeling. We have been exploring different types of poems such as Acrostic Poems and Haikus. In numeracy we have consolidated our learning about division which we defined as sharing an amount equally or putting an amount into 'groups of'. We have also been learning about problem solving in Social Emotional Learning and light and sound in our Mappen unit.



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# Middle School News

It has been a very busy few weeks in the middle building. We have been really enjoying our Information Reports and we'll share these in the coming weeks when we publish them. It has been great to see all students involved in the writing process but also having a choice in what topic they want to research.

On Monday, we were lucky enough to be involved in the "You Be The Coach" program. We had a lot of Year 9 students come to school to run 5 different activities. The activities were; Football, Golf, Basketball, Hockey and Soccer. We all got to choose which activity we wanted to do, we both chose to do Basketball. We enjoyed the drills and skills at the start but really enjoyed playing 2 on 2 at the end. We also played knock out with the Year 9s and some of us beat them, it was fun.

Everyone else said they enjoyed the activities too. We are lucky enough to have another session with them in the next few weeks, maybe we will try a different activity. Lola and Mylah.

I enjoyed playing Basketball with the Year 9s. I practised my skills and drills but also hit a fade away and a tough layup. We did lots of passing and dribbling and played Knockout. I was a bit nervous when the Year 9s were behind us but we knocked a lot of them out! I had fun and look forward to doing it again next time. Oliver and James.

Last Friday, in the afternoon, we ran mini electives seeing how the Year 5 and 6's were away on camp. We got to choose between 3 activities, directed drawing and lego with Ms Young, computer activities with Miss Wanklyn and sport with Mrs Buttigieg and Daniel out in the Pavilion.

We decided to stay with Ms Young and do some directed drawing and quiet activities. We enjoy doing Electives because it means that we can choose something we really like to do outside of the classroom. We look forward to continuing these in the coming weeks with the Year 5 and 6 classes too. Jaycee and Jessica.

We have started receiving our VCOP Random Acts of Kindness letters. This is where we have had to write to 24 schools and 24 schools write back to us. For 24 consecutive days, we will be opening our letters which will include a Random Act of Kindness for us to complete. We will share these as we complete them, both of our classes have had a separate Kindness act to send out. 3/4Y's act of Kindness is to learn a new joke to tell a friend or the class. 3/4B's act of Kindness is to make a kindness stone and hide it around the school.

Until next time, remember to read every night and keep practising our Times tables.



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# Senior School News

## 5/6 Camp Coolamatong

By Macca

On November 1st until November the 3rd, grade 5s and 6s went to Camp Coolamatong. And we had lots and lots of fun. But my favourite thing would have to be canoeing! We spent 2 and a half hours on the lake canoeing, and I had so much fun! We also played some really enjoyable yet terrifying games whilst on the canoes. Although some of us did find it a little bit challenging, in the end we all got the hang of it.

Another fun thing we enjoyed was the adventure race. Where you get into a group of 3 or 4 and all the groups race against each other. The race was pretty much a big mix of bike riding, kayaking, climbing and a scavenger hunt. And for all the things you did you would get some points for each activity. Then at the end of the race you and your group add up all your points and whoever had the most won.

And on our first night at camp we played some fun games where we learnt all about teamwork. And those games were almost impossible to beat! Then on our last night we had a movie night. But I think it's safe to say Camp Coolamatong was a blast!

By Logan

My first thought was "wow this is going to be fun" but actually it had its ups and downs, but overall it was ok. The bus ride was the worst anyway there were a lot of activities to take part in in my opinion combat archery was the best but some other people might disagree and my second favorite would have to be indoor climbing and there was an indigenous walk we learned that this one plant if you chew on it long enough you will start to slobber and your face will go numb I know it sounds bad but it isn't that bad and we also had raft making and stand up paddle boarding but this activity was not the best because, 1 it was pretty cold, and 2 I got a pretty good scab.



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# Senior School News....

By Milla

Camp Coolamatong was filled with adventure, so I am going to tell you a couple highlights and some not so highlights about camp.

The first day we arrived and our second fascinating activity was one of my favourites. It was called the adventure race! There were three main events. A bike ride, a hill climb and canoeing. But my favourite part was the last amazing event where we had to find these little red flags among the bushes with stamps where we had to stamp our card. But in the end we got lost and went the wrong way... Anyway the other thing I loved was stand up paddle boarding where Zaira fell backwards like a trust fall when I was versing her in a battle.

The worst thing about camp was climbing up and down the stairs to get breakfast, lunch and dinner. The other thing I did not enjoy was the kayaking where we had to kayak all the way down the lake. There were so many mosquitos down there I was itching the whole way home! Well that's my little information report about camp. Bye!

by Vance

Camp Coolamatong was by far the best camp and the food was the best. The chicken drumsticks were delicious, for the people that go there next year. I want to volunteer. 🙏

At camp there were the best activities and leaders. Canoeing was my favourite part. It was fun because I got to capsize a canoe, twice with my friends. But once I nearly drowned because James got scared and went on the top of the upside down canoe.

Then it started suctioning to the bottom of the lake. So I had to get out quickly or I'd drown.

It was a little bit scary but it will make a good memory. 😊



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# Senior School News....

## 5/6 Camp Coolamatong - Canoeing

By Inessa

Going to Coolamatong Lake Camp was an amazing experience, and I wouldn't know where to start if it wasn't for the biggest highlight of Camp; canoeing. After getting soaked in the other water activities (which were great!), I didn't know what to expect for canoeing except getting extremely wet and cold. Despite that, I was ecstatic to get going! As soon as Louisa and I pushed off into the water though, I immediately filled with excitement and knew it was going to be a spectacular adventure, and it was! Before we pushed off, Jeremy (the canoeing coach) showed us how to paddle and turn etc. Then we got in and pushed off and he helped us practice in the shallow area before going out.

When we were finally canoeing in the lake/river Jeremy asked for us to follow him to a few buoys where we played gang up tiggy and a game where we all line up our canoes together and a pair of people have to run across them making animal noises!

Then we canoed even further out and turned into a private area where we pulled up and had a snack in the canoes. After the snack we canoed to three jetties. While we were canoeing there were lots of pelicans flying above us! Finally we headed back, and after stashing most of the canoes away we watched people get purposely capsized; it was hilarious!

Canoeing was definitely my highlight of camp, and I wouldn't hesitate to go canoeing again at Camp Coolamatong! It was a blast, and quite peaceful too!

By Xavier

Camp was really fun last week, we did so much fun and tricky activities. But my favorite activities were kayaking and canoeing because at first I was afraid to go on but I pushed myself and I did it and it wasn't that bad. I also loved indoor climbing, I was also scared of that because I am afraid of heights. But once I saw my friends do it, it looked fun so I did it and it was super fun and I did all the climbing activities. But my overall favourite was archery because I got to shoot my friends and my friends got to shoot me too and we split up into teams and played fun games. Another good thing about camp was the food, every day, breakfast, lunch, tea and dessert was delicious and tasty. And the best thing was the staff and people who worked at the camp were kind, caring and funny and hilarious and the camp wasn't possible without them.



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# Staff Profiles

## Sue Duggan

Hello everyone.

Most of you will know that I have been at Foster Primary School for a while now. I started back in 2000! After telling the students for many years that I am 21, the maths doesn't quite add up to the fact that I've been teaching for over 40 years now! There have certainly been many changes in education since I began my teaching career with remote learning being an 'interesting' experience.

I originally grew up in a very small community of Ensay in East Gippsland moving to Bairnsdale where I attended school and was first inspired to be a teacher. I had a lovely teacher in Grade 1 by the name of Sue, she played guitar, made great connections with all her students and made all learning engaging and fun. I was on the road to my future career.

Growing up, I was into tennis, basketball, netball, badminton, snow skiing, reading, gardening, mosaic, painting, patchwork, cooking, walking and a love of being around my Grandparents on their farm. Thanks also to another teacher in Primary school, I grew to love Geography, hence a love of travel to far off places enjoying different cultures and languages as well as seeing what I had learnt at school, come to life!

Having a passion for teaching, I have taught all Grade levels and have been lucky to visit a couple of countries looking at different education systems.

I really did miss not having a classroom when I first went to two days as Assistant Principal, however I now get to experience working with groups of children, working with teachers as a 'coach', timetabling, planning programs, taking on board new initiatives and sharing these with staff, looking at assessments and getting my head around things like our recent school review. I guess my plan set way, way back was to make a difference for the children in my care, ensuring that learning is challenging, engaging and fun making connections with a whole school community.



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# RESILIENCE RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Miss Jones and a couple of students from 5/6J have been busy updating our SWPBS Whole School Behaviour Matrixes for the different areas in our school. I must say they are looking fantastic.

Well done to the students who went and took some great photos.

We are looking forward to seeing and using these around the school as reminders and teaching of our whole school expectations.



At Foster Primary School, we aim to create and maintain a Respectful, Safe and Caring Learning environment for all

## Whole School Positive Behaviour Expectations

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## Bus line and Traveling on buses

**Be Respectful**

- I arrive on time to the bus line.
- I respect others and use my manners.
- I listen to my bus driver and follow their instructions.
- I listen to and show respect to my bus captain.
- If I am a bus captain, I treat everyone equally and speak to others using my manners.



**Be Safe**

- I walk to the bus and wait inside the gate for the bus to stop.
- I hold all sports equipment safely.
- I keep all electronics in my bag whilst waiting for my bus.
- I stay in my line.
- I keep my hands and feet to myself.
- I stay seated on the bus until the bus stops moving.



**Be a Learner**

- I set a good example for others.
- I follow the rules of the bus line and travelling on buses.



**Be Caring**

- I am kind to my peers, bus drivers and teachers.
- I greet and thank my bus driver.
- I am considerate and helpful to others.



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## A few reminders....



Please note that Hats and Sunscreen (where suitable) will be a requirement for the students in Term 4 and Term 1. School hats and all school uniform available at Inside Out Foster.

### Bus Travel

Parents/Carers of bus travellers, if there is any change to your child's normal bus travel arrangements, please either:

Send a note with your child to school and have your child give it to their teacher at the beginning of the day  
OR

Ring the office and speak to a member of staff to notify them of the change of travel arrangements.

Please do not email, as during busy times, the email may be inadvertently missed.

Thank you for assisting our school to ensure the safe travel of our students.

## Parents & Friends Group

There will be a P & F meeting on Friday 17th November at Bohnny's Cafe in Foster at 9.30am (formerly Lyrebird Cafe)  
All welcome to come along and be involved.



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If you would like to help with any upcoming events please contact Cassie on 0422 137 364 or join our Parents & Friends Facebook page.

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

or visit  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/503984577353560>

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# School Review

Tuesday October 31st saw teachers and ES staff attend a meeting facilitated by Rob Juratowitch (our Senior Education Improvement Officer) and supported by Ruth Drew. Rob presented the findings of our school review which was completed over a four day period at the end of last term. Staff were taken through the reports and were given opportunities to read the findings and have meaningful discussions in teams around what they may have agreed, disagreed about along with any wonderings or surprises along the way. There are lots of acronyms used in education including FISO (Framework for improving student outcomes) where we focused on LEADERSHIP, ENGAGEMENT, TEACHING AND LEARNING, ASSESSMENT and SUPPORT AND RESOURCES. WELLBEING goes across all areas. Each team reviewed the ENABLERS (the things that happened to support our learning) and BARRIERS (things that may have hindered our progress). It was a great start to the process with everyone having a voice and of course, ownership of where we'll be heading. The work continued on Monday the 7th, with more in depth discussions. We split into working group focusing on TEACHING AND LEARNING, ENGAGEMENT and WELL BEING. We shared visions of what goals would look like as we worked towards them and broke strategies down into smaller 'workable' chunks. We will continue this process in a staff meeting this Wednesday. The work has certainly not been completed as we will spend more time on this process, looking at priorities and how we can set this work out over the next 4 years and ensure that it is monitored and embedded into our school culture.

The School Council will run through the results of the review at their next School Council meeting on November 22nd.

## 2024 Grade Placements

Hello everyone

Thanks to the parents who have sent in their responses around grade placements for next year. It was mentioned in the last newsletter, that the cut off point for this was FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3RD. The teachers will now be able to work on finalising grade placements.

Regards

Sue Duggan



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# FPS Upcoming Events

2023 . NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
12	13 DENTAL VAN VISITS THIS WEEK 	14 2024 PREP VISIT	15 JUNIOR WATER SAFETY PROGRAM ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	16 GRADE 2 SLEEPOVER 	17	18 FARMERS MARKET
19	20	21 2024 PREP VISIT	22 JUNIOR WATER SAFETY PROGRAM ASSEMBLY 2.30PM SCHOOL COUNCIL	23	24 Newsletter Day	25
26	27	28 2024 PREP VISIT	29 JUNIOR WATER SAFETY PROGRAM ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	30		

2023 . DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 STUDENT FREE DAY	2
3	4 JUNIOR WATER SAFETY PROGRAM	5 JUNIOR WATER SAFETY PROGRAM	6 ASSEMBLY 2.30PM	7 2024 PREP VISIT TBC	8 Newsletter Day	9
10	11	12 STATEWIDE TRANSITION DAY	13	14 VOLUNTEER MORNING TEA 	15	16 FARMERS MARKET 
17	18 PREP-XMAS PARTY GRADE 6 GRADUATION 	19 GRADE 3- 6 POOL PARTY STUDENTS LAST DAY	20 TERM 4 ENDS STUDENT FREE DAY	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



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