



19TH DECEMBER 2023



THE NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School



NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Scott Moorhouse

As we bid farewell to another year filled with growth, learning, and memorable moments, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey we've shared over last 12 months. The year has been a time of renewal, achievement, resetting and forward looking.

Academic Achievements: Our students have once again demonstrated their commitment to academic excellence. From mastering complex concepts to engaging in thought-provoking discussions, each day has been an opportunity for intellectual growth. I am immensely proud of the hard work and dedication displayed by both students and teachers throughout the year, and this has been backed up by their fantastic PAT results.

Extracurricular Triumphs: Beyond the classroom, our students have excelled in various extracurricular activities. Whether it's on the sports field, in the arts, or through community service initiatives, their passion and determination have shone brightly. These experiences contribute to a well-rounded education and foster skills that extend far beyond textbooks. I thank our highly skilled and dedicated staff for providing these opportunities for our students to stretch their skills.



IMPORTANT DATES

December 2023

- 19th - Students last day
- 20th - Last day of Term 4 (Student Free Day)

January 2024

- 20th - Farmers Market Stall
- 29th - Book Collection Day
- 30th - Student Free Day
- 31st - Grade 1-6 Start School

NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Community Engagement: Our sense of community has been a guiding force this term. Events, assemblies, and collaborative projects such as the 'Wheels for Kids' and Early ACT have brought us together, fostering a strong sense of unity. The support and encouragement that flow through our community are truly heartwarming and speak volumes about the values we hold true.

Gratitude and Appreciation: As we approach the end of the term, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our incredible students, dedicated teachers and staff, supportive parents, and everyone who contributes to the success of Foster Primary School. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and I am continually inspired by the collective commitment to nurturing a positive and enriching learning environment.

Looking Ahead: As we anticipate the start of a new year, let us carry the lessons and achievements of the past into the future. Together, we will embark on new adventures, face new challenges, and celebrate new triumphs. I have every confidence that the coming term will be filled with even more growth, discovery, and success. We look forward to releasing the new school strategic plan and sharing our work with you.

In closing, I wish each member of the Foster Primary School community a restful and joyous break. May the holidays be a time of rejuvenation, reflection, and quality time spent with loved ones.

From Scott and Sue



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February 2024

1st - Preps Start School

6th,7th,8th,9th,13th,14th,15th -
Grade 3-6 Water Safety Program

16th - House Swimming Carnival
23rd - District Swimming
29th - School Photo Day

March 2024

1st - Division Swimming

2024 Term Dates

29th January - 28th March

15th April - 28th June

15th July - 20th September

7th October - 20th December



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Farewell and good wishes

We would like to thank the following families for their support, no matter how large or small, throughout the years.
We wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Thank you :

Bryn Cowell	Tanya & Owen
Cassie Nguyen	Son & Pham
Hazel Stone	Sarah & Brad
James Marriott	Kate and Matthew
Joshua Bradbury	Wendy and Mark
Lara Piasente	Belinda and Darren
Lewis Abbisogni	Linda and Piero
Logan Johnston	Deanna and Carl
Milla Bland	Mark and Nicole
Millie Bravington	Denise and Anthony
Noah Nudelman	Elisa and Adam
Zed Greer	Keith and Pauline
Sharni Neill	Teela and Chris
Tyson Morgan	Patrick and Bekki



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Junior School News



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Middle School News

Term 4 has certainly flown; we are now at the end of the year. It has been a very busy term and year.

We have really enjoyed a lot of things at school this year, here are some of our favourite moments.

- Doing PE with Mr Couper
- The colour fun run day
- Phillip Island camp
- Writing, especially information reports
- Having fun with my friends
- Reading groups
- Learning with my friends

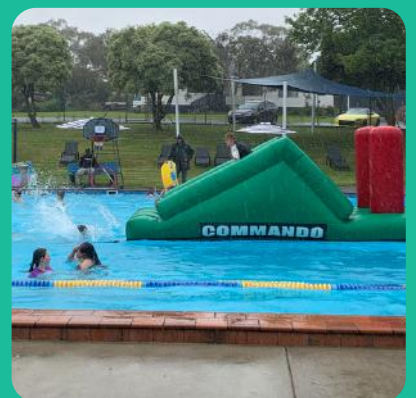
Some of the things we are going to miss about 2023 are:

- My class mates
- My teacher
- My friends who are going to a different classroom
- My classroom

Both Jenny and Narelle would like to thank all our wonderful families for their continued support throughout the year. We hope you have a happy and safe Christmas and holiday period and look forward to seeing you all again in 2024.



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Middle School News

The two elves Tinsel and Timber

Three days until Christmas and Santa was worried because Dasher got sick. Santa Claus and Mrs Clause are afraid. Back in Santa's village all of the elves were doing their jobs. It was night time and all of the elves were going to their houses so when the children wake up they will see the elves. There are two elves called Tinsel and Timber, they are very funny, they poop on toilet paper and steal food. So this night they are going to be sitting in the cupboard sucking on lollipops and candy canes. Tinsel and Timber belong to Molly who is six years old and Jasper who is Molly's twin and the oldest sibling, Zoe who is twelve years old.

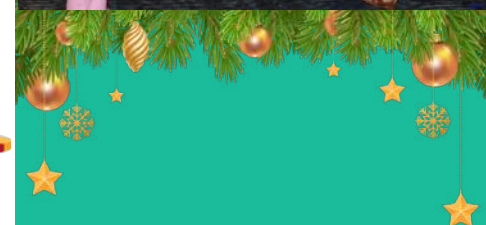
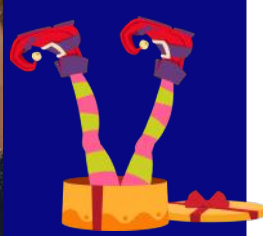
On Christmas Eve, Tinsel and Timber go back to Santa and everyone is excited! Santa got his sleigh and the elves all said "good luck". We waited and waited and waited until Santa got back he made it!!! Everyone said they all had a big party. The End.

By Mia Griffin!!!



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Senior School News



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Staff Profiles

Jenny Young

As some of you may already know, I have lived around this area for most of my life. I grew up on our dairy farm in Buffalo, where my parents still live. I went to St Lawrences Primary School in Leongatha and then to the Leongatha High School. After I left school, I worked in the National Australia Bank in Leongatha for a couple of years, then went and worked on our family farm for another couple of years until I made the move to Melbourne making and selling donuts at Donut King in Box Hill. This is when I decided that I still wanted to become a teacher. I went to Uni as a mature age student, where I had my first daughter 'Katie'.

After Uni, Katie and I moved to Lakes Entrance. I was fortunate to get a job at St. Brendan's Catholic Primary School. We spent many wonderful years in Lakes Entrance and still love going back to visit.

We moved to Fish Creek when Katie was in Year 8 and Mikki was in Grade One. I was doing CRT work and got a 6 month contract at Foster Primary School. That was about 16 years ago... a long 6 month contract!!

My daughters went to St Lawrences, Foster Secondary and Mary Mackillop College, but were always hugely involved in Foster Primary School and the various sporting clubs in Foster.

I am very lucky that I get to see my girls a lot. Katie lives just down the road and Mikki is in Bairnsdale currently completing her Early Childhood Certificate whilst working in one of the local Childcare Centres.

I have many hobbies and interests that I love doing in my not so much spare time. I particularly enjoy crocheting, gardening, exploring new places during holidays and camping. This year we have been very busy renovating, which we have enjoyed and love what we have achieved.



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Staff Profiles

Jenny Young...

My newest and favourite thing to do when I am not doing school work is spending time with our new grandchild 'Adah'. She is now one month old.

I have had many roles during my time here. Many of you will know that I have been heavily involved in organising our school camps, which I thoroughly enjoy. Especially watching the students grow in confidence, resilience and achieving the many things that they never thought that they could. The growth in students over three days is incredible and a pleasure to watch.

Currently I am the schools 'Social & Emotional Leader' which I love and have learnt a lot from many people throughout the years. Some aspects of this role include leading our Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships, co ordinating our Mental Health & Wellbeing Surveys, School Wide Positive Behaviour, Social & Emotional Curriculum and being a part of our school wellbeing team. I absolutely adore working with students, parents, staff and our community to improve the mental health and wellbeing of others. I feel proud that I am able provide strategies and support to others.

My favourite role is of course walking into my classroom everyday and seeing the many smiling faces that I get to teach, support, encourage and be with for 6 hours each day. It is the most rewarding job ever. I will be forever grateful to my own teachers, especially my Grade 2 teacher 'Sister Eileen' who inspired me to be where I am today.

I absolutely love Foster Primary School and have been extremely lucky to teach so many wonderful students and getting to know their families over the many years I have been here.



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Staff Profiles

Craig Couper

I grew up in the Melbourne suburb of Glen Waverley, one of 4 boys. It was a lot of fun with lots of young families in our street (see pic). Playing sport has always been a part of my life & I am eternally grateful to my Mum & Dad who supported our pursuits. Athletics, football, tennis, surfing & golf kept me busy whilst at school and running, surfing & golf still figure prominently. I had quite a few gap years doing odd jobs before deciding on a Secondary PE Teaching degree. I started teaching in 1987 at Upper Yarra SC. In 2007 I made the move to Primary PE teaching, firstly at Yarra Junction then suburban Kilsyth, not far from our home in Montrose. In 2017 we bought a holiday house at Sandy Point & I was lucky enough to get the PE job (2 days) at Foster PS in 2018 then Fish Creek PS (1 day) in 2020. On Boxing Day in 2005 our family flew to England where I taught PE & our girls went to Primary School. We lived on the Essex coast & experienced a long cold winter with snow falling on a few days and the girls walking home from school in the dark. At the end of the school year we travelled for 4 months around the UK & Europe. One highlight was travelling for 6 weeks in the Greek Islands. Loving sport steered me towards a PE teaching career & a flow on effect was coaching distance runners, which I did at the Waverley Athletic Club & then locally in Montrose. Now I have started the Prom Coast Pack Runs & coach some students & adults here on the Prom Coast. Please meet my family. My wife Ali & I travelled for a year around Europe in 1989 then married 2 years later. We have been blessed with 2 beautiful girls, who like their parents, love sport, travel & other outdoor pursuits. Zoe our eldest lives in Townsville with her soon to be husband & Abby our youngest lives in Torquay with her boyfriend. As a teacher it was fantastic to spend all the school holidays with the girls & when I was able to visit their primary school it nurtured my change from teaching teenagers to children. I enjoyed my first stint of teaching and love my second. To see the sporting growth & development in primary students has been far more rewarding & enjoyable and I will hopefully continue to help that growth for a few more years.



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WELLBEING NEWS



Dearest School Community,

It is with great sadness that I advise my contract with Foster PS is not being renewed for 2024. Many students and parents have been asking me why I am leaving, some even thinking I quit, so it is important that our community know this isn't the case and if staying was an option, it would be my first choice.

It is my hope that wellbeing funding become available for the school soon, in some capacity, and that the role be offered again. If you have any concerns about your child/children, the options at this point in time, is that they can talk with their teachers or leadership.

It has been an absolute privilege to have worked at the school, with staff, students, and families alike. I have enjoyed it immensely and will miss it immensely too.

Wellbeing is at the heart of everything I do and everything I am. Supporting young people through challenges is what I love doing and I feel it a huge privilege to be able to do so.

The school and students have had a very big impact on my life at a time when I needed it too and I am grateful for the support...it has been a steep learning curve but one I am so grateful to have had and I thank Mr Moorhouse and all the incredible teachers and staff at the school for helping me along the way.

In particular, I would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful Jo Moloney. The highlight of my job here has been working closely with Jo; we have shared many laughs, a few tears, an immense amount of learning and we job shared so very well. I couldn't have wished for a better person to work with and its possible I may miss this the most.

I am unsure what is next in store for me; I may go back into private practice after a few years away from it. In the meantime, I will take a little break and work it out.

For now, I wish everyone a lovely Christmas and a fabulous new year. I ask everyone to keep an eye out for each other over the break; some people do it pretty tough at this time of year and as a small community, the least we can do is take care of each other.

My last day at the school is Tuesday 19th, the same as the kids, so I am available to anyone who would like to touch base, even just to say goodbye.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to you all.

Megan Vuillermin

Student Wellbeing

Foster Primary School

WELLBEING TEAM:



Megan Vuillermin



Jo Moloney

Wellbeing ph number:
0492 098 367

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Upcoming Events



2024 January

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 HAPPY new YEAR	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	15	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 BOOK COLLECTION DAY AT FOSTER PRIMARY 9AM - 3PM 	30 FIRST DAY OF TERM 1 STUDENT FREE DAY 	31 FIRST DAY FOR STUDENTS (EXCEPT PREPS) GRADE 1-6 ONLY 2.30PM-ASSEMBLY				

2024 February

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1 PREPS FIRST DAY 		3	
5	6 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL	7 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL NO PREPS AT SCHOOL 2.30-ASSEMBLY	8 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL	9 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL NEWSLETTER DAY	10 	11
12	13 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL	14 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL NO PREPS AT SCHOOL 2.30-ASSEMBLY	15 GRADE 3-6 WATER SAFETY @ FOSTER POOL	16 GRADE 3-6 SWIM CARNIVAL@FOSTER POOL 	17 	18
19	20	21 NO PREPS AT SCHOOL 2.30-ASSEMBLY	22	23 NEWSLETTER DAY	24	25
26	27	28 NO PREPS AT SCHOOL 2.30-ASSEMBLY	29 			



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