



23RD FEBRUARY 2024

# THE NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from Foster Primary School*



## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*by Scott Moorhouse*

After a fantastic swimming sports on Friday I was very impressed to see many fine performances from some outstanding swimmers. It is great to see your training and effort paying off and we will welcome your continued efforts in the District meet at Toora this Friday.

Just as impressive were the students who despite being apprehensive, scared or uncomfortable 'gave it a go'. At Foster Primary School we strongly encourage this kind of bravery and I commend each and every one of the students who did this.

Thanks to Mr. Craig Cooper, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Jackson (Jones), Larissa and Alison who all assisted with important roles, as did our other members of staff and the volunteer parents.



# NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL .....

## School Priorities

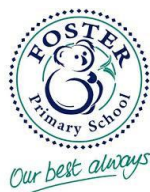
We continue to implore our students to adhere to the high expectations that we are setting around behaviour and learning. Remembering that following an instruction the first time is key to this.

Students and staff alike are doing really well at keeping the spaces tidy and providing a comfortable, clean and aesthetically pleasing learning environment.

We are working hard on providing routine for our students and this is a major early focus for our teachers. These routines assist to reduce cognitive load on our young learners and also make learning time more efficient. Assistance at home can be given by setting your own routines and assisting your children to follow them. Visual aids can help too. If you would like to know where to find some of these visual aides Boardmaker7 is an excellent tool you can find online.

## Their Care After School and Holiday Program

Last week I had a visit from the CEO of 'TheirCare' our after school and holiday program provider. Sadly, he has informed that they will cease service to our school due to lack of clients. The cessation will begin from the last day of term (March 28th). This also means there will be no holiday program run at all. I would like to thank Mrs. Nikky Roffey for all of her hard work in keeping the centre going for this long. Her efforts have been amazing. After school services are still available at Toora for the time being. As yet there is no confirmed holiday program in the area.



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## IMPORTANT DATES

### February 2024

29th - School Photo Day

### March 2024

1st - Division Swimming

4th - Car Washing Fundraiser  
at school

11th Labour Day Holiday

13th NAPLAN begins

14th Regional Swimming @  
Sale

21st Harmony Day

26th Junior Athletics at Foster  
Primary School

27th Prom Coast Division Sport  
@ Foster Secondary College

28th Last day of term

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# NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL .....

## Attendance

Our school is aiming for 94% attendance across the year. Currently we are currently sitting at 92.2%. Below is an explanation from the DET about what is expected.

Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6 to 17 years unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted.

Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally.

Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.

School participation is important as it maximises life opportunities for children and young people by providing them with education and support networks. School helps people to develop important skills, knowledge and values which set them up for further learning and participation in their community.

Conversely, limited school participation is associated with a greater chance of dropping out of school, disruptive and delinquent behaviour and may lead to a cycle of rebellion against authority. These outcomes have later implications for employment, a range of health risk behaviours (drug and alcohol abuse), homelessness, poverty, welfare dependence, and involvement in the justice system. For more information, visit Student Attendance and Educational Outcomes: Every Day Counts.

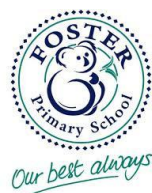
## 2024 Term Dates

29th January - 28th March

15th April - 28th June

15th July - 20th September

7th October - 20th December



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## NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL .....

It is acknowledged that for some children and young people mainstream school environments may not always be the most appropriate settings. For the purpose of this document, participation in an approved re-engagement program is considered attendance at school.

Students are expected to attend the school in which they are enrolled, during normal school hours every day of each term, unless:

- there is an approved exemption from school attendance for the student, or
- the student is registered for home schooling and has only a partial enrolment in a school for particular activities

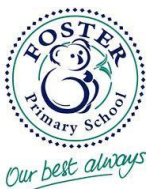
A student is considered to be in attendance at school when involved in an offsite curriculum program or other activity organised by the school (for example an excursion or camp), or where the student is engaged in a re-engagement program or another school part time to make up full time attendance and the schools or settings have agreed the time fractions, allocation of Student Resource Package (or other funding) and the educational plan for the student.

### Foster Show

Our students have been super busy in classes and in Art Classes making entries for the Foster Show. I encourage all people who are able to get their and enjoy an event with a great community feel. Celebrate all things in the local district can produce and be proud of the event we are able to put on.



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# Classroom News...

## News from Preps to Grade 3

We are in week 4 and are so proud of how well our students are settling in to school.

There have been wonderful snapshots of students sense of pride across their academic, social and emotional learning. Here are a few comments from our students:

Amelia in 2/3 D: I was proud that I was able to swim two laps at the Swimming Carnival.

Emelee in 2/3 D: I am proud that I was able to help someone.

Davey in 2/3 D: I am proud that I can say what the square root of something is without an adult telling me.

Imogen in P/1 B: I am proud that I can climb up on top of the monkey bars.

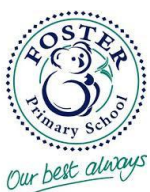
Gus in P/1 B: I am proud that in Science I was able to do an experiment to colour mix.

Oscar in P/1 B: I am proud of my drawing and writing.

Lucy in 2/3 M: I am most proud of writing three pages for my weekend recount.



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# Classroom News...

Jed in 2/3 M: I am proud of cooking choc chip zucchini cup cakes in kitchen.

Vinnie 2/3 M: I am proud of making new friends at school.

Audrey in P/1 C: I am proud that I have been having fun with my learning.

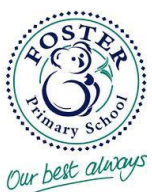
Gordy in P/1 C: I am proud of mixing paint to make different colours in Art.

Ellie in P/1 C: I am proud of writing by myself.

We look forward to everyone continuing achieving a sense of pride as we continue our learning at Foster Primary School this Term.



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# Classroom News...

23/M and 3/4Y have had another great couple of weeks. We would like to give a big shout out to all the students (and parents/carers) who are remembering to bring their reading diaries, reading book and zippy folders to school each day. One of our focuses is routines and this is a great routine to help us improve in our reading and get ready for the school day ahead. Just a friendly reminder if students could please bring a named drink bottle with them to school and ensure that all clothing is named. Thank you. 😊

Highlights from this week.

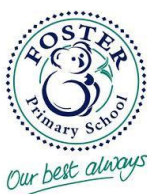
2/3M have enjoyed their week at school. They loved making posters to help students with their learning in class.

They also enjoyed reading Alison Lester books for reading this week.

3/4Y have had a great time designing and making their flowers out crepe paper for the Foster Show. We are pretty impressed in how they turned out.



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# Classroom News...

The storm last week prompted for some fabulous 50-word stories from our students.

It was getting hotter and hotter. This meant a summer storm. What was going to happen?

We were driving home when some impressive lightning bolts and powerful thunderous noises came from the sky. I was scared. Nearly home and then suddenly there was a tree in the middle, we couldn't get past.

By Jesinta

My family and I were chilling when a big storm came. The power went out. There was thunder and lightning. I screamed "What was that?" Mum yelled back. "The power went out". Oh! I said. The water was gushing everywhere. We needed torches. There was banging, thunder, tree branches falling so we all went to bed.

By Jessie

It was in the afternoon, then Boom!!! It started raining and thundering. I got off the bus. My Mom was waiting. She said she's going to the shop. She told us to go home but we wanted to go. We ran home to put our bags back. We were halfway back when we heard an unpleasant and strong lightning. I started worrying. We saw trees and branches, but we got home safely.

By Gian C



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# Classroom News...

On the 21st of February Ella Anderson competed in an inter school horse riding competition. Competitors represent their school by wearing their school shirts.

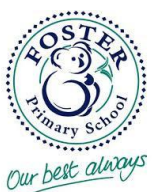
## Maffra Interschool

On Wednesday I went to an interschool. The first event I had was my 60 cm show jumping round. I had a clear round. The second event I did was the bending race. I had two goes and my first go was better once I finished that I went to line up for the mug race. Then it was my go. My first go was pretty good but my second go was way better. Then we were going to go to the float but there wasn't a very big line for the obstacle course so we did that. Then we had a break for lunch then it was time to go do my second round of show jumping. It was a good round but I had one refusal.

I got 6th in my first show jumping round and fourth in my second round of the mug race.



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# Classroom News...

## Exploring Measurement: Collaborative Learning in Grade 5 and 6

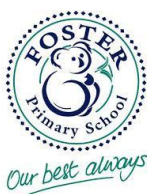
Each Wednesday, Grade 4, 5 and 6 students in the BER building dive into the fascinating world of Maths, where they learn to quantify and compare the world around them. Through hands-on experiments and collaborative activities, they work together to solve challenges and push each other to think creatively. By taking risks and sharing ideas, students foster a supportive environment that nurtures their curiosity and problem-solving skills. This week we tried to make the tallest hat out of one single piece of A3 paper. As they explored measurement together, they not only sharpen their mathematical abilities but also develop important teamwork and communication skills that will benefit them in the classroom and beyond.

### Circle time

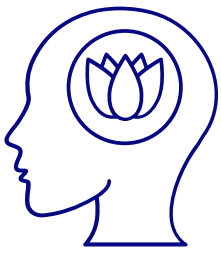
Each Monday and Thursday, students participate in Circle Time activities to build trust with their classmates and to gain a better understanding of themselves. During these sessions, students share their thoughts, feelings, and experiences in a safe and supportive environment. By actively listening to each other and expressing themselves openly, students develop stronger connections with their peers and learn to appreciate different perspectives. Teachers (even Mr Moorhouse) actively participate which fosters a sense of community and encourages students to engage in meaningful discussions that promote empathy and self-reflection. Circle time not only enhances social skills but also helps students develop a deeper sense of identity and belonging within their school community.



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# WELLBEING NEWS

## Safer Internet Day: Empowering Digital Citizens

In today's interconnected world, where digital technologies are an integral part of our daily lives, ensuring online safety has become more crucial than ever.

This year, on February 11th, we celebrated Safer Internet Day, a global initiative aimed at promoting the safe and responsible use of online technology and empowering individuals to navigate the digital world with confidence.

The theme for Safer Internet Day 2024, "Together for a Better Internet," emphasizes the collective responsibility we all share in creating a safer online environment.

It highlights the importance of collaboration between individuals, communities, governments, and organizations to address the various challenges posed by the digital landscape.

As we reflect on the significance of Safer Internet Day, it's essential to recognize the key aspects of online safety:

**1. Digital Literacy:** Developing digital literacy skills is fundamental to navigating the internet safely. This includes understanding how to critically evaluate online information, recognizing fake news and misinformation, and being aware of online scams and phishing attempts.

## WELLBEING:

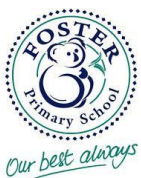


Jo Moloney

Wellbeing ph number:  
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# WELLBEING NEWS

**2. Privacy and Security:** Protecting personal information and maintaining online security are paramount. This involves using strong, unique passwords for online accounts, enabling two-factor authentication where possible, and being cautious about sharing sensitive information online.

**3. Cyberbullying Awareness:** Cyberbullying remains a prevalent issue, especially among young people. Safer Internet Day serves as a reminder to promote kindness and respect online, and to report any instances of cyberbullying or online harassment.

**4. Digital Well-being:** Maintaining a healthy balance between online and offline activities is essential for overall well-being. It's crucial to recognize the signs of digital addiction and to prioritize activities that promote mental and physical health.

**5. Parental Guidance:** Parents and caregivers play a crucial role in guiding children's online experiences. Open communication, setting clear boundaries, and monitoring online activities can help ensure a safer online environment for young people.



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# WELLBEING NEWS

At Foster Primary School, we are committed to promoting a safe and positive online experience for our students.

Our curriculum incorporates digital literacy education, and we provide resources and support to help students navigate the digital world responsibly. Additionally, we work closely with parents and guardians to foster a collaborative approach to online safety. For further support you can join these information sessions run by the safety commissioner about the most popular things in the net. This includes TikTok, Instagram, Youtube, gaming etc. etc. This can be found here <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

On Safer Internet Day and every day, let us reaffirm our commitment to building a safer and more inclusive online community. By working together and empowering each other to be responsible digital citizens, we can create a better internet for everyone.

Remember, the internet is a powerful tool that has the potential to enrich our lives and connect us with people and opportunities around the world. Let's harness its potential while staying mindful of our digital footprint and prioritizing safety and well-being.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating Safer Internet Day!



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# News from School Council...

School Council elections will be held in March and we are calling for any nominations for Parent representative. Nomination forms are available at the office.

## Notice of election and call for nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of (school name below)  
**Foster Primary School**

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on (insert day, month and year).

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted

**Wednesday 6 March 2024**

Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed

**On or before Wednesday 13 March 2024**

The ballot will close at 4.00pm on (insert day, month and year).

**Wednesday 20 March 2024**

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

**Membership category**  
Parent member

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2024
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2026

**Number of positions: 4**

**Membership category**  
School employee member

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in	2024
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in	2026

**Number of positions: 1**

**Membership category**  
Student member Nil

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	N/A
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	N/A

**Number of positions: Nil**

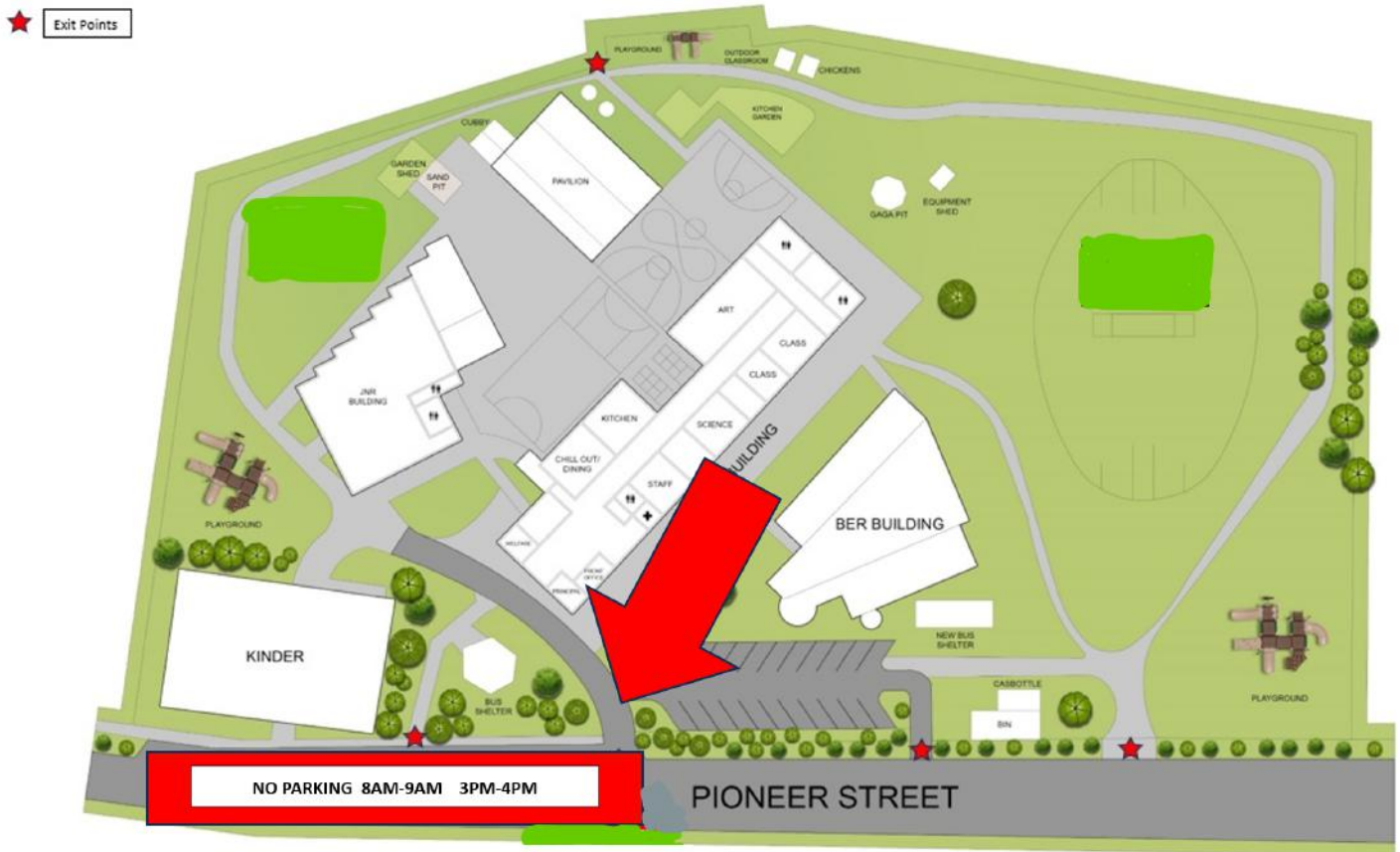
Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

**Principal signature**



# No Parking Zones



The South Gippsland Shire Council have been receiving reports from our school crossing supervisors that there is quite a lot of illegal stopping/parking happening around our schools.

Some of these vehicles are obstructing buses and some are causing visual obstructions for our crossing supervisors. In addition, the vehicles increase the risk of traffic and pedestrian incidents.

Council will be focusing on safety around schools and actively patrolling parking during school times.

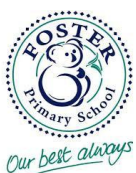
We encourage our parents/guardians/carers to observe all signage and ensure they stop/park legally at all times around schools.

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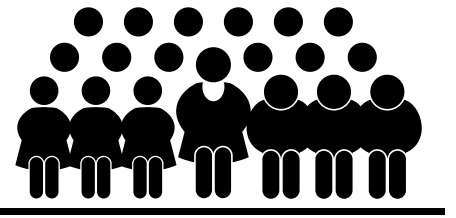
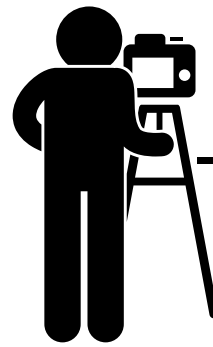
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# Upcoming Events...



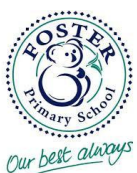
School Photo Day

## 2024 February

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
26	27	28 NO PREPS AT SCHOOL	29 	1	2	3

## 2024 March

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
4 CAR WASH 1PM-3PM \$15 PER CAR	5	6	7	8 NEWSLETTER DAY 2.30-ASSEMBLY 	9	10
11 LABOUR DAY	12	13 NAPLAN	14 NAPLAN GIPPSLAND SWIMMING REGIONAL @ SALE	15 NAPLAN 2.30-ASSEMBLY	16 	17
18 NAPLAN	19 NAPLAN	20 NAPLAN	21 NAPLAN HARMONY DAY	22 NAPLAN NEWSLETTER DAY 2.30-ASSEMBLY 	23	24
25 NAPLAN	26 JUNIOR ATHLETICS PREP-2 @ SCHOOL	27 "PROM COAST" DIVISION SPORT @ FOSTER SEC COLLEGE	28 LAST DAY OF TERM 1 2.30-ASSEMBLY <b>FINISH TIME-TBC</b>	29 GOOD FRIDAY	30	31 EASTER SUNDAY 



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