

# FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWSLETTER



LEARNING FOR LIFE

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS CENTRE IS A CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE OF BULLYING.

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

**Dear Forrest Families,**

It has been another busy couple of weeks at Forrest, with lots happening in and out of the classroom.

### COMMONWEALTH GAMES WITH DEANS MARSH

It was great to welcome Deans Marsh Primary School to Forrest for our Commonwealth Games. Mrs Melican organised a fantastic day, with students from both schools taking part in lots of fun activities together.

One of the best parts of these days is simply having everyone together. The students had plenty of time to play, mix with different children and continue getting to know each other. We finished off by sharing some sausages together before our visitors headed home.



A big thank you to Mrs Melican for organising the day and to everyone who helped out.

### BOXING SESSIONS

Liza has been running boxing sessions with our students in the undercover area, which have been a great addition to our week. We were also lucky to have Matt, our local police officer, drop in and join us for a session. The students have really enjoyed having a go, learning some new skills and getting active.



### TRIBES

TRIBES is back up and running this term. This time, students are staying with the same activity for a three-week rotation, giving them a chance to spend a

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### AUGUST

4<sup>th</sup> Art (MACC)  
11<sup>th</sup> School Council @3.45pm  
11<sup>th</sup> SC Public Meeting - Annual Report @5pm  
12<sup>th</sup> Library (MARC)  
17<sup>th</sup> Earth Ed Excursion Grade 3&4  
19<sup>th</sup> Art (MACC)  
28<sup>th</sup> Book Week Parade

### SEPTEMBER

2<sup>nd</sup> Art (MACC)  
7<sup>th</sup> Biolab Excursion Grade 5&6  
9<sup>th</sup> Library (MARC)  
15<sup>th</sup> School Council @3.45pm  
16<sup>th</sup> Art (MACC)  
17<sup>th</sup> Junior Room Sleepover  
18<sup>th</sup> Last Day of Term 3

### OCTOBER

5<sup>th</sup> Term 4 Commences  
12-16<sup>th</sup> School Swimming Program

### Students of the Week



bit more time developing their skills and completing projects.

This has worked particularly well with our cooking group, who have been able to make great use of our new fire area. It has been lovely to see the students working together across different age groups and becoming increasingly confident in our outdoor learning spaces.

#### CUBBIES, MUD AND WINTER WEATHER!

The wet winter weather certainly hasn't stopped our students from getting outside. In fact, it has created perfect conditions for one of their favourite activities, cubby building!

There has been lots of building, problem solving, negotiating and teamwork happening outside as students make the most of the sticks, branches, mud and everything else that comes with winter at Forrest.

#### MOOSE AND SUNNY

Moose and Sunny have both been enjoying their time at school and, as always, are very happy to be part of whatever is happening. They



continue to bring plenty of smiles to our school and are very much part of the Forrest PS team.

It is lovely to see so many different opportunities happening across the school and, particularly, to see our students learning, playing and working together.

#### NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).



Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling

- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal



information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards,  
Megan Murfitt

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK & PRINCIPAL AWARD (WEEK 3)

Principal Award – Aubrey

Senior Room – Aarli

Junior Room – Sunny J & Ned

### Upcoming Birthdays

Archer



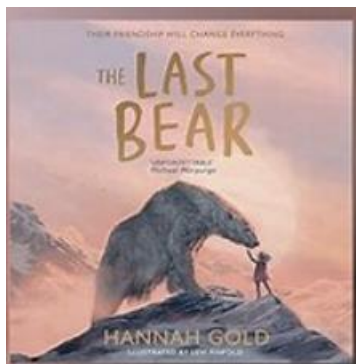
## SENIOR ROOM NEWS

### CRAZY COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Well done to all the Senior students for their participation in the Crazy Commonwealth Games with the Deans Marsh Primary School students. It is always wonderful to play silly games just for the joy of it and reap all the benefits of movement. Thanks to everyone involved, especially Sue Melican, for organising the event, and to the Senior students who helped make the medals and signs.

### LITERACY

This term, our text-based unit is *The Last Bear* by Hannah Gold. It is a beautiful book with themes of grief, the celebration of the relationship between a child and



an animal, a battle cry for our Earth, and forging your own path. It is set in the Arctic Circle. I encourage all parents to ask their child about the book, as all the students have been very curious and interested in the Arctic Circle and this icy, harsh environment!

### MATHS

In Maths, we continue to make excellent progress in number fluency, and it has been so lovely to see the children taking their Rocket Maths

sheets home for practice! We have also been learning about angles, area, and perimeter. This week, we will be revisiting addition, subtraction, and multiplication.

### SCIENCE

In Science, we revisited our science experiment and made some improvements to growing crystals. We swapped the saturated sugar solution for borax. The results have been amazing, and the crystals have quickly formed on the pipe cleaners. The students have been so engaged that each student is going to make their own crystal ornament.

Please continue to support your students to fill in and bring in their diary daily.

Have a wonderful week!

Kaz and Ella





## JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

# Term 3 Week 4



## More Than Reading, Writing and Maths

'Our Gardener' cares for our growing collection of classroom plants, watering them each day (often accompanied by a cheerful song or a story!). Nurturing living things encourages responsibility, patience and an understanding that growth takes time and care. Looking after something beyond themselves helps learners develop empathy and a sense of stewardship for the world around them.

**When people think about school, they often think of reading, writing and mathematics. While these skills are undoubtedly important, some of the most valuable learning happens in the moments in between.**

In the Junior Room, we place just as much importance on helping learners become kind, capable and connected human beings. Through meaningful classroom responsibilities, they develop confidence, empathy, independence and a sense of belonging. They learn that every person has something valuable to contribute to our community.

One of our favourite roles is the 'Welcome Committee'. This learner greets every visitor with a warm smile, help them find the person they are looking for and, at the end of the day, sends every Junior learner on their way with a handshake. It may seem like a small job, but it teaches us the power of making others feel seen, valued and welcome while building confidence, communication skills and respectful social interactions.



Our 'Equipment Manager' ensures we have everything we need before each lesson begins. Organising resources, anticipating what is required and preparing materials develops executive functioning skills such as planning, organisation, memory and attention to detail.

But by far the most sought-after responsibility is becoming our 'Chef'.

Learning is hard work, and growing bodies and busy brains need fuel. One of the basic needs for successful learning is a full belly. Research consistently shows that children who have access to nutritious food are better able to concentrate, regulate their emotions, solve problems and engage in learning.

Our Junior Room chefs prepare simple, protein-rich snacks that help keep energy levels steady throughout the day. Whether they are spreading toppings, measuring ingredients, chopping, mixing or serving their classmates, they are learning far more than cooking.

Preparing food provides rich opportunities to develop mathematical thinking through measuring and counting, literacy through reading recipes and following instructions, fine motor skills, sequencing, problem-solving, hygiene practices and teamwork. There is also enormous pride in creating something that nourishes others.

Perhaps the greatest ingredient, however, is connection.

**At its heart, this is what education is about. Not simply teaching learners what to know, but helping them become thoughtful, capable, caring people who know how to contribute to their community. Because sometimes the most important lessons don't happen at a desk, they happen while welcoming a visitor, caring for a plant or preparing a healthy snack for a friend.**

## EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWS

This week we say a sad Goodbye to Henry, Olivia and Cody from the Forrest family and wish them all the best in their new home. We will miss you all, especially Henry's cheeky laugh and wicked sense of humour.

### FIRES

We are excited to reintroduce fires as part of our Bush Kinder program. While experiences such as children learning to safely build and manage a fire under close educator supervision, and cooking fruit over the fire using sticks, are still some way off, the return of the fire opens up many valuable learning opportunities.

Children will begin by observing the fire being lit, learning about the safety measures we follow, and developing an understanding of how to behave safely around fire. These experiences will help children explore both the

potential dangers of fire and the important role it plays in our environment and everyday life. Through guided discussions and hands-on observations, children will build respect for fire while gaining an appreciation of the many positive ways it can be used safely and responsibly.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**Each child will need to bring a change of clothes, a raincoat and a pair of gumboots with them every Friday.** Please remember to put lots of changes of clothes in your child's bag just in case.

### COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Over the past two weeks, the children have been exploring the Commonwealth Games through engaging discussions, visual resources and creative experiences. Together, we created our own King's Batons, designed medals and made flags representing our own countries. These experiences

encouraged children to learn about different cultures and nations while fostering a sense of belonging to a wider global community. Through art and craft, children developed their creativity, fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination, while discussions supported their language development, curiosity and understanding of sporting events that bring people together. The Commonwealth Games also provided opportunities to explore values such as teamwork, inclusion, perseverance and respect, helping children make meaningful connections between sport, culture and community.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to speak to Di or Vicki or you can contact us on the service mobile – 0419 357 886

Cheers Di & Vicki.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



The poster features a blue background. On the left is a black graduation cap with a gold tassel. In the center, the text 'Save the Date' is written in large, red, cursive font. Below it, 'THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2026' is written in a black, hand-drawn font. Further down, it says 'Join us as we celebrate our Year 6 students and enjoy a whole school dance performance at' followed by '1:00 PM' in a large, bold, black font. At the bottom, it says 'Followed by afternoon tea - more details will be shared closer to the date.' On the right side, there is a logo for 'FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL & EARLY YEARS CENTRE' with a bird illustration and the tagline 'Learning for Life'.

**Save the Date**

**THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2026**

Join us as we celebrate our Year 6 students and enjoy a whole school dance performance at

**1:00 PM**

Followed by afternoon tea - more details will be shared closer to the date.