

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,

Safe Standards.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD SAFETY – IMPORTANT UPDATE

Following the Department's **Rapid Review into Early Childhood Education and Care**, we're strengthening our practices to ensure the privacy, safety and wellbeing of all children in our Early Years programs (Kinder and Childcare).

- **Photography:** Images of Early Years children must **only** be taken on our official Early Years Service devices.
- **Families & visitors:** Please **do not take photos** of Early Years students at any time (including during celebrations, drop-off/pick-up and events).
- **Why this matters:** Centralised school-managed devices mean photos are securely stored and used only for educational documentation and approved communications, aligning with the updated Child

Thank you for helping us keep every child safe.

STUDENT EXPO

We warmly invite families to our **Student Expo on the last Thursday of Term at 2:30pm** before our Sleepover. Students will showcase their learning from across the term, and classrooms will be open for you to explore. We'd love to see you there!

SCIENCE WEEK

To celebrate National Science Week, **all staff ran rotating, hands-on experiments** with small student groups—sparking curiosity, teamwork and lots of “wow!” moments. A big well done to our young scientists and a thank you to staff for making it so engaging.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CARE GIVER SURVEY

The deadline for the Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey has been extended and will remain open online until Friday 12 September 2025. We strongly encourage the

September 8, 2025 Edition 13

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Library (MARC Visit)
- 10 Life Ed Van Visit
- 16 Art (MACC Visit)
- 18 P-2 Sleepover
- 18 Student Expo 2.30pm
- 19 End of Term 3 2.30pm finish

OCTOBER

- 6 First Day Term 4
- 7 Library (MARC Visit)
- 13 Swimming 11 – 2pm
- 14 Swimming 11 – 2pm
- 14 Art (MACC Visit)
- 15 Swimming 11 – 2pm
- 16 Swimming 11 – 2pm
- 17 Swimming 11 – 2pm
- 21 Library (MARC Visit)
- 22 CFA Fire Planning Workshop 3.30pm
- 22 Life Ed Van Visit
- 28 Art (MACC Visit)

NOVEMBER

- 3 Student Free Day
- 4 Melb Cup Public Holiday
- 7 Colour Fun Run
- 11 School Council @ 3.45pm

Students of the Week



DEAR PARENT/CARERS

Life Ed and Healthy Harold are coming to your child's school!

[View Student Programs](#)

or scan me



STUDENT OF THE WEEK 6 & PRINCIPAL AWARD

This award goes to Archie Doull for coming up with amazing ideas to help take care of our school grounds. Your creativity and care make our school a better and more beautiful place. Well done, Archie!

Tom for always setting him up for success in his learning and for being a kind and caring friend to all.

Dori - for excellent participation in our Science Week experiments

completion of this survey to deliver feedback that will ultimately lead to improved outcomes for students. The link to the survey was sent to all parents via Compass.

LIFE ED VAN INCURSION

This Wednesday 10th September the Life Ed Van is

coming to visit Forrest Primary School. Students will be participating in the programs 'Harolds Friendship' (F-1), 'Friends & Feeling' (2/3/4) & 'Decisions' (5/6). Further information about these sessions is linked [here](#), please ensure the parental consent

and the incursion payment is attended to on Compass.

Warm regards,

Megan Murfitt

SENIOR ROOM NEWS

It has been a very busy 2 weeks in the senior room! We have had special visitors, an excursion, Science week activities, and a casting call for the play!

NUMERACY

We have started our unit on fractions, beginning with some revision of the basics, including key terminology, reading a fractions wall, finding equivalent fractions and

some students have begun simplifying fractions. We introduced a warm up game of fractions memory, where students matched a picture fraction to the worded version, then needed to write the correct fraction on their whiteboards in order to secure a match. We will be continuing to grow our skills in simplifying before moving

on to adding and subtracting fractions. The unit will be finishing off with students exploring the connection



between fractions and decimals and learning how to convert between the two.

SCIENCE WEEK

We had so much fun during our Science Week rotations! The seniors got to take part in lots of activities such as explosions with Miss M, slime making with myself, and paper plane engineering with Ella!



A

and customised, students entered a best of 3 battle, where the first robot to have both wheels outside the black circle was eliminated. It was fantastic to see students have the opportunity to work together and show their teamwork skills and most of all their creativity and resilience (as the coding was a bit tricky at times!). Well done to all of the Seniors for representing Forrest Primary School with such pride, and a special congratulations to Aurora who was our grand final winner with her robot, Einstein!

SPECIAL VISITOR

We had a special visitor in the Senior room last week... Lenny joined our class for a few sessions before heading home. Even though he was a bit unwell at the time, he settled in and loved all of the pats and attention. A big thank you to all students for being so calm and patient while Lenny was with us!



EARTH ED EXCURSION: BATTLE BOTS!

The Seniors were extremely lucky to be able to travel to Earth Ed in Ballarat to attend a Battle Bots excursion! Students learnt about block coding, built their own robot, designed custom add ons to prepare them for battle, and spent a lot of time fine tuning their coding to try to secure the grand final win! Once the robots were built



HOMEWORK REMINDER

This year, senior students are expected to complete three nights of home reading each week and record it in their reading logs. Unfortunately,

many students have not been completing their homework or are regularly forgetting or losing their reading bags/logs. Building independence and responsibility is a strong focus in the senior room, and developing a

consistent reading routine supports this.

Please support your child in maintaining and building this important habit.

MIDDLE ROOM NEWS

The Middle Room have been very focused on writing the last two weeks and have been delving into Prepositions and ensuring that we have well structured sentences that are correctly sequenced. To highlight this work the students have written pieces about our Science experiments.

Some of the student comments about our experiments were:

“I like Science Week because we made sticky slime” - Jem

“I like that we made sticky and foamy slime.” - Maya

“My favourite experiment was making slime.” - Micah

“My favourite was the explosion!” - River

“I liked the floating paperclips.” - Tom

“My favourite was the slime because it was mushy and fun!” - Alexander

“My favorite experiment was slime with Miss B.” - Carter

“My favourite experiment was the explosions with Miss M and the slime with Miss B.” - Abigail

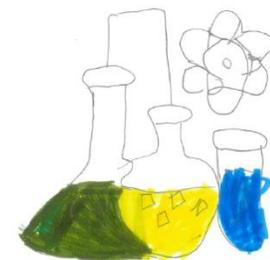
SCIENCE WEEK

For science week we made explosions with Miss M made of bicarb soda and vinegar in a tissue with a plastic bag. Next, we made planes flying across the room with Ella. Then floating paper clips with Liza. After that stabbing pencils into plastic bags without the bag popping. Next, we did drawing and driving with Jo. Finally, last but not least, sticky slime with Miss B. Science week is a fun activity.



Science Week

For Science Week, we used robots first. Then we did experiments with Di with speakers. Next, we made tinfoil boats. Then we blew up stuff! Next, we made slime. Finally, we made planes.



Science week 2025

For science week the whole school did lots of experiments. First my group (Maya, Tina, Lucas, Jazz, Albie, Remi, and me) went to Liza. With Liza we put wrapping paper in a tub of water and placed a paper clip on top. We pushed the wrapping paper down and tried to make the paper clip float. Next, we went to Miss M. We put vinegar and baking soda in a plastic bag. Miss B was next.

JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

READING & WRITING

Our class has been enjoying the story of Gary, a clever pigeon who uses maps to

find his way home. This wonderful book ties in beautifully with our current Inquiry Unit on Social Justice.

Through Gary's journey, students are exploring different countries around the world. We've been learning



about geography, different foods, languages, landmarks, and flags, while celebrating the amazing diversity that makes our world special.



MATHEMATICS

In Maths, our focus has been on shapes. The children have been sorting and grouping shapes based on features such as sides, colour, and size. They have also been creating pictures and patterns using shapes, recognising shapes in everyday objects, and describing and recreating

shapes they see in their environment.

PETER PAN AUDITIONS

Last Thursday, our Junior students took part in the Peter Pan auditions. We are so proud of how well they stepped up! The feedback from the actors and teachers was fantastic — the children showed great initiative, focus, and listening skills. I am looking forward to seeing more of their courage and creativity as they put themselves out there.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Thursday, 11 September is R U OK? Day. We encourage all students to wear lots of yellow to support this important day of kindness and checking in with one another.

Please remember to return your child's **school sleepover permission forms by Friday, 12 September** if you haven't already.

EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWS

Bush Kinder was back this week and what a lovely time all of the children had! Having had to move spaces the children had much more interesting and new things to discover, and they were all exhausted when we came back to kinder!

A very special Thank You must go to Freya and Renee for filling in for Vicki and Indi while they are both away on holidays, it has been such an honour to have you both working with us and the children are loving having you both in the space.

Over the next 5 weeks

we will welcome Navneet, a placement student from Vic Uni. She will be with us Wednesday to Friday for the next 5 weeks so if you can, stop and say hello and give her that wonderful Forrest family feel.

We have been spending the last 2 weeks preparing our Father's Day cards and Gifts so we do hope that all the dads out there had a wonderful day, and we hope you enjoyed your gift as much as the children wanted to!

You might not be aware but with all of the changes with the Rapid

Child Safety review it does mean that staff will be taking much less photos of children however if we feel that something special has been created by your child we will send you a photo personally instead of placing it on our Facebook page. If you have any questions regarding the review and the important changes that will be happening, please feel free to ask Di or Megan, we would be happy to have a chat with you.

Hats are now expected to be worn so please make sure that all children have a hat in their bags.



Please remember to send your child with many changes of clothes, a jacket for outdoor play and if your child appears to be

unwell, please keep them home to stop any spreading of illness throughout the service.

Cheers Di, Vicki, Indi & Britt.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Reminder to participate in the 2025 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey and is seeking your feedback. The survey, offered by the Department of Education, is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement.

We sent you an invitation to complete the survey. If you cannot find the invite, please reach out and we can resend this invitation to you.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will remain open online until **Friday 12 September 2025**.

Your opinions are important to us and will contribute to **identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school**, to target school planning and improvement strategies. The department will use the results from the survey for research purposes and to improve outcomes for students.

YOU'RE INVITED TO

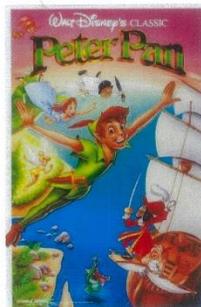
PREP-YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2025

5:30 PM **BBQ DINNER**
6:30 PM **PREPS AND PARENTS GO HOME**
8:00 PM **LIGHTS OUT**
7:30 AM **BREAKFAST**
9:00 AM **READY FOR THE LAST DAY OF TERM!**

MORE INFORMATION:
Megan.Murfitt@education.vic.gov.au

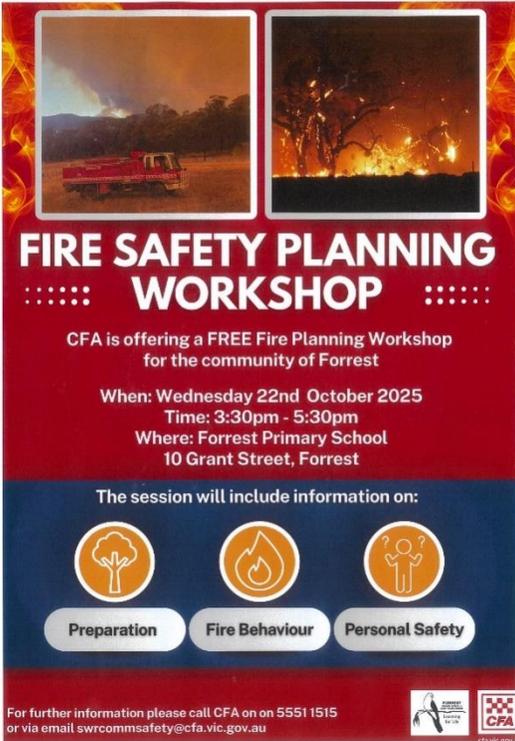
Save The Date



Our End of Year School Play and Year 6 Graduation will be held on **Thursday the 11th of December**.

Graduations (Year 6 and Four Year Old Kindergarten) will be in the morning, and the School Play will be in the afternoon, so our Early Years students can join in the fun too!





FIRE SAFETY PLANNING WORKSHOP

CFA is offering a FREE Fire Planning Workshop for the community of Forrest

When: Wednesday 22nd October 2025
Time: 3:30pm - 5:30pm
Where: Forrest Primary School
10 Grant Street, Forrest

The session will include information on:

- Preparation
- Fire Behaviour
- Personal Safety

For further information please call CFA on 5551 1515 or via email swrcommsafety@cfa.vic.gov.au



Sensory quiet time
at Bluewater Leisure Centre

Sensory quiet time aims to improve accessibility by creating a low-stimulating environment with changes based on community feedback.

Time: Every Saturday 1pm - 3pm

- Reduced music and PA announcements
- Reduced lighting
- Hand dryers turned off
- Water features turned off
- Phones turned down




Polwarth & District Tennis Association

POLWARTH TENNIS SEASON DATES.

NEW PLAYERS + TEAMS WELCOME IN ALL PENNANTS.

Saturday Junior + Senior Pennant STARTS 11/10/25

Wednesday Social 4s Senior + Div 1 pennant 29/10/25

Friday Junior Aggregate Singles + Doubles @ Elliminyt T.C. 31/10/25 12-15 y.o 4pm | 15-18 y.o 5pm

Free Coaching Clinic for beginners Grades P-6 @ Elliminyt T.C

September 10th, 17th, 24th 5-5:45PM
Hosted by Polwarth A Grade tennis players

TENNIS OPEN DAY ALL WELCOME
@ Elliminyt T.C - 10am - 2pm 5/10/25

- Free tennis clinics
- Stalls
- Australian Open Trophy

CONTACT US

Facebook: Polwarth & District Tennis Association
Instagram: Polwarth_tennis
Email: polwarthtennisinfo@gmail.com



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN NATURE CRAFT

MAKING AND CREATING USING NATURAL RESOURCES

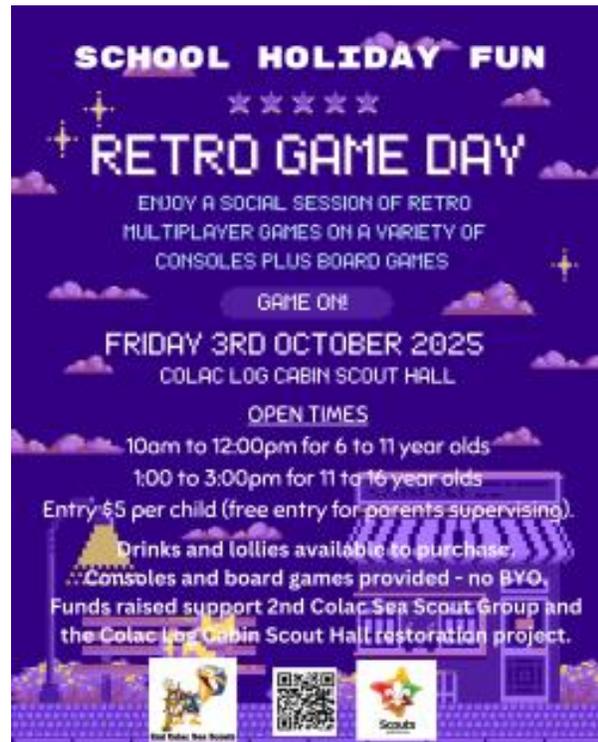
OPEN TIMES

10AM TO 12:00PM FOR 6 TO 11 YEARS
1:00 TO 3:00PM FOR 11 TO 16 YEARS
ENTRY \$5 PER CHILD (FREE ENTRY FOR PARENTS SUPERVISING).

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER
COLAC LOG CABIN SCOUT HALL

FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT 2ND COLAC SEA SCOUT GROUP AND THE COLAC LOG CABIN SCOUT HALL RESTORATION PROJECT.

2nd Colac Sea Scouts



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

RETRO GAME DAY

ENJOY A SOCIAL SESSION OF RETRO MULTIPLAYER GAMES ON A VARIETY OF CONSOLES PLUS BOARD GAMES

GAME ON!

FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2025
COLAC LOG CABIN SCOUT HALL

OPEN TIMES

10am to 12:00pm for 6 to 11 year olds
1:00 to 3:00pm for 11 to 16 year olds
Entry \$5 per child (free entry for parents supervising).

Drinks and lollies available to purchase.
Consoles and board games provided - no BYO.

Funds raised support 2nd Colac Sea Scout Group and the Colac Log Cabin Scout Hall restoration project.