

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.

ACTING PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

WELCOME TO TERM 4!

It has been a wonderful start to Term 4, and it is lovely to have everyone back at school. With spring comes warmer weather, longer days and lots of little changes happening around our school environment. The gardens are beginning to flourish, and there is a real sense of energy and excitement as we head into the final term of the year. We began the term with **World Teachers' Day** — a wonderful opportunity to pause and recognise the many people



within our school community who *teach* and support your children each day. While we often think of teachers as the people standing in front of the classroom, learning happens through the care, encouragement, guidance and expertise of our entire school

community.

Thank you to our teachers, education support staff, specialists, business manager, volunteers and families for the many ways you contribute to the learning and wellbeing of our children. A kind word, a moment of encouragement, a



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

12–16th School Swimming Program
14th Art (MACC)
21st Library (MARC)
26th Pet Parade
27th School Council @ 3.45pm
28th Art (MACC)
30th Grade 5-6 Lorne Surf

NOVEMBER

2nd Student Free Day
3rd Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
4th Library (MARC)
11th Art (MACC)
13th Grade 3-6 Outreach Excursion
18th Library (MARC)
24th Transition Session 9-11
25th Art (MACC)

DECEMBER

1st Transition Session 9-11.30
2nd Library (MARC)
8th Statewide Transition Day
8th School Council @ 3.45pm
9th Art (MACC)
10th End of Year Graduation
15th End of Year Activity – Whole School Ten Pin Bowling
18th End of Term 4 -1pm Finish

question, a shared skill or simply being there can make a significant difference to a child. May we continue to recognise and appreciate the hard work and dedication that goes into creating a safe, positive and nurturing environment for our students.

SCHOOL SWIMMING PROGRAM

A reminder that our school swimming program begins **this week**. Please remember to pack **swimmers, goggles and a towel**. Extra snacks are also a good idea — swimming

certainly seems to build an appetite!

HATS

As the weather warms up, please remember that **school hats are required for outside play**. Having a hat in your child's school bag each day will help ensure everyone can make the most of our beautiful outdoor spaces safely.

It is shaping up to be a busy and exciting final term, and I look forward to sharing it with our school community.

Jo Kara-Cozens

STUDENT OF THE WEEK & PRINCIPAL AWARD (WEEK 1)

Principal Award – Next Week!

Senior Room – Aarli

Junior Room – Whole Class!

Broad-brimmed hat

Brims should be wide and flat and create shade for the face, neck and ears.



Lost your hat?

New hats are available from the School Office for \$13

SENIOR ROOM NEWS

WELCOME BACK SENIORS!

Term 4 is off to a wonderful start, and we've already had a busy first week both inside and outside the classroom! We've been practising our end-of-year performance dances with Liza and Ella, getting our hands dirty in the garden with Freya, and diving into some exciting new learning for the term ahead.

MATHS

Location and Transformation: This week in Maths, students explored the concepts of location and transformation through some hands-on, movement-filled learning. We had lots of fun designing treasure maps and heading out around the school grounds on treasure hunts! Along

the way, students practised using mathematical language to describe locations, give directions and guide others to hidden treasure.

WRITING

The Last Bear and Climate Change: We are nearing the end of our class novel, *The Last Bear*, which explores the important issue of climate change. Through our reading, we've been discussing how climate change can sometimes feel like an overwhelming problem, but that every small action can make a difference. Students explored the causes and effects of climate change before working collaboratively to create advocacy posters highlighting ways we can care for our planet. It was wonderful

to see students engaging in thoughtful conversations, sharing their ideas and recognising the positive impact we can all have.

KINDER VISIT

We had a lovely visit to kinder during our first week back! The students brought along some library books to share and enjoy with the kinder children, followed by a creative wildlife rock-art activity. It was a beautiful opportunity to connect with our younger learners and share some creativity together.

TERM 3 EXPO - WHAT A SUCCESS!

WOW! We were incredibly proud of the students and their Term 3 Expo projects. Their



creativity, curiosity and innovative thinking were wonderful to see. It was so rewarding to watch their ideas come to life and see them showcase their learning with such confidence and belief in themselves. Well done, everyone!

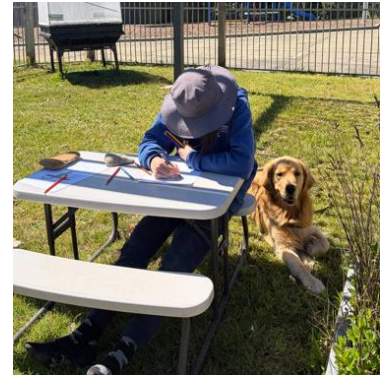
LOOKING AHEAD - SWIMMING WEEK!

Swimming begins in Week 2, and we have plenty more exciting learning and activities to look forward to throughout Term 4. It's shaping up to be a busy but wonderful term, and Kaz and I are looking forward to another fun-filled term of learning, growth and memorable moments with our Senior Room students!

Ella & Kaz 😊



Building each other up! We have been exploring and writing about how we can use our words to build each other up. At the end of last term there were some great conversations and practice about choice and power of words. We discussed how words that are kind and uplifting can encourage and positively impact another person. We will continue to practice this throughout the term!



JUNIOR ROOM NEWS



Hopes & Wishes from the Junior Room

As we begin our final term, we asked the children what they **hope and wish for Term 4**.

Their answers were full of wonderful ideas — from learning new things and getting better at reading, to making new friends, playing outside, creating, exploring and having fun together.

We hope Term 4 brings plenty of **curiosity, kindness, courage and joy** to our Junior Room. Most of all, we hope the children continue to feel proud of themselves, excited about learning and connected to the people around them.



EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWS

Welcome back to Term 4!

This week, the children spent lots of time exploring beyond our usual kinder yard while the ongoing upgrades continue. You may have noticed that our old slide and fort have now been removed as we make way for our new outdoor space. We are hoping to have the new soil and grass laid next week, ready to grow into a lovely green area for the children to enjoy. Fingers crossed the weather is kind to us and gives our new grass the best possible start!

Out in the school yard, the children had their **first week of bike riding**, and what a wonderful time they had! It was lovely to see so many smiling faces, the wind in their hair and little legs pedalling with enthusiasm. Over the coming weeks, we will continue to support the children to develop their gross motor skills, balance, coordination and spatial awareness as they practise riding and navigating the school grounds safely.

We have also enjoyed some lovely opportunities to reconnect with our school community. Our senior students visited kinder to read with the children and participate in an activity for **Native Animal Week**. The children created their own pictures on rocks, which will be placed around the school yard for others to discover and enjoy. Later in the

afternoon, our junior students came down for a short play, giving the children another opportunity to build connections and share experiences with their school friends.

Although our kinder yard is undergoing some exciting changes, the children have continued to enjoy a rich range of experiences, building their physical skills, creativity and relationships with others. We look forward to seeing our outdoor space take shape and continuing to make the most of the wonderful learning opportunities within our school community!

These experiences support the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF) in several important ways:

- Outcome 1 – Identity: Children develop a sense of belonging as they reconnect with older and younger students and build relationships within the wider school community.
- Outcome 2 – Community: Reading together, sharing play experiences and contributing to a Native Animal Week activity encourage children to participate in their community, develop relationships and build respect for the natural environment.

- Outcome 3 – Wellbeing: Bike riding supports children's physical wellbeing, balance, coordination, gross motor development and growing confidence in their physical abilities. Practising safe riding also encourages children to develop awareness of themselves and others.
- Outcome 4 – Learning: Children develop persistence, confidence and problem-solving skills as they practise riding, navigate different spaces and explore creative ways to represent native animals.
- Outcome 5 – Communication: Shared reading, conversations with school students and creating pictures on rocks provide opportunities for children to express ideas, develop language and communicate with others through different forms of expression.

Overall VEYLDF connection: These experiences reflect the importance of play-based learning, positive relationships and meaningful connections with the community. By making use of the school environment during our kinder yard upgrades, we continue to provide opportunities for children to learn, explore and



develop across all five VEYLDF outcomes.

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



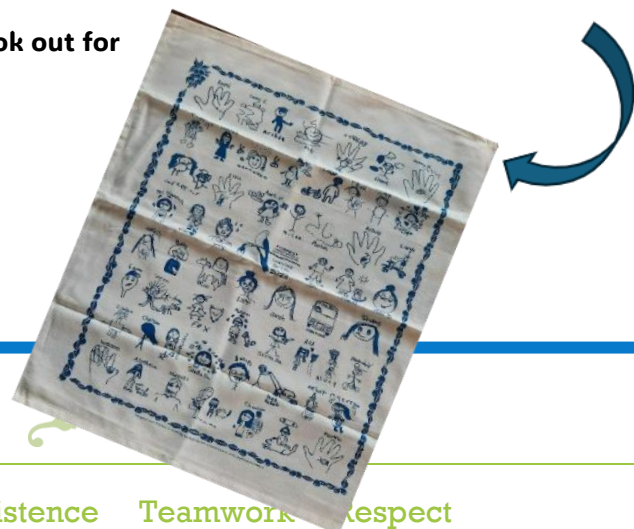
Tea Towel Fundraiser!

We are running the famous tea towel fundraiser again this year and will have tea towels with student self-portraits available later in Term 4 – a perfect Christmas gift for friends and family!

There's an example tea towel in the school office, and this is a picture of the 2023 tea towel.

Orders are due by Thursday 5th October – look out for the form coming home soon.

Thank you from the Fundraising team 😊



Are you ready for Summer?

The January 2026 Otway fires evacuation impacted our community in many ways. You may be wondering...

How do I talk to my family about bushfire? Where do we go and what if my partner doesn't want to leave early?

Let's look ahead, support one another, and take steps to feel more prepared. Join us after Community Lunch at the hall.

Understand your risk.
Share experiences & ask questions.
Get support and help to prepare.
Or just come for a chat and cuppa.



**FREE
AFTERNOON
TEA**



**CHILDREN'S
AFTER-SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES**

CFA, FLARE, Barwon Health and Colac Area Health, Colac Otway Shire Bushfire Recovery Team will be on hand to answer your questions. Supervised after-school kids activities from 3.30pm. (5-12yrs)
Scan the QR code to confirm your place and book for the kids activity



**Forrest Hall
14 Grant St**

**THURSDAY
22 October 2026**

2:30-4:30 PM



Save the Date

THURSDAY 10th 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.



HALLOWEEN IN FORREST

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2026.

TRICK OR TREAT YOUR WAY AROUND FORREST FROM 5 PM. START AT FORREST INFO BOARD FOR SOME SPOOKY SNACKS THEN MAKE YOUR WAY AROUND TOWN VIA THE BOWER BIRD CAFE, THE NH HAUNTED GRAVEYARD, THE GENERAL STORE AND FINISH AT THE BREWERY FOR A WITCHES BREW. MAP OF TRICK OR TREAT LOCATIONS WILL BE SHARED CLOSER TO THE DAY, PLEASE EMAIL FORREST.NH@GMAIL.COM TO ADD YOUR ADDRESS TO THE LIST! PLEASE MAKE SURE CHILDREN UNDER 10 ARE FULLY SUPERVISED DURING THIS ACTIVITY.

Ready to try something new?

Join Scouts

For more information contact 2nd Colac Sea Scout Group on Facebook or email gl.2ndcolac@scoutsvictoria.com.au