

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,

This week has been a wonderful reflection of our school values of Respect, Kindness, Teamwork and Persistence, with students embracing new experiences and supporting one another throughout.

RESPONSIBLE PET PROGRAM

We were fortunate to host the Responsible Pet Program this week. Students learned about how to safely and respectfully interact with pets, how to recognise animal body language and what it means to be a responsible pet owner. It was an engaging and informative session that reinforced important safety messages while building empathy and



understanding. Our students represented the school beautifully and asked thoughtful questions throughout.

BIKE ED

Bike Ed was a highlight of the week, expertly run by Michelle. All students thoroughly enjoyed the session and demonstrated persistence, teamwork and growing confidence on their bikes. It was fantastic to see students encouraging one another and building their skills in a safe and supportive environment. A big thank you to Michelle for leading such a positive experience for our students.



VISIT FROM DAN TEHAN

We were pleased to welcome our local Federal Member, Dan Tehan, to the school this week. Dan presented

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

- 23 Bike Ed Session 2
- 25 MARC Library
- 27 Polwarth Sports Day @ Alvie
- 28 Otway Odyssey Fundraising

MARCH

- 1 Otway Odyssey Fundraising
- 2 Bike Ed Session 3
- 4 MACC Art
- 6 Curriculum Day – Student Free
- 9 Labour Day Public Holiday
- 10 - 18 Somers Camp
- 11 MARC Library
- 11-23 Naplan
- 16 Bike Ed Session 4
- 18 MACC Art
- 24 School Council @3.45pm
- 25 MARC Library
- 27 Student Expo
- 31 P-6 Excursion to Deans Marsh

APRIL

- 1 MACC Art
- 2 Last Day of Term 1

Upcoming Birthdays

Aubrey, Oliver & Audrey



three new flags, the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, to our School Captains, Dori and Aurora, who proudly accepted them on behalf of our school community.

We thank Dan for taking the time to visit Forrest PS and for supporting our school.

POLWARTH SPORTS – FRIDAY

A reminder that Polwarth Sports will be held this Friday. Students are required to be transported to and from the event by their families.

Please ensure your child brings:

- A broad-brimmed hat
- Sunscreen (applied before arrival and packed for reapplication)
- Plenty of food and a drink bottle

For any parents/students wishing to order a BBQ lunch, the orders & payment for the Sausage Sizzle are due tomorrow. Order forms were sent out last week along with the program & a Sports t-shirt for each student. Please ensure this t-shirt is returned to school following the sports day for laundering purposes. We are looking forward to a wonderful day of participation, teamwork and school spirit!

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

A reminder that School Council nominations close today. If you are considering becoming involved in this important work within our school community, please ensure your nomination form is submitted to the office by the end of the day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Megan Murfitt



LORNE EXCURSION PHOTOS



WEEK 2 TERM 1 & PRINCIPAL AWARD

Junior – Sunny J & Leah

Senior – Maya & Archer

Principal – Loch & Willa



SENIOR ROOM NEWS

SENIOR ROOM UPDATES!

TRIP TO LORNE

We kicked off Week 3 with a trip down to Lorne. It was a wonderful day for the whole school to get together and explore the Lorne community. A big, big thank you to Nick & Kim for taking time to share their experiences and roles along the coast as Park Rangers and the importance of taking care of the land and the animals that inhabit it. The kids learnt about plovers and went on the hunt to find some eggs (if you look closely in the photos you'll see some very large plovers in the wild!!!). Next, we took a stroll over the swing bridge towards the Information Centre where we discovered how the Great Ocean Road was built. Before



leaving, the kids rolled down the hill to the park where they played a whole school game. We finished up with some yummy ice-cream 😊 Thank you to all involved for getting the excursion off the ground – we had a wonderful time.

BIKE ED

We have begun our first few sunny morning sessions of Bike Ed with Michelle. The seniors have had a great time learning more about the Bike ABCs, safety and testing their cycling skills. How lucky are we to live and work in such a beautiful place surrounded by some amazing bike legends (including the Forrest Kids).

CLASSROOM LEARNING

The seniors have had a wonderful start to their learning across all areas in the classroom. They are showing great growth-mindset as they set themselves up for success and challenge



themselves in their learning. We are continuing on with recount writing and our text 'Uncle Xbox'. In maths, they are building their number facts fluency and automation in multiplication and problem solving. Our inquiry topic this term is 'Identity' – the kids have been exploring this concept and the similarities and differences we each share. As we discover more about each-other we see how unique we each are and celebrate the differences we each bring to our classroom community. Alongside this, we have been learning how to sew to prepare for our own individual cushions. The seniors have learnt different stitches and are in the process of designing their own cushion to keep at school!

Lots of exciting learning opportunities in the senior

room and many more to come! We will continue on with Kitchen Garden next week and shortly, send our Somers Campers off on a new adventure!

JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

Flash back to Week 3 & 4 in the Junior room

An Excursion to Lorne

The Junior Room learners had a fantastic excursion to Lorne with the whole school. Nick and Kim shared fascinating insights about the Plovers that nest in the dunes and why it's so important we help protect this declining species. At the information centre, learners showed curiosity through questions about how the Great Ocean Road was built. The day wrapped up with a well-earned play at the park and a cool, delicious ice cream. The perfect end to a big day of learning and exploring!



Some mindfulness

The bigger people in the room reaped the benefits of sewing, refining those fine motor skills and experiencing a flow of focus.



Creating a safe environment

Clear classroom routines help learners feel, safe, calm and confident because they know what to expect throughout the day. When daily activities follow a regular pattern, learners spend less energy worrying about what will happen next and more energy on learning. Predictable routines also support smoother transitions and build independence.. Learners feel settled, capable, safe and ready to learn.

THE LIBRARY VAN VISITS THIS WEEK. PLEASE RETURN ANY BORROWED BOOKS.



Learning to write

Strong gross motor skills help with posture, and endurance, while fine motor skills allow precise control of a pencil for forming letters. The Preps are having fun with a mix of daily activities that build their motor skills while also practising writing letters the right way, from start to finish!



EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWS

These last two weeks have been such fun down in the kinder room, the children have been busy exploring concepts such as measurement and weight, extending their fine motor skills through painting, finger painting and glueing and enjoying the lovely new sandpit outside.

The children have all settled well into the kinder routine and have all begun to form beautiful friendships within the small group.

The children have been exploring Chinese New Year,

making lanterns and fingerprint dragons while also having a great time in the home corner which has proved to be a favourite among the group.

We are looking for any old adult-sized clothes for dress-ups that you may be wanting to get rid of, if you do, please drop them off to Di or Vicki.

The sandpit relocation is 100% complete with the roof completed and it looks amazing, opening up the yard giving us more space to run and explore.

Just a reminder that we will be closed on Friday March 6th for a Staff PD day.

Please remember to put lots of changes of clothes in your child's bag just in case.

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.

WELLBEING NEWS

The sandtray space has been moved and is taking shape in the Early Years Centre. As mentioned in the last newsletter sand tray therapy is a type of play therapy that offers children a chance to play out their emotions or built-up tension through creating their own unique sand world without the need to talk. They choose from a variety of toys, symbolic items and natural materials and can choose between wet and dry sand for different sensory needs or preferences. The tray is always blue to symbolise water and together with the sand they symbolise the therapeutic power of nature.

