

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

TERM 4

I am really looking forward to a greater sense of normality in Term Four. Whilst not everything will be the same as we will still be limited to what we can do in terms of community events such as assemblies, working bees and open mornings we are in a very fortunate part of the state. Over the break I spoke to many friends and family in Melbourne and they have not been afforded the freedoms we have in recent weeks and will continue to trail Regional Victoria with the easing of restrictions. We should be all very grateful to live where we do!

SCHOOL REVIEW

As was communicated throughout Term 3, Forrest Primary School and our Early Years Centre are going through a formal review process over the coming weeks. Whilst this entails a lot of additional work for our staff, we are really looking forward to the



feedback that comes our way to make Forrest an even better place to be.

PRINCIPAL SELECTION PROCESS

I will be staying at Forrest until at least the end of January. Between now and then there will be a formal selection process for the substantive Principal position at Forrest. This process is quite lengthy and we probably won't have an outcome until late in Term Four at the earliest. As soon as I can announce the outcome, I will communicate this with families.

PUPIL FREE DAY

A reminder that Monday the 1st of November is a Pupil Free Day with students not attending school. This is the day before Melbourne Cup Day. Staff will be engaging in professional learning and doing some forward planning for 2022.

ARBORIST WORKS

Over the holidays, we have had an arborist in

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

- 4 Start of Term 4
- 5 Art (MACC Visit)
- 6 SC Extraordinary Meeting @3.45pm
- 12 Library (MARC Visit)
- 19 Art (MACC Visit)
- 20 SC Meeting @ 3.45pm
- 26 Library (MARC Visit)

NOVEMBER

- 1 Student Free Day
- 2 Public Holiday Melb Cup
- 9 Art (MACC Visit)
- 17 SC Meeting @ 3.45pm

INDO CORNER:

Family – KELUARGA

Gran – NENEK

Grandpa – KAKEK

Mum – IBU

Dad – BAPAK

Aunty – BIBI

Uncle – PAMAN

Older Brother or Sister – KAKAK

Younger Brother or Sister – ADIK

to clear some vegetation in preparation for bushfire season. They have also done some landscaping work for us

as well. I will communicate some further messages about our emergency fire plans in the coming weeks.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The most recent school council meeting was held via WebEx, although this is not an ideal setting for 'smooth' discussion, we were still able to have a productive meeting.

Lee Kommissarov reported on the activities of the Early Years Centre. It has been a very challenging time for staff, carers and children with all onsite activities stopped due to the most recent lockdown. Staff have strived to keep connected with children via their Facebook page. Lee also reported preparation has begun on the transition process for the Kinder children into Foundation. I have always felt that due to our unique setting and the dedication and careful planning by our staff this is a process which puts minimal stress on the children starting school!

Rob reported on the exceptional response to the Parent/Carers and Community forum. There was a common thread in the feedback from people which is very helpful for planning the future direction of the School and Early Years Centre. People would like to see nature based

learning continue, community connections to be strengthened and a continued focus on upgrading the facilities and school environment.

School Councilors had questions for Rob regarding the Individual Education Plans to be implemented for each of our students by the end of this year. These plans will replace the student learning goals outlined on each student's end of semester report. Staff have undertaken training in preparation for developing these plans.

The vacant School Council Community Position has been filled by Byron a parent with children attending the Early Years Centre. We thank Byron Pakula for volunteering his time to School Council and look forward to him joining us at our next meeting.

Of course due to the current Covid situation our sub committees have not been able to be very active. The Buildings and Grounds have been able to organise the removal of some trees at the front of the school and it is planned to purchase some

plants to replant any which have died in the Cut flower and Wellness garden. At the request of the Finance Committee, School Council agreed to put funds raised from the sale of Waratah Flowers at the Forrest Shop towards subsidising the term 4 swimming program. Fingers crossed this important learning is able to go ahead.

The next meeting of School Council will be an Extraordinary Meeting. Brendan Bush, Senior Education Improvement Leader, will join us to brief us on the procedure for the selection of our new Principal.

I hope term 4 is an enjoyable time for everyone with minimal disruption from Covid restrictions. The social bonding and support between students and teachers is so important for everyone's wellbeing. On behalf of the whole school community, I thank Rob for organising a return to onsite learning for **all** our children.

Thanks so much,

Rose Sgro – School Council President

