

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,

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday and is feeling refreshed for the term ahead. It has been great to see everyone back at school, catching up with friends and settling back into their learning.

VALUES

As always, the first few weeks of term are about getting back into routines. We will be spending time revisiting our school values of **Respect, Kindness, Teamwork and Persistence** and making sure everyone understands our expectations in the classroom, in the playground and around the school. Taking the time to do this at the start of each term helps set everyone up for success.

TRIBES

This term we are also excited to restart our **TRIBES** program. TRIBES is a wonderful opportunity for students to work with children across the school, build



relationships and develop leadership and teamwork through shared activities. It is always a highlight of the week and I know our students have been looking forward to it.

SHARING CIRCLE

One of the biggest additions this term is our new **Forest Sharing Circle**. After a lot of planning and preparation, we are looking forward to lighting our first fire and using the space as another outdoor classroom.



Before that happens, every student will take part in learning about how we use the space safely and respectfully. We have developed some

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY

11th First Day Term 3
15th Library (MARC)
17th Earth Ed Incursion
22nd Art (MACC)
27th FPS Commonwealth Games
29th Parent Student Interviews
29th Library (MARC)

AUGUST

5th Art (MACC)
11th School Council @3.45pm
12th Library (MARC)
17th Earth Ed Excursion Grade 3&4
19th Art (MACC)
28th Book Week Parade

SEPTEMBER

7th Biolab Excursion Grade 5&6
15th School Council @3.45pm
17th Junior Room Sleepover



Students of the Week

simple agreements that students will discuss and sign. These cover how to behave around the fire, following staff instructions, respecting the space, caring for our kitchen garden and chickens and looking after each other.

Our aim isn't just to teach students how to use a fire pit safely. It's to help them understand that when we are trusted with something special, we also have a responsibility

to look after it. I have been really impressed with the way students have engaged in these discussions, and I am looking forward to seeing the Forest Sharing Circle become a place where students gather, learn and connect throughout the year.

I'm looking forward to another great term.

Kind regards, Megan Murfitt

STUDENT OF THE WEEK & PRINCIPAL AWARD (WEEK 1)

Principal Award – Oliver

Senior Room – Abigail

Junior Room - Audrey

Upcoming Birthdays

Ned



COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

Term three already! There's lots happening in the garden this term and we are gearing up for spring with lots of seeds being planted. The compost system is in full swing with new bins and the



motto 'there is no such thing as waste in the garden'. Plenty of oak leaves are feeding the compost and keeping us to the ideal recipe of 1 part greens (nitrogen rich) to 2-3 parts browns (carbon rich).

Two new no-dig beds are settling and will be ready for spring planting. Thank you for the cardboard donations to help build these beds. We can always use more cardboard, so please keep it coming if you have excess.



We have started a bush foods garden with two edible natives:

- Midyim Berry (*Austromyrtus dulcis*) which has sweet and slightly spiced white, purple-speckled berries; and
- Native Thyme or Cut-leaf Mint Bush (*Prostanthera incisa*) which is a highly aromatic shrub whose leaves and flowers can be used in cooking and teas.

We will add other edible natives to the garden and explore the flavours and uses.



The most exciting news is that we will be using the fire to cook in the kitchen garden sessions of Tribes on Fridays. The outdoor kitchen area has been refreshed and is ready to host the sessions. Liza and I are thrilled to be using the fire to explore cooking with the students in the outdoor classroom.

We would love a large wok to use on the fire – if you have a suitable, plastic free wok in need of a new home, please get in touch.

Freya

SENIOR ROOM NEWS

Welcome to Term 3 in the Senior Room. We had a wonderful return to school with lots of learning and getting back to classroom routines.

READING

In Term 3 we would like all students to make a bigger effort with the completion of nightly reading and returning of the diaries daily. In addition to monitoring home reading, it really does help our older students become better at organising their own learning and taking responsibility for their school resources and being accountable.



to complete work with a greater degree of independence and look after their own belongings. Part of this is to help them prepare for Year 7, which is fast looking around the corner and help the students become more successful and organised learners.

TRIBES

Building on our classroom values and also the tenets of the Resilience Project (Gratitude, Empathy and MIndulness)., It was very pleasing to see our older students working so well in our TRIBES groups. It always brings me such pride in our little school when we see excellent role modelling and care towards our younger students. Well done to all the Senior students!

SCIENCE

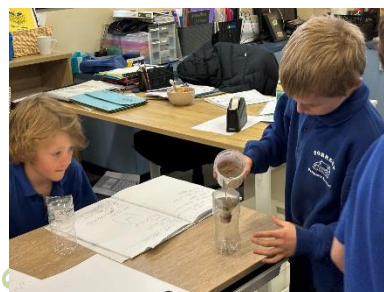
This week we had such wonderful scientific learning- In our own science class, the students made and observed 4 different filter types on a sample of dirty water. There was such a buzz of curiosity in the classroom and creative ideas on how to improve the investigation



next time. We look forward to building on these investigation skills this term. On Friday the Year3/4s joined with the very excellent students from Deans Marsh PS and together they developed coding skills using the dash robots. A very big thanks to the Earth Ed educators who provided excellent learning activities that were informative and so much fun!

Have a lovely week!

Kaz and Ella



LEARNING

In our class we complete our learning in various ways, mainly in two groups or whole group. The students are aware of their groupings and have made fabulous progress in being able to transition between groups or classrooms. In Term 3, our older level students are really encouraged

JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

Term 3 Week 1



Forrest Kids go Bush - Where learning comes naturally



Friday is, without question, my favourite day of the week.

It's the day we step away from the classroom walls and head into nature. It is the day our Forrest Kids Go Bush program reminds us that some of life's greatest lessons cannot be taught within four walls. They are discovered beneath the trees, amongst fallen branches, beside (or in) muddy puddles and under ever-changing skies.

Each week, Mother Nature becomes our classroom. She never teaches the same lesson twice.

As the seasons change, so do our experiences. Being outdoors nurtures learner's wellbeing in ways that are difficult to recreate indoors. The fresh air, movement, open spaces and connection to the natural world provide a sense of calm, curiosity and belonging that is simply magical to witness.



This week, before we even left school, the children were introduced to one simple word: discover.

We talked about what it means to discover something, to explore, question and learn something new.

Armed with nothing more than that word and their natural curiosity, every learner ventured out with a purpose.

While it may look like we are 'just playing', incredible learning is taking place.

Bush learning provides endless opportunities for developing language, mathematics, science and STEM thinking. Learners estimate distances, compare sizes, sort natural materials, identify patterns, observe changes, make predictions, test ideas and adapt their thinking. They ask questions, form theories and discover answers, not because someone has told them, but because they genuinely want to know. Sometimes we provide tools to support their investigations. Other times, nature reminds us that the best tools have been there all along. A sturdy stick becomes a digging tool, a measuring stick, a fishing rod or part of an elaborate construction. Hands become excavators, paintbrushes, measuring devices and problem-solving tools. The learner's imagination transforms ordinary objects into endless possibilities.



Perhaps the greatest gift of Forrest Kids Go Bush is that, for a little while each Friday, I stop being the expert in the room. Out there, the Juniors become MY teacher.

EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWS

Welcome to Term 3! We hope everyone had a lovely break, stayed warm and dry and are ready for more learning.

FORREST KIDS GO BUSH

Forrest Kinds Go Bush has been full of extra fun with the very big water holes that have appeared due to all this wonderful rain, and the children have been taking full advantage. Lots of running and jumping, sliding and smearing of the mud. This, happily for some and not so happily for others, creates lots of mess and provides children with valuable opportunities for sensory exploration, creativity, and hands-on learning. As they dig, mix, pour, and create, children strengthen their fine and gross motor skills, develop problem-solving abilities, build language through conversations with peers, and gain confidence as they explore the natural environment. Mud play also supports imagination, cooperation, and a strong connection with nature while promoting overall wellbeing. Please remember that Bush kinder on Fridays can get very cold, wet and muddy, especially in winter. **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.



KINDERGARTEN LEARNING

Returning to kindergarten has seen the children use a salad spinner to explore mixing the primary colours, watching as the spinning motion blended the paint to create new colours and unique patterns. This hands-on activity encouraged curiosity, creativity, and early scientific thinking while supporting fine motor skills and an understanding of cause and effect.

STAFF NEWS

Di has been completing some professional development both before and during the holiday break with some more last Friday. The First PD enables Di to support teachers in their Transition to Full Registration while the second supports Di and the staff to help children recognise Body Safety. Di is completing this training in partnership with the Apollo Bay Kindergarten, strengthening the network in our small area.

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

How beautiful is this patchwork! At the end of Term 2, students from the Junior and Senior Rooms worked alongside our Kindergarten children to design individual patchwork squares that represented their identity and uniqueness. The squares were then sewn together to create a beautiful collaborative artwork that celebrates the individuality and connection within our school community. It will be put on display in the school hallway shortly, please come in to have a look at the wonderfulness that your kiddos have created!



around mental health, our young people thrive. As part of our school partnership with The Resilience Project, families have access to the platforms 'Hub'. This Hub is designed to keep you in the loop, inspire everyday wellbeing practices

at home, and help strengthen the connection between what your child is learning in the classroom and how you support them in life.

Families don't need a log in, you can access via the following link below:

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/family-hub-1/>

Please see Ella if you have any questions or need support gaining access to the hub 😊



THE RESILIENCE PROJECT FAMILY HUB!

We know that when schools, families and communities speak the same language

COMMUNITY NEWS

CHEESE MAKING WITH BARRY

Sunday 26th July @ the Forrest Hall from 10am-5pm.
Bookings are essential.
Half day workshop \$100
Full day \$200

Learn how to make up to 11 different cheeses from scratch!

Tickets are subsidised by the F&DNH with generous support from the Victorian State Government- Community Food Security Program

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1992033450675?aff=oddtcreator>


msp
photography
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www.msp.com.au

MSP Photography has recently photographed Forrest Primary School's Whole School photo.

1. Simply scan the QR code or click the [link](#) and enter the password: JQ4R6X94
2. Upload a photo: Choose a clear photo of your child's face only (no one else in the picture, please).
3. Place your order: Follow the steps to complete your order.



These must be ordered before midnight on Monday 31 August. The cost of each print is \$28. All orders placed before the 31 August will be delivered to the school. If you miss the ordering deadline, please contact us via phone or email.

**LIFE IS
EASIER
WITH MSP**

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