

# Forest Focus

Term 4 Week 2, 24 October 2019

## Principal's Message

### What's happening at school?

- ✓ Check the school calendar on the app or website
- ✓ Read the notes via the app or email on a Thursday
- ✓ Read the Forest Focus (every second week)

### Remember...

Monday 28 October	P&C AGM 7.30 in the staffroom
Thursday 31 October	Eagletag Gala Day Years 3-6
Wednesday 6 November	State Athletics
	Kindy 2020 Transition 1
Thursday 7 November	State Athletics
	School chess competition

### Looking to 2020

As term 4 slips by quickly we are starting to plan for 2020 and I would like to share a few thoughts with parents. As we end a decade it's a great time to reflect – I have been at FFPS for 10 years now and that time has just flown. I see a small, caring school that has continued to flourish both in our academics and in our wellbeing programs.

Our recent NAPLAN results were outstanding sitting us well above state (as we should be) and seeing the majority of children fall into the top bands in all areas of testing. Our wellbeing programs run across the school as teachers and children share common language and understandings. The advantage to a small school is felt in wellbeing as teachers know and build relationships with all the children K-6.

Student numbers over the last 3 years have dropped a little but next year we are beginning to see an increase as we have more new families enrolling for kindy. We are also seeing a small increase in numbers across other grades as we welcome families who are moving to the Forest area to work at the new hospital.

I do think the recent building and traffic impacted on our enrolments as new families headed away from this area. Uncertainty around zoning may have had an impact as well. Hopefully we are moving into 2020 with a bit more certainty and a lot less road building.

In 2020 we will continue to prioritise literacy and numeracy in all classrooms. This ongoing focus is what has ensured our high achievements in reading in both NAPLAN assessments and our internal PAT (reading comprehension) assessments. We will continue to use our new Stepping Stones maths program as we have seen greater student engagement this year in mathematics.

We will also maintain our focus on academic excellence in other Key Learning Areas whilst we ensure all our children are known, valued and cared for.

### **Workshops**

If you are interested in helping with workshops in week 9 (week starting 9 December) and maybe have a great idea for workshops please contact Matt Philips at [matthew.philips@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:matthew.philips@det.nsw.edu.au). We would love this to be a community event.

### **Surf lifesaving**

The surf lifesaving team are seeking permission to take photos at the school surf safety talks to possibly add to their newsletter "The Shore Break" If you do not give permission please email MJ Broomfield at [mary-jane.peel@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mary-jane.peel@det.nsw.edu.au).

### **Long service leave**

I will be taking 2 weeks leave and will be leaving the school in the most capable hands of MJ Broomfield and Kylie Davidson whilst I am away. Please email MJ [mary-jane.peel@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mary-jane.peel@det.nsw.edu.au) or Kylie [kylie.davidson3@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kylie.davidson3@det.nsw.edu.au) with any concerns you may have during my absence.

**Gail Smith**

Principal

## ***Respectful Responsible Learner***

The focus for this fortnight is: I am kind to others

## ***Assembly Award Winners***

**Term 3 Week 10 and Term 4 Week 1**

### **SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Kate N, Jessica C, Noah Z, Lachlan M, Isaac T, Hunter W

### **GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Eleanor A-D, Ethan M, Oliver H

## ***Administration News***

### **Planning for 2020**

If you have had a change of circumstance and will not be at FFPS next year please notify the office as soon as possible to help with our 2020 planning.

## Kindergarten 2020

If you have a child starting kindergarten next year please hand your enrolment information into the school office. Our transition programme starts on Wednesday 6 November.

## P & C News



### **President's Report**

[ffpspandcpresident@gmail.com](mailto:ffpspandcpresident@gmail.com)

### **Special Invitation - P&C AGM at 7.30pm on 28 October**

At FFPS P&C our sole purpose is to benefit ALL children who attend our school. As a school community we want to enable every child to become the best they can be. To this end we fundraise for additional rich literature and technology resources as tools for teachers to engage young minds in core learning. We strive to foster community and belonging involving family through the discos and events. We also work to provide many extracurricular benefits that are not always readily found outside of school, like a safe place to practice money skills at canteen, hands on green space in garden club, access to the many benefits of music with the band and the family friendly uniform shop.

Your P&C is run by volunteers specifically so that every possible cent goes to the students. Without our amazing volunteers nothing mentioned above would be possible.

As we move into term 4, I invite you to our Annual General Meeting. The meeting will formally thank all our volunteers for the past year in review and vote in role holders for the upcoming year. (always followed by some great food to celebrate!)

- If you have volunteered in any capacity over the past year – perhaps an hour at a BBQ, a shift in the canteen or uniform shop... I encourage you to join us.
- If you can contribute approximately an hour of your time each week (can be after hours), I encourage you to consider nominating for a role. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, carers - all welcome. We currently desperately need Treasury/Bookkeeping and Fundraising Volunteers.
- The P&C meets on Monday of week 3 and week 8 each term at 7.30pm in the staffroom. You do not need to hold a role to attend, in fact community input is key to the best decisions.
- Have less time? You can still be a valued member of the team. There are many ways to contribute.

If you would like role descriptions or any other information, please don't hesitate to email or approach me in the playground. Hope to see you all at the AGM.

**Julie Figgis**

P&C President



## **Canteen**

[ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com](mailto:ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com)

Thank you to all the families who have moved to School24. The transition has gone really smoothly.

There are still plenty of shifts available this term, particularly on Fridays, so if you would like to help for a couple of hours in the morning or afternoon, please contact Claire on [ffpspandccanteenroster@gmail.com](mailto:ffpspandccanteenroster@gmail.com).

**Charlotte Nash**

Canteen Convenor



**Frenchs Forest Public School**

Young Minds Bright Futures

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