

Forest Focus

Term 1 Week 2, 7 February 2018

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...

Friday 8 February	Assembly at 2pm in the assembly hall – all welcome
Monday 11 February	P&C meeting at 7.30pm in the staffroom – please enter through the shopping centre gates
Tuesday 12 February	Meet the teacher evening
Friday 22 February	Eagle Tag competition (for years 3-6) begins

2019 class organisation

Classes will be organised in three teams as follows:

KH	Miss Lisa Huwaidi
KM	Mr Matt McCarron
1F	Miss Rachel Florence
1/2P	Mr Matthew Philips
2S	Mrs Frances Separovich (Assistant Principal and team leader)

2/3W	Mrs Kathryn Wickham
3M	Mrs Lauren Morton
4B	Mrs MJ Broomfield (Assistant Principal and team leader)

4/5R	Miss Shelby Ryder
5/6D	Mrs Liz Davies
6B	Mrs Kylie Davidson (Assistant Principal and team leader)

Science	Mrs Aleen Sarkissian
Music	Mrs Fiona Davy
Learning Support	Mrs Sara Steiner
Library	Mrs Nicola Brandt
School Counsellor	Mrs Sarah Jackson
Administrative Manager	Mrs Linda Lyell
Administrative Officers	Mrs Annie Peake and Mrs Judy Wilkinson
School Learning Support	Jane McConnell
General Assistant	Mr Steven Condon

Student Leaders 2019

School Captains

Owen Moulds and Kayla Burrow

School Vice-captains

Owen Bridger and Kate Naylor

Acacia House Captains

Charlotte Butt and Khylih Gray

Banksia House Captains

Zach Triggell and Toby Vilnis

Casuarina House Captains

Meisha Dunstone and Emma Mathieson

Eucalypt House Captains

Ben Postma and Bryan Wu

Meet the teacher

Parents are encouraged to attend the meet the teacher session next Tuesday 12 February.

Kindergarten parents will meet in the kindy classrooms at **4.30pm**

1F, 1/2P and 2S will meet in the library at **4.30pm** then move to classrooms after a brief chat.

2/3W, 3M and 4B will meet in classrooms at **5.00pm**

4/5R, 5/6D and 5/6E will begin in classrooms at **5.30pm** then move to grade meetings (as per separate note sent out this week)

Please note there will be no supervision in the playground for children and there will not be time for individual parent chats. Parents are asked to make a time to chat to the teacher at a mutually convenient time. All teacher emails were sent out on Skoolbag in week 1.

Swimming carnival

A huge thank you to the parents who came along and tirelessly helped us run a great swimming carnival last Friday. The weather was kind and we saw some fabulous swimming, a broken record (Amelia D 50m freestyle), and exuberant cheering! Entry forms for the zone carnival will come through shortly and we will let the children know who will be representing FFPS at the zone. The date for the zone carnival is Monday 4 March.





Colourful fun at the Swimming Carnival

Assembly

Our first school assembly for 2019 will be on Friday 8 February at 2pm in the hall. Parents and friends are warmly invited to join us for assemblies.

Every term we hold a **special awards assembly**. This is an opportunity to present special certificates and sporting awards. Allocating dates will give parents an opportunity to plan their schedules to attend these special presentations. Please set aside the following dates for the *special awards assemblies*:

Term 1	Friday 5 April at 2pm
Term 2	Friday 28 June at 2pm
Term 3	Friday 20 September at 2pm
Term 4	Friday 29 November at 2pm (including kindy graduation)

Student with allergies

Please note that we have students with severe allergies to nuts at school this year **across most grades**. I am requesting students not to bring nuts or nut butters to school. I appreciate parents' support in keeping all our children safe and well.

Celebrating birthdays at school

There are two preferred options for celebrating children's birthdays at school. The first is to pre-order frozos from the canteen. This can be done by contacting Charlotte Nash through the P&C canteen email ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com.au giving 48 hours notice please. The frozos will be delivered to the classroom at lunchtime for the children to enjoy. The second option is to bring ice-blocks to school at 3.10pm. We ask that lollies and cakes are not brought to school as they do not fit within our school and P&C healthy eating strategy. For more information on the healthy eating strategy please see the canteen information on the school website.

Learning support and enrichment

Learning support and enrichment will begin shortly. Letters will come home to confirm student places in these groups.

Extra-curricular opportunities

Frenchs Forest School offers many extra-curricular opportunities for students. We aim to provide a stimulating school environment where all children can explore and develop interests and passions. An overview of extra-curricular opportunities will be sent as a separate note next week.

Gail Smith
Principal

Respectful Responsible Learner

The focus for this term is: Respect

School News

Wrapper Free Thursday

At FFPS we promote caring for our environment through our responsible actions. This term the children will continue learning about how to care for the environment by reducing their waste at school. Each Thursday we will be having a wrapper free food day where all children across the school aim to bring their recess and lunch without any wrapper waste. We ask you assist your child with this task. Thank you kindly for your support with this project.

Administration News

Student Absences

If your child is absent from school please inform the school as soon as possible (within 7 days). This may be done easily on the school app (go to eForms), by sending an email to the class teacher, telephoning the school office or by written note. If your child is late please accompany them to the office to collect a late note or if you are collecting them early please come to the office where we will organise for your child to meet you.

Correspondence

All permission notes, money, written correspondence to the Principal or teachers need to be placed in the silver letterbox in the office foyer. Please do not hand notes or money to teachers.

LRC News

I am very excited to be taking on the role of teacher/librarian at Frenchs Forest this year. I have always loved reading books with the classes that I have taught and now I will be able to share that enjoyment across the whole school. I am committed to encouraging all of the students at our school to read widely and to develop a love of reading that will last throughout their lives.

During library sessions I will be introducing the students to new books as well as a few old favourites. I am also excited to let you know that we will have a visit to our school from a famous author later on in the year.

All the students will visit the library as part of their lesson time this year but it will also be open before and after school for parents to have the opportunity to join their children to browse, borrow and read together. For Term 1 the library will be open on Wednesday mornings 8.40-9.10 and Thursday afternoons 3.10-3.30. I look forward to seeing you in the library soon.

Nicola Brandt

Teacher/Librarian

P & C News



Please join us on Monday 11 February at 7.30pm in the staffroom for a brief P&C meeting. Entry is through the shopping centre gate.

We have a strong supportive group of parents who give up their time to enhance the school services by running the canteen, uniform shop, kitchen gardens, band programs and fundraising. We meet twice a term in weeks 3 and 8 at 7.30pm and try to keep the meetings short. The principal and some teachers attend the meetings and give a brief report.

We are currently looking for a president, vice-president and treasurer so we can run our meetings and P&C effectively. If you are interested in finding out more about these roles please have a look at our website where there are detailed role descriptions, contact emails and policies.

<https://frenchsfor-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/supporting-our-students/parents--carers-and-the-community/parents-and-citizens-association-.html>

The roles can be shared to make life a bit easier if you can find a friend who is interested. Come along on Monday evening where I will chair a short meeting with reports from the canteen, band and environment committee. We will also accept any nominations for the vacant positions at this meeting.

Gail Smith

Principal



Canteen

ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com

Please remember to change you children's classes on School24.

Please note that goujons are now \$2.50.

We are always ready to welcome new volunteers to the canteen. Please contact our roster co-ordinator on ffpspandccanteenroster@gmail.com if you can help for a morning shift (9.10-11.50am) or afternoon (11.50am-2pm) or all day. We would love to see you!

Please note: We are moving to being completely online for lunch orders – If you aren't already on School24, please follow these instructions to register: www.school24.com.au

Click '**Login/Register**'

Select '**Create Account**'

Enter our school registration ID # **2517963** and your details.

Select '**Sign up**'.

Charlotte Nash

Canteen Convenor



Band

ffpsband@gmail.com

A warm (literally) welcome back to all our musical students and families. We hope you had a wonderful, restful break and are ready to create some new and exciting music.

What happened over the break?

After school had finished for the year, your band directors jumped on a plane and headed to the Chicago Midwest Conference. The conference is an annual gathering of band directors, conductors, musicians, students, lecturers and instruments galore. This year there were over 18000 attendees from all over the world including your Frenchs Forest conductors.

They started each day with a walk around the football field-sized exhibition hall where they tried instruments, searched for music and met the performing musicians. Afterwards they attended clinics on conducting and repertoire. Their favourite clinic was directed by Michael Sweeney who many of you would know as the composer of Celtic Air and Dance which the Performance Band played at the end of last year. They came away from the conference with a wealth of knowledge and inspiration for the coming year - and a very large suitcase full of new repertoire! Very exciting.

Also – a good proportion of our hire instruments enjoyed a well-earned service, while some were retired and new instruments purchased. Hire instruments have been redistributed to Intermediate and Performance Band students this week.

What's happening next?

Instrument handout day is this Sunday 10 February at 2pm in the school hall. Please try to ensure you can attend with your child as we have engaged professional tutors to assist with familiarising them with their instrument.

Training Band starts next week on Tuesday / Thursday mornings. Please refer to your Band Handbook for details.

Congratulations to Lucinda T (clarinet) and Edie D (tenor sax) on their successful auditions to play with the Arts Alive Combined Primary School Band this year. This will provide a platform for them to play and perform at the highest level with students from other government schools at venues such as the Sydney Opera House and Town Hall.

Date for your diary – First Committee Meeting – Wednesday 20 February 7.30 pm in the bandroom

We will be calling on volunteers to fill the following roles this year:

1. Fundraising
2. Band Co-ordinator for each band.

Thank you to Nicole Quirk who has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate instruments and maintain the register. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sally Postma and Diana Turner
Band Convenors

PRINCIPAL
Ms Rosemary McDowall
BA, Dip Ed, B.Ed



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Ms Cathryn Thompson B.Ed
Mr Mathew Finley B.Ed

THE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL – GATS TEST, OPEN NIGHT & MEET THE PRINCIPAL DATES

The Forest High School will be holding our GATS (General Achievement) Test on the following date:

Saturday 9th March from 9.00am to 11.30am

Testing will take place in the school hall. If you are unable to attend on this date a reserve session will also be held on Monday 11th March from 4.00pm to 6.30pm

Students wishing to be placed in our Gifted and Talented class for Year 7 2020 must first sit for this test. The Year 7 G&T class for Year 7 2020 will be determined after close examination of the test results and the students' NAPLAN results from Year 5. The cost of the test is \$40.00, payable on the day in cash only. Students are to bring a 2B or B pencil, an eraser and a ruler. No calculators or dictionaries can be used.

The test consists of three parts:

Part 1 – Mathematics – 40 multiple-choice questions

Part 2 – Reading and Language – 40 multiple-choice questions

Part 3 – One writing task

Students are requested to arrive at The Forest High School by 8.45am for a 9.00am start or by 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start. They are also requested to bring a copy of their NAPLAN results on the day of the test. If you would like your child to sit for this test please ring The Forest High School on 9451 5111 to register. Please register by Friday 1st March.

OPEN NIGHT – Wednesday 6th March 2019 from 5.30pm to 8.00pm

Parents and students are invited to attend The Forest High School Open Night

The evening includes an address from the Principal & School Captains; displays & activities from each faculty; school tours; music, dance & drama performances; teachers & parents will be available to answer questions.

MEET THE PRINCIPAL – dates for 2019

Our informal Meet The Principal sessions give parents and students who are interested in coming to The Forest High School the opportunity to meet with our Principal Ms Rosemary McDowall, have a school tour and ask any questions you may have about The Forest High School and starting high school.

Call the School Office on 9451 5111 to book a place or just come to the School Office at 9am on the day

Monday 18th February – 9am

Monday 18th March – 9am

Monday 13th May – 9am

Monday 5th August – 9am

Monday 28th October – 9am

135 Frenchs Forest Road, Frenchs Forest NSW 2086 Phone: 02 9451 5111 Fax: 02 9975 3293
www.theforest-h.schools.nsw.edu.au



Frenchs Forest Public School

Young Minds Bright Futures

Ann Street Frenchs Forest 2086 **Phone:** 02 9451 6353 **Fax:** 02 9975 3082
Email: frenchsfor-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au **Web:** <http://www.frenchsfor-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>