

# Forest Focus

Term 1 Week 4, 21 February 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...

Friday 22 February	Eagle Tag competition (for years 3-6) begins Scripture and Ethics begin
Wednesday 27 February	Debating incursion
Monday 4 March	Zone Swimming Carnival

### Sport for years 3-6

Friday mornings are set aside for sport in Years 3-6. Students in Years 3-6 are eligible to try out for interschool Eagle Tag competition teams. This is an optional 'parent pay' activity. Students not involved in the competition participate in school sport on a Friday morning. This term we have engaged Northern Beaches Oz Tag to run skill sessions for our Year 3-6 children on a Friday morning. The cost of this activity is funded by the Sports in Schools Grant. Children involved in school sport are asked to wear their house coloured t-shirt (available at the uniform shop).

### Sport for years K-2

Children in years K-2 will be participating in fundamental movement skills (PE) and personal development (PD) on a Thursday afternoon. Children are asked to wear their house coloured t-shirt on a Thursday (available at the uniform shop).

### Dance for K-6

On Mondays our sport company *Dance Fever Multi Sport* will be running the children through their 'dance moves' in the hall. All children should wear full school sports uniform for dance.

### Mathematics enrichment

The maths enrichment group at Frenchs Forest has been established to challenge high performing students with problem solving and mathematical thinking beyond their regular curriculum. Students in years 4-6 may be selected for the group primarily on the basis of their performance in class, with assessment results and teachers input carefully analysed to determine the final grouping. Students who have been selected will receive a letter home inviting them to participate. Lessons generally take place at the same time as class maths

lessons so that students do not miss out on learning in other areas of the curriculum. The number of students in the group is capped to ensure the aims of the group can be met, with a smaller teacher-student ratio allowing for more in depth discussions and a higher level of teacher support. Students in the group participate in competitions to challenge and engage them throughout the year, including the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC), the Computational and Algorithmic Thinking assessment (CAT) and the Australian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO). The group is determined early in Term 1 each year, though where necessary, students may be added or removed from the group if deemed necessary to better support their learning in mathematics.

### **Learning support**

At Frenchs Forest School our learning and support team focuses on the wellbeing of all children. One role of the team is to work with teachers and parents to identify children with additional learning needs and ensure that their educational needs are being addressed. Over the last 4 weeks Mrs Steiner has been assessing all children in years 1 and 2 with the MinLit reading assessment to determine which children would benefit from some intensive small group intervention in reading. MiniLit is a special teaching program designed for children in years 1 and 2 who are struggling with reading; intervention early is the best way to stop reading problems from becoming more established. Parents are asked to support this program by continuing to read with their child every day.

MacqLit is a special teaching program designed for children in years 3 and above who need some help with reading. The program teaches children how to read and spell words using appropriate strategies. Parents are asked to support this program by continuing to listen to their child read every day.

### **Reading loggers**

Mrs Brandt, our teacher librarian, will be running a program to support children in years 3-6 with their reading and comprehension. Mrs Brandt will meet with small groups of children where they will be able to share their reading with each other. Mrs Brandt will also be able to guide children's reading choices and help with any questions they have about their books. Parents support this program by ensuring children read at home on a regular basis. Teachers have nominated children for this program however, I would be interested to hear from any parents who feel their children would benefit from being involved. Please email [gail.margaret.smith@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gail.margaret.smith@det.nsw.edu.au)

### **P&C update**

Thank you to everyone who attended our first meeting for 2019. I am delighted to welcome Julie Figgis and Katie Austin to the role of vice-president (joint) and Seema Sriram to the role of uniform shop convenor. We are still desperately seeking a treasurer. Please consider supporting your school in this vital role. The P&C cannot actually run without a treasurer.

### **Thought you would like to know...**

Our Oz Tag teacher and one of our regular casual teachers commented to me last week how beautifully behaved the children at Frenchs Forest School are and how respectful they are to teachers and each other....made my day!

Wondering something, have a great idea or just want to say well done? Use the link to submit your response. <https://goo.gl/forms/AO8xovhVp9tZ28EY2>

**Gail Smith**  
Principal

## ***Respectful Responsible Learner***

The focus for this term is: Respect

## ***Assembly Award Winners***

### **Term 1 Weeks 2 & 3**

<b>SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS</b>
Tomas L, Lucinda T, Thomas B, Edie D

## ***Administration News***

### **Term Accounts**

Statements of Account were today emailed to all families. If you have not received the account, please contact the office. Due to the format of the account, the Voluntary DGR is not included in the account but appears below the total cost. This voluntary tax deductible contribution is kept at a minimal fee per student. The funding is used in the school Learning Resource Centre to purchase new literature, research resources and upgrade technology for the library. Any voluntary tax deductible contribution is greatly appreciated by the staff and students.

For our new families, payment can be made via POP (payment on line system), cash, cheque and credit card in person. If you do not access the link attached to the account, it can still be paid via "POP" on the school website marked as "MAKE A PAYMENT".

**Linda Lyell**

Administrative Manager

## ***P & C News***



### ***Vice President's Report***

[ffpspandcvicepresident1@gmail.com](mailto:ffpspandcvicepresident1@gmail.com)

A BIG thank you to those who attended our first P&C meeting of the year. We had a very productive hour and, as a team, we look forward to the year ahead. We are still short a President, Treasurer and Fundraising Co-ordinator. The P&C cannot operate without these crucial roles and the important work the P&C volunteers do for the school will not be able to continue. So please, grab a friend, come talk to us about what's involved knowing you will be warmly welcomed and supported.

Our P&C has made a long-standing promise to the school of annual funding for a short list of specific items. This list was put together and voted in by you – our parents and community - with the single purpose of providing our children access to better resources and more opportunities than they would have otherwise. Top two items on the list are \$5k Literature and \$5k Technology

(full list on the school website) All up, our commitment is \$13k for the year. We fundraise to meet this commitment and can only achieve this with participation and support from our school community.

As we are missing a Fundraising Co-ordinator, we are asking for anyone (or group) able to volunteer to co-ordinate a BBQ and Cake stall at the school during the 23 March State Election. We will also need as many people as possible to join us and support with donations of goodies to sell, ingredients to cook, or an hour of your time to man the BBQ or stall on the day. Many hands make light work. But why?? (no, it's not just because we want a bacon and egg roll while we queue...) Historically the election day stalls can raise a 1/4 of our financial promise made to the school! One day = children benefit all year!

Please feel welcome to reach out for information on any of the vacant roles or if you're keen to be involved with P&C work in a less official capacity.

**Julie Figgis & Katie Austin**  
P&C Vice Presidents



## **Canteen**

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

You can now order Birthday Frozos through School24 – log in and place an order as you would normally – select frozos and the quantity required. You can contact [ffspandccanteen@gmail.com](mailto:ffspandccanteen@gmail.com) to find out the number of children in the class. Once you have placed your order, please could you let your child's teacher know that they need to remind your child to collect frozos from the Canteen.

We are always ready to welcome new volunteers to the canteen. Please contact our roster co-ordinator on [ffspandccanteenroster@gmail.com](mailto:ffspandccanteenroster@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](http://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



## **Uniform Shop**

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

A warm welcome back to all our families and we hope you have settled in for Term 1. Some important messages from your P&C team at the uniform shop...

**\*\*\*New Uniform Shop Convener\*\*\***

We would like to warmly welcome Seema Sriram into the role of Uniform Shop Convener for the P&C. Seema, one of our year 5 parents, will be taking on the role effective immediately. This is my last focus note so I would like to take the opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to all the families and parents who have volunteered and donated to the shop over the past five or so years.

**\*\*\*Polar Fleece Order Form\*\*\* - due Thursday March 14**

This week you will receive the order form for our once a year order for the polar fleece, a warm jacket for use in the cooler months. This year the price remains at \$48.

We have a sample of the fleece at the uniform shop if you would like to see it and we will organise for one to be available in the kindy classroom for the new kindy families to look at.

**\*\*\*Opening hours and advised closures for Term 1 2019\*\*\***

The Uniform Shop will be open on **Fridays** this term, from **8:30am to 9:30am**.

Please note that we will be **closed on March 8 and April 5** for stocktake. Please note that silver letter box orders will still be filled on April 5 but not March 8 as the shop will not be staffed.

**\*\*\*Second Hand Uniforms\*\*\***

We are always very happy to receive donations that are in good enough condition for other families to purchase. Please ensure they are clean and are actually uniform items. Please bring them to the shop on Friday mornings or leave them with the office.

We currently have a lot of great second hand stock, especially winter tunics and polar fleeces. So please pop in if you are looking for a great deal as all second hand stock is sold at half the original sale price.

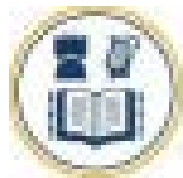
Lastly, your Uniform Shop is run by the P&C and is staffed with volunteers. We are always looking for helpers. If you are able to help, one or two Friday mornings a term for one hour or as much as you can manage, it would be greatly appreciated! Younger siblings are always welcome too – we have a play corner with toys! If you are interested, please contact Seema Sriram via our email [ffpspandcuniform@gmail.com](mailto:ffpspandcuniform@gmail.com).

If you are not able to get to the shop on a Friday you can complete an order form which is available from the office or download from our FFPS website and place it in the silver box in the school office foyer. Orders are filled each Friday and can be sent to your child's classroom or available for collection at the office.

Signing off for the last time, I'll see you in the playground and take care.

**Deb Hishon**

P&C Uniform Shop Convener



**Killarney Heights  
High School  
Open Night  
Monday 11th March 2019  
5.00pm – 8.00pm  
Official Welcome by the Principal in Hall, 5.15pm**

- ☐ **An excellent academic reputation – Top comprehensive school in NSW for Advanced English, 4 students above ATAR of 99 in 2018**
- ☐ **Wide extra-curricular programs – debating, science club, robotics club, chess club, Duke of Edinburgh**
- ☐ **A strong art/performance focus with concert bands, jazz bands chamber ensemble, choir, homework club, dance ensemble and sports programs**
- ☐ **Caring welfare structure, strong discipline and school uniform**
- ☐ **Languages – French, Chinese and Japanese**

**EXTENSION CLASS PLACEMENT TEST FOR 2020**

**Tuesday 26th March 2019**

**4.00pm – 6.30pm In the School Hall**

**Year 6 students entry tests for our academically selective class Reserve your place by**

**Thursday 14th March 2019**

**For more information contact Lesley Fenn**

**Phone 9451 7005**

**Email: [killarney-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:killarney-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)**

**Website [www.khhs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.khhs.nsw.edu.au)**

**ALL ENROLMENT ENQUIRIES WELCOME**



**Frenchs Forest Public School**

**Young Minds Bright Futures**

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