



Forrestfield Primary School Newsletter



Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

Term 1 seems to be flying by and I am currently getting things organised to commence my Long Service Leave in Term 2. Mrs Maria Cook will be Principal and Mrs Mason will continue as Deputy Principal. Mrs Caddy is currently reducing her teaching time in Room 2 as she prepares to take Maternity Leave. Mrs Pania Reynolds will be the full time teacher in Room 2 and Mrs Fowler will be teaching full time Room 4. I will keep you all informed of further staff changes in our final newsletter for the term.

Mr Gear has commenced his **garden classes**. Each week all classes have a thirty minute garden session and then return to class to brainstorm all the wonderful things that have done and write about it with their teachers. Our garden program is a rich source of language, science and maths activities as well as teaching children to care for their environment (sustainability), co-operate and work as a team. We hope you enjoy Room 1's garden feature in this week's



newsletter.

Over the last few weeks all children have also enjoyed the delicious rockmelon and watermelon that we have grown. A big thank you to our Year 7 students who have helped during morning tea and lunchtime.

Our school is pleased to host **Pre Service teachers from Edith Cowan University** over the next few weeks. A warm Forrestfield welcome to;

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

21	Parent Newsletter Staff Meeting 3.15pm SERCUL Incursion
22	Camp Quality Puppets Incursion
27	School Council Meeting 2.00pm
28	Room 4 Parent TED Assembly P&C AGM following the assembly
30	Summer Lightning Carnival

APRIL

4	ANZAC DAY SERVICE Parent Newsletter
5	Easter Bonnet Parade Last Day of Term 1
6	GOOD FRIDAY
Term 2 starts for Students <u>Thursday 26th April</u>	

- Mrs Charlotte Jones—Room 13
- Miss Cathy Young—Room 4
- Miss Danae Watkins—Room 9
- Miss Daniella Broude—Room 1

This week, parents of children in Years 3, 5 and 7 will be receiving a **NAPLAN Parent Information Pamphlet**. NAPLAN testing will take place 15th May to 17th May.

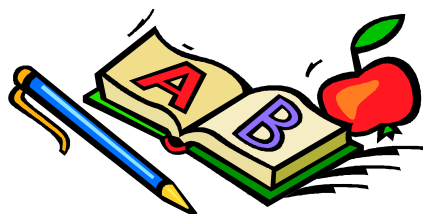
Our thanks to parents who have returned the P&C Meeting survey. Your feedback has provided lots of information which we will use to schedule future P&C Meetings. The **P&C AGM** will be held on Wednesday 28th March following the Room 4 TED assembly. I urge you to stay for the meeting and support your P&C.

Diane Greenaway - PRINCIPAL

FOCUS ON ATTENDANCE

Did you know? That for a child to be deemed to have regular attendance they must be at school in excess of 90% of the time. Factors that commonly affect a your child's attendance are:

- Illness
- Bereavement
- Medical Appointments
- Lateness
- Family Vacation.



Missing time from school, even short periods can have a lasting impact on a child's education and make it very hard to "catch up".

Students should be in a routine of attending school on a regular basis from an early age. It becomes very easy to fall into a pattern of regularly missing a day from school each week or fortnight. Unfortunately it is not always as easy to break this habit.

Students late to school on a regular basis do end up losing significant portions of critical learning time. When this lateness continues for extended periods this time adds up very quickly indeed.

It is important to ensure that your child attends school regularly and only misses days for legally legitimate reasons.

LITERACY NEWS

Literacy..... being at home...talking and reading at home with your children can be a fun, learning, shared experience.

If your children are mispronouncing words in their reading or their speech, when correcting them make the connection that their spelling and writing can be affected by using words incorrectly.

Encouraging children to think and talk about the books they are reading, and to make connections with their own, others or their family's experiences, broadens their comprehension.

"Remember when"... "This book makes me think of..." "I know how he feels".... helps children begin to visualize, to interpret, to "read between the lines", to be able to understand what is being inferred.

These skills are very important aspects of comprehension which you can help your children attain in the time you share with them.

If your children are very young, talk about things they've done, places they've been, how they interpret book illustrations, ask what a story was about, or what they've seen on T.V. Help them expand their oral language.

Make it fun!!



Leone Schreuders (Literacy Co-ordinator)

STUDENT ASSEMBLY 14TH MARCH 2012

Students, parents and friends enjoyed our Student Assembly last week.

The highlight of the Assembly was the whole school singing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight", from the Lion King. Everyone joined in the singing with much enthusiasm gusto—Well Done!

Congratulations to all our Birthday People and Honour Certificate winners this week.

Please join us at our Parent TED Assembly next Wednesday

28th March at 8.45am. Room 4 will presenting their class item. ALL WELCOME

Honour Certificates

Rm 1	Yosouf Juma, Calib MacArthur
Rm2	Jordan Woods, Zachary Purtle
Rm 4	Trinity Stacey, Dylan Cato
Rm 9	Jayden Cugini, Shenali Rodrigo
Rm12	Halle-Rose Abraham, Paraeo McRae
Rm 13	Ella McIntosh, Sean Mandizuidza
MUSIC	Mary Solimen, Ari Tilli

GARDEN CLASSES by Chelsea Batty

Today after Italian we went to the garden. After we got told what needed to be done, we divided into groups under the direction of Mr Batory. We planted out seedlings. There was a variety of silverbeet, lettuce, beetroot and others.

There were also two groups that barrowed bags of soil improver and sheep manure and then spread, dug in, raked and watered for readiness for planting seedlings. Another group sorted our worm castings from the worms with Mrs Jeffries.

We cleaned out the chook pen by raking and replacing the straw. We then fed them. The last group was spreading mulch onto the ground.

After a hardworking afternoon, we had achieved a lot more than we thought we would. Mr Gear was rapt about how much we had accomplished.



WHO OR WHAT IS A SCHOOL CHAPLAIN?

Here is a reminder (or if you are new to Forrestfield Primary, an introduction) about your local school resource, the School Chaplain. My name is Paul Johnston, and I have been involved here in our school community for nearly four years now. As part of the team of people who support the children, parents and carers in our learning community at Forrestfield PS, I have a unique role, being an invited guest in the school, employed outside of the main education department bureaucracy. This means that I am able to be a neutral and available supporter of all members of our school community, from the Principal right through to the youngest children in our kindy.

Although I am employed by YouthCARE as a Christian representing the various Christian Churches of WA, my main role is not a religious one at all. My first priority as School Chaplain is to support all members of our community regardless of race, creed or religion. This role is called "pastoral carer" which in our school is about being a good listener and being someone who cares personally about the needs and wellbeing of each individual. I can be an optional link to other support people, resources and organisations within and outside our school. In practice, this role can only happen if and when anyone chooses to talk with the Chaplain, as all interactions are purely a voluntary option.

Once you get to know me, you will find that I do not bite. I am a quiet, gentle type who cares about people, especially those who are doing it tough, which is most of us at some stage! My background is strongly family-focussed, having raised five adult children with the support of my wife Jennifer, and now involved as grandfather to seven with four more on the way! As you can imagine, I am familiar with many of the pressures, heartaches and challenges of raising a young family. I do not pretend to have pat answers to the struggles of home life and children growing up, but I do believe it can be quite helpful to talk about things and have a caring listener in our lives. Please consider saying hello and making use of me, your own School Chaplain, just to have another neighbourhood friend in your own life. From time to time we all could do with an extra listening ear and a caring heart around us.

Wishing you and your family receive all the support, encouragement, and resources you need this week, from our School Chaplain, Paul Johnston, here for you at Forrestfield Primary on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The Chaplaincy position at Forrestfield Primary School is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations under the *National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Programme*. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.



WATERWISE TIP OF THE WEEK— Taking showers

Long, hot showers not only waste water but heaps of energy too. Showers account for 36% of all water used inside the home, so an easy way to save is to keep your showers short. A 10 minute shower each day in a conventional 12 litres a minute shower uses approximately 43,000 litres of water each year. A 7 minute shower would use approximately 30,000 litres of water a year, a saving of approximately 13,000 litres



CYBERSAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Adolescents are more likely follow the rules when you let them know you will be **monitoring** them.



FOR SALE

Fresh produce is always for sale—changes weekly.

This week we have eggs, capsicums, egg plants and melons. We also have Worm Wee and Worm Castings for sale.

Please see Mr Gear for prices and availability.

COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS

This week we received the items we bought using the vouchers we all collected last year.

We received 2 deluxe playball kits, consisting of 15 balls each, 12 agility balls, a bean bag, 2 hop scotch mats, a parachute, and 6 soccer balls.

Many thanks to all parents, friends and families that shopped at Coles and collected their coupons.



P & C Easter Raffle

We are still collecting Easter Donations for our Monster Raffle. Please take your Eggs to class to win points for your faction.

Take your tickets and money to the Office for your chance to win your own Easter Basket.

More tickets available at the Front Office—just ask us!

