



Forrestfield Primary School Newsletter



Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,
This week is of course NAPLAN week. Our Year 3, 5 and 7 students have had testing Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Friday is reserved for catching up those students who have missed some tests.

NAPLAN can be quite stressful for all involved. It is important that we encourage our children to have a go and do the best they can. Similarly, when we look at the results later in the year, we should always make on balance judgements. Does this result fit with what I know about my child??

The best way to help your child improve academically is to get involved. A great way to do this is to attend the Parent Teacher Interviews at the end of the term. These are scheduled for Tuesday 3rd July. An appointment schedule will be sent home soon.

Last week our wonderful P&C mums held a Mother's Day Stall. There were lots and lots of beautifully wrapped gifts for sale. This would have taken lots of time to prepare so I would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to Cheryl Cugini and her wonderful team of helpers.



The next project for the P&C is the DISCO. This has been booked for Thursday 31st May. We will have two sessions, one for the Juniors and one for the Seniors.

Tickets will be available soon. A flyer with all the details will be sent home soon.

At our last assembly some of our senior students demonstrated the art of beat boxing.

Jake Dalziel showed a particular talent for this style of music, which is basically making a beat with your mouth.

This coming Wednesday is TED'S Birthday. We will have a special assembly to celebrate. Staff have also planned some special treats for the day!

Parents are most welcome.

Also, please note Room 9 was due to host this assembly however, we have postponed due to Mr O'Connor's absence.



IMPORTANT DATES

MAY	
15-17	NAPLAN School Council Meeting TBC
16	Parent Newsletter
22	National Cycle to School Day
23	TED's Birthday Parent Assembly
30	Parent Newsletter
31	Disco—Details to follow.
JUNE	
3	WA Day Public Holiday
13	Parent Newsletter Student Assembly

VIRTUES

Courtesy is the Virtue in focus at the moment.

Courtesy is simply a polite gesture or remark.

Talk to your child about this. How can we show courtesy?

It could be as simple as:

saying please and thank you

opening the door for someone,

letting your friend have the first turn in a game

Helping someone with a heavy load.



Staff will be on the lookout for courteous kids in the lead up to our next assembly.

So....take care of each other and be courteous.

María Cook - PRINCIPAL

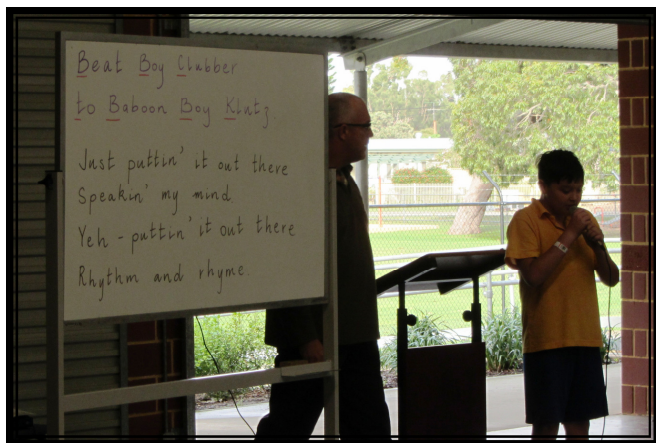
STUDENT ASSEMBLY

Students, Staff and Parents were last week treated to a wonderful demonstration of "Beat Boxing".

Beat Boxing is a form of vocal percussion primarily involving the art of producing drum beats, rhythm and musical sounds using one's mouth, lips, tongue and voice. Jake Dalziell led the students in the performance of "Puttin' it Out There".

Congratulations to all our Honour Certificate winners on receiving your awards.

Our next Assembly is TED's Birthday on Wednesday 23rd May. All family and friends are welcome to attend.



Honour Certificates

Rm 1	Taylor Slater, Harris Gerrard
Rm 2	Sebastian Tondut, Jordan Woods
Rm 4	Koopah Kickett, Keisha McRae
Rm 9	Christian Bavadra, Mitchell Hubbard
Rm 12	Paraeo McRae, Tyler Rigoll
Rm 13	Dayna Plese, Jay Cato
TAGS	Taylor Slater, Saira Akbari, Bianca Batty
Music	Jake Dalziell, Walter Woods

WHY KIDS SKIP SCHOOL

If trends persist, 75% of today's students entering high school will not complete the post-secondary education required. According to the latest research a student's likelihood of gaining a post-secondary education hinges on the attitudes they develop in Year 7 and Year 8 about themselves, their futures, and their education.

When you think of a high school drop-out, your mind may first go to a child who lacks motivation or goofs off. In fact this is not the case and many drop-outs are very bright. "The kids who are not engaged or tend to be truant simply don't see what they're learning in school as relevant to their life. They don't see the relationship." Once students can see how what they're doing in school can help them reach their future goals, they are much more likely to stick around and embrace their education.

So what can schools and parents do to get on the same page as their children and students? We need to listen to them and communicate clearly to them from a very early age the importance of going to school every day. When children make the connection between regular attendance and learning they actually don't mind working hard and being challenged

But it's not entirely up to the schools. Parents, there are many things you can do as well. Get involved with your child's school. Talk to the teachers about your child's interests; likes and dislikes. Come into the school and assist with morning reading or the school Canteen. In addition encourage your children to join after-school sports. Playing a team sport helps children learn to be part of a team and how to cooperate with others. If you get engaged with your child's education, your child will too.

Unfortunately as I reflect on the last 3 weeks attendance figures I can see a very worrying trend. Since the beginning of this term there have been at least 3 or more students absent in every class every day. Not all these students have been sick. Some parents are simply allowing their children to "have the day off". We all want great outcomes for your children, so please remember the best place for your child to be Monday to Friday is at school.

Janine Mason, Deputy Principal

ATTENDANCE AT DENTAL APPOINTMENTS

Advice to Parents: With Winter/Influenza season approaching and the need to contain the spread of infection, it is wise to take simple precautions to minimise the transmission of all respiratory infections.

As part of this process, if your child feels unwell, has a high fever, cough and/or sore throat, they should not attend for dental treatment.

You are advised to contact the Dental Therapy Centre on 9453 6969 to cancel your child's appointment and make another appointment for your child at a later date.

If your child is in **pain or requiring urgent treatment**, this can be discussed and arranged with staff at the clinic.

Those children who attend with symptoms of illness will not be treated.



MOTHERS DAY STALL:

The P & C Mother's Day stall was held last week, and was a roaring success. We are sure that many Mother's enjoyed receiving their special gifts in Mother's Day. Many thanks to all who supported this fundraiser.



DARLING RANGE LEARNING COMMUNITY TEACHING AND LEARNING TEAM

A busy commencement to term 2 has seen the development and expansion of the Darling Range Learning Community Teaching and Learning team. Comprising key staff from learning areas across all schools the T & L team has been formed to help promote our key values of Partnerships, Excellence, Innovation and Learning with an obvious focus on learning. As directed by the Leadership team the initial focal point for this bright new team has been to investigate effective teaching and learning models and more specifically the emerging Explicit Instruction model developed by 2003 Victorian Principal of the year, John Fleming. On the Sat 31st March a delegation of almost twenty DRLC staff attended a

seminar in Margaret River conducted by John Fleming focussing on school improvement through:

Classroom implementation on the effective teaching model

Research

International best practice

Expectations

Use of data

Core curriculum

Strategies to improve student results.

Information gathered from this seminar and the follow-up seminar later in May will be used alongside of current practices to formulate and develop programs to help further improve educational outcomes for all students.



Members of the Darling Range Learning Community Teaching and Learning Team

The format for the DRLC Citizenship award aimed this year at year 6 & 7 students has been finalised and most primary schools have already commenced engagement in this new and prestigious award. It is hoped to implement the award across years 4 to 9 in 2013 and then years 2 to 11 in 2014. If you have a child currently in year 6 or 7 encourage them to take part as the award aims to build on foundation skills which will have far reaching benefits for participants in family, school and wider community settings.

Joe Isaia

Darling Range Learning Community Coordinator



INVITATION – THE RAINBOWS PROGRAM

We are very pleased to have the Rainbows Program at Forrestfield Primary School again this year. The program is offered to children from families who have experienced a major loss, either through the separation/divorce of parents or through the death of a family member. This will give children the opportunity to meet in a small weekly support group over a period of 12 weeks.

It has been found that when something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. If a parent dies or separation occurs, not only does the sole parent grieve, the children do also. Because of their age and short life experience, children find it very difficult to talk about or process their feelings.

If you would like your child to be included please mention it to your child's class teacher, or ring me, or drop in and see me, as soon as possible. This year the program will be run in two groups, for the appropriate year level of the children who sign up.

The sessions will be held here at school with a trained adult (me) working with the group. There is no charge to take part in this non-religious program. If you have any questions please ring me on 9453 6277, Paul Johnston, our Rainbows Coordinator (here on Mondays and Tuesdays as our School Chaplain).

I am here at Forrestfield Primary for you and your dear family, when you need someone to talk to about anything, including life and its storms. Wishing you a nice warm rainbow to brighten your day and your heart, from your School Chaplain, Paul Johnston.

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.

ZERO WASTE LUNCH DAY

Parents and students are reminded that every Wednesday is now Zero Waste Lunch Day. We have seen a significant reduction in the amount of waste generated at this school since the introduction of Zero Waste Lunch Day. It's a fantastic effort—Keep It Up!!



WATERWISE TIP OF THE WEEK—Brushing your teeth

There is no need to leave the tap running while you brush. It uses up to 20 litres of water a minute. Simply wet your toothbrush before you begin and use a glass of water to rinse your mouth.

Running water while brushing your teeth for two minutes each day uses approximately 14,000 litres a year. Using a cup (250ml) of water while brushing your teeth uses approximately 180 litres a year. This means you will save 14,000 litres a year.



CYBERSAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Monitor increased independence. Even though adolescents may appear as though they can "handle" certain situations, they actually require and unconsciously seek adult guidance and supervision.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kalamunda Kickboxing and Martial Arts: Promotes the responsible teachings of karate in an environment that encourages self-confidence, discipline, respect and focus. Contact Murray McKechnie 6293 1633

Snuggle Chums Family Childcare is currently taking new enrolments for children aged between 6 weeks and 4 years. For more information call Jenny on 9352 8853 or visit the website for more information www.snugglechums.org