



# Forrestfield Primary School Newsletter



A harmonious innovative environment nurturing excellence.

Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

Welcome back to Term 3. We have had a great start to the term and many new families have joined us. A warm Forrestfield welcome to you all.

Our **Early Childhood play area** is now being used by Kindy and Pre Primary students. The new super bike track has been a great success and all children are learning to take turns using the equipment and riding safely around the track. We will continue to develop this area over the coming months to make it an engaging play and learning space.



Last term we surveyed our school community to gauge your interest in an **Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) Program** running at our school. Initial interest was positive so we are now asking for a commitment to the program through an enrolment form. The decision to proceed will be based on firm enrolments so I urge you to get behind us. Helping Hands will be holding an **Information Session** from 6.00pm – 6.30pm in Room 3 during the Open Night on **Tuesday 2 August**. They will also attend our Student Assembly on **3 August**, and will talk to interested parents **at the P&C meeting following the assembly**. You will find further information in the letter included with your newsletter.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### AUGUST

2	Open Night 5.30pm—7.00pm
3	Student Assembly P&C Meeting
9	School Photos
17	Room 13 TED Assembly
22—26	BOOK WEEK Australia : Story Country
31	Student Assembly

### SEPTEMBER

2	School Council Meeting
7	Faction Carnival

An invitation is extended to all families to join us for our **Open Night next Tuesday (2nd August) from 5.30pm to 7pm**. We have a free sausage sizzle in the Covered Assembly Area and the Junior Cluster are organising a cake stall fundraiser with all proceeds going to their end of year event. Notes will be coming home this week and look out for posters around the school.

We also invite parents/family members to our next **Student Assembly** on Wednesday 3rd August. Special guest **Mrs Joelle Greenway from Scholastic Australia** will be presenting **Literacy Pro Awards** and we will have staff from **Helping Hands** to talk to you about our proposed OSHC.

Parents are welcome to attend the **P&C Meeting** after the Assembly to chat to Joelle and the Helping Hands Crew during morning tea.

*Diane Greenaway*

*Principal*

### SCHOOL SECURITY

We ask parents to ring **School Security on 1800 177 777** if you see suspicious activity after hours.

## NEW LEAVERS SHIRTS AND HOODIES

This week the Year 6's received their Graduation polo's. This Year we have added a hoodie to the graduation uniform. Its lovely and warm...we love it.

We spent some time researching the design until we were all happy with the outcome. We wanted something that stood out, but kept the royal blue and white colours so visually we continue to be in correct school uniform. We had a few designs to vote on but it was a unanimous decision in the end.

We are looking forward to wearing our hoddie's this term and the polo as the weather gets warmer.



## SCHOOL PHOTO REMINDER

Just a friendly reminder that school photo order forms are due back on **Thursday 4th August** to the front office. Photos will be taken on **Tuesday 9th August**.

## Deputy's Diary

### Chronic Absenteeism

Fixing the problem of chronic absenteeism can be difficult especially when the extent of chronic absenteeism is not well documented.

Chronic absenteeism, defined as missing more than 10% of school in a year, is not a statistic any school wants to see represented in its Attendance Data. The problem, however, is daily attendance doesn't capture the whole picture: daily attendance measures how many total students are in school on a given day, whereas chronic absenteeism measures how many of the same students attend school across many days.

In other words, "a school can have average daily attendance of 90 percent and still have 40 percent of its students chronically absent, because on different days, different students make up that 90 percent". The Chronic Absenteeism figure reflected in our Attendance Data for First Semester 2016 indicates we have over 60 students attending our school whose attendance patterns fall within this range. This is not acceptable. All children must attend school unless they are sick.

Everyday away from school is a day of lost education. Please ensure that your children attend school daily, as you are helping to give them one of life's greatest gifts. The gift of a good education!





### Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP)

To perform well in school, children must do many things that require their mind and muscles to work together as a team. In fact, all communication skills—reading, writing, speaking, and gesturing—are motor-based abilities. We often think of them strictly as academic skills, but, for example, in learning to write, a child must not only know the alphabet and understand how words are formed by combining letters but also translate that knowledge into action by gripping, moving, and stabilizing a pencil while using perception (sight) to adjust her or his movements in order to create the correct pattern. In order for the child to learn, the mind and the body must work together. Rooms 13, 14 and 16 will be running a PMP programme on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 2 30 pm. If you can help it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Mrs Wisson.





## P & C News

### P & C Meeting

The next P & C Meeting is next Wednesday (3<sup>rd</sup> August) following the Student Assembly.

Join us in the School Kitchen for coffee, cake and for an update on what we're doing to support our school.

We'll also get an update on the new Out of School Care program starting at the school and hear from Jo Greenway from Scholastic.



### Friday is Canteen Day

Back to normal in the Canteen this week.

We will be serving all items from the usual Friday Recess and Lunch menu.

Remember to get your order in before school.

### School Banking

Students can deposit their cash into their Commonwealth Bank accounts this Friday.

See Sarah on Friday in the Canteen before school.

### Volunteer now for the Carnival

The P & C will be selling food and drink at this year's Sports Carnival.

And as is traditional we need mums, dads or grandparents to help work at our stall so we all get a chance to see our kids race. It's a good chance for parents who can't usually help with P & C activities to get involved.

The Carnival isn't until September but we're getting organised now.

## News from the Chaplain



Every morning Forrestfield Primary School runs a free breakfast club in Mrs Parker's Pantry (Kitchen). We provide children with a free nutritious breakfast (toast, eggs, pancakes, cereal, fruit, milk, milo) with all food donated by Manna.

Research has shown that children who have had breakfast will perform better and longer in the classroom.

We open the doors for breakfast at 8:00am and close them at 8:25am, which means the students have enough time to make it to class.

We have a staff member that runs the morning breakfast club so your children are supervised at all times.

If you would like to have a chat with me about anything at all I am available Tuesday and Wednesday, or you can email me at [chrisj@youthcare.org.au](mailto:chrisj@youthcare.org.au)

*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—

### Pool covers

Using a pool cover not only keeps your pool warmer and cleaner but it cuts the evaporation rate between swims. With more than your entire pool's volume of water being lost every year through evaporation, you can save water and money by regularly using a pool cover. With 85,000 swimming pools in the Perth metropolitan area, topping up pools to compensate for evaporation uses more than 4 billion litres of water every year! By keeping your pool cleaner, pool covers can also reduce the need to backwash your filter, which can waste water at a significant rate.

## VIRTUES AND BEHAVIOUR FOCUS

Our focus virtue is currently **Perseverance**  
and our focus behaviour is  
**"On the Hard Areas we..."**.

We ask parents to reinforce these behaviours.

