



Forrestfield Primary School Newsletter



Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

We have had a busy start to the new school term with Mother's Day last Sunday and NAPLAN testing this week.

It was lovely to see classrooms doing something special for this all important day and we hope you enjoyed the work displays, cards, "chocolate flowers" and special gifts. Our Pre Primary students prepared a special afternoon tea for all their mums on Friday afternoon. It was great to see you all there.

A big thank you our wonderful P&C for organising a Mother's Day Stall. Lots of students bought a special gift for mum.



I had the pleasure accompanying Year 7 students, **Maddison Walsh** and **Billy Peters** at the Kalamunda RSL ANZAC Day Service on Saturday 20th April. Our students joined with other schools and community organisations to lay a wreath on behalf of us all. I hope that you enjoy the special ANZAC section on page 3 of our newsletter.

A reminder to parents that our **No Hat, No Play Policy** does not require children to wear their blue bucket hats in Term 2 and 3. I would still advise that children continue to wear their hats if they are outside in the sun as an added precaution.

Several parents have approached me about the on going issue of head lice. **We ask all parents to check their child's hair each Friday and take the necessary action if lice are found.**

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

14-16	NAPLAN Testing
22	P&C Meeting 6.00pm All welcome Student Assembly 8.50am
29	Parent Newsletter
31	School Development Day (Children do not attend)

JUNE

2	Fundraiser Sausage Sizzle Bunnings Maddington
3	PUBLIC HOLIDAY—WA DAY
5	TED's 4th Birthday Assembly Room 9



All children in Years 4 to 7 have been given a test to determine their **Lexile Reading level** and are expected to read their Lexile Library book for homework **each night**. **Are you seeing this book come home?** If not, please contact your child's teacher. We have now added \$4000 of new lexiled fiction books to the value of \$9000 to our library collection. I have challenged all students to double the number of books they read in Term 1 this term.

I will be awarding our first Lexile Reading certificate—Blue level at the **Student Assembly on Wednesday 22nd May**. All parents are welcome to join us.

Our next **P&C Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday 22nd May commencing at 6.00pm in the Staffroom**. Come and join P&C President Alex Woods and her hard working committee to find out more about our wonderful school.

Diane Greenaway - PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL SECURITY

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

AIRPORT TREE PLANTING

Late last term, Room 9 visited the land surrounding the Perth Airport. They took part in a bush walk and then planted 360 trees in the Wetlands. The students were taught about the local Flora and Fauna and heard Dreamtime stories from a local Aboriginal teacher.

The students loved learning about all the different ways leaves, plant roots and tree sap could be used to survive in the bush. The excursion was provided and paid for by the Perth Airport. Thank you Perth Airport.



Reading together

While reading with your children:

- talk about what is happening in the pictures
- point out key words in the story and explain words your children might not know
- every now and then stop and ask: *What do you think will happen next?* and *What makes you think that?*; accept their answer even if they are not quite right
- answer your children's questions even if it interrupts the flow of the story
- encourage your children to join in with words or phrases repeated throughout the story
- occasionally ask some 'why' questions about the story, for example: *Why do you think the writer put that in the story?*

After you have finished reading with your children:

- talk about the story and encourage your children to re-read parts they liked
- get them to retell the story to you or another family member
- compare the characters in the book with real people you know
- talk about what happens and where it happens, for example: *Who was your favourite person?* and *Where did the story take place?*
- talk about why the book was written and the messages in the story
- ask them what they learnt if the book contains lots of facts, for example: *What did you find out about dinosaurs from this book?*

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

All student Contributions and Charges are **now due** to be paid at the front office.

Payment can be made in the following ways:

Direct payment to the school bank account, Credit card payment by telephoning the office, or at the school office between 8—3pm Monday to Friday. We take cash, cheque and have eftpos facilities.

This is a great opportunity to meet our very friendly front office staff and build a relationship by becoming familiar and comfortable with who is your first point of contact when you ring or come into the school.

FORRESTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL FIRST

Forrestfield Primary School features on the Kalamunda Council "**Welcome to our Community**" section of the website.

Our Year 5, 6 and 7 excursion to Council and their mock debate was enjoyed by all and was the first excursion of this kind for the Shire of Kalamunda. To access the website go to;

<http://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/Media-Releases/April-2013/Forrestfield-Students-Take-the-Hot-Seat>

DARLING RANGE LEARNING COMMUNITY NEWS Swimming Club

The Darling Range Learning Community Swimming Club commenced training on Monday, 6th of May at 3.25pm. The swimming programme is **FREE** for year 6 and 7 students within the Darling Range Learning Community and has been specifically designed as an introduction to the specialist swimming programme at Darling Range Sports College.



This is an introductory programme, so positions are only available to children with no prior membership to a swimming squad or water polo club. A basic level of swimming ability is required to enter the programme therefore a brief assessment will need to be arranged with the club coach prior to commencement.

For further information or to arrange an assessment please email:

peter.gavranich@education.wa.edu.au

ANZAC DAY 2013

ANZAC Day was commemorated by our school community on Wednesday 17th April. All students participated in a moving ceremony to remember all the men and women who lost their lives in wars and peace keeping campaigns. Mr Peter Cowley from the Kalamunda RSL and Mr Ken Wyatt attended the ceremony and addressed students, teachers and parents. Invited guests and parents joined us for a delicious afternoon tea, prepared by students, following the ceremony.

This year, Year 7 students Maddison Walsh and Billy Peters represented our school by laying a wreath on behalf of our school community at the Kalamunda RSL ANZAC Service on Saturday 20th April. Our students took part in the march to the Kostera Park War Memorial. I am extremely proud of our students and thank their parents for supporting this important community event.



SERCUL FROG INCURSION

Last term, Ms Amy Krupa from South East Regional Centre for Regional

Landcare visited classrooms to teach students about the different frogs we have in our local community, how to recognize them and how to care for them.

Ms Krupa then visited our wetland and helped students find and identify the frogs who live there.

The incursion was lots of fun as these pictures show.



BELIEVE IN YOUR CHILD TODAY

We know that each child needs to feel that they are accepted and valued. Every day, children constantly wonder about themselves as a person. Their resulting feelings will be coming from their own impressions of their abilities against their inabilities. Knowing this, adults need to help each child believe in him or herself; and the ones who are most able to help them do this are the people closest to them. If we believe in our child, they will very likely believe in their own ability enough to persevere and grow more confident, one step at a time.



It is not easy to show our child that we believe in them. It doesn't come from just praising him or her with words that value them (such as "good, great, fantastic, excellent"), although these descriptions are very encouraging. We need to take time to actually observe their interests and what they do well, and then tell them the specific reasons we see why we believe in them. This can be anything from commenting on how they tackle a particular job with a great attitude, to praising a good habit that they have in everyday life. Maybe we can remember what it was like for us, to feel small and powerless, helpless and confused? When we make an effort to try and understand what our child most likely feels in a situation, then we can be prepared to speak belief into our child when they need it most. If we slow down enough to look and listen, we may notice our child's efforts in doing and saying things, and then and there we can encourage and build on their particular strengths. We can tell them why we believe they can do it. This works far better than just correcting their weaknesses.



We can give our child little responsibilities to tackle, using these as opportunities for him or her to sense our trust in them. Don't worry about a perfect job, with too much correction of their effort. When our child tries and stumbles, this is a great time to express our belief in him or her. It's not about the work, it's about our child's personal growth. We should also make sure that our child hears us naturally telling other adults why we are proud of them and why we believe in them. This is not bragging, this is just loving our child for who they are. As we involve our child in things that we do, we can also ask them what they think before we make decisions, giving them a chance to be heard and share their own opinions and ideas. Maybe we are the one person who can embrace and encourage our child, by showing them that no matter what, they will always have someone who believes in them, us! I believe we can make it our aim to convince our children that this is true.

Thoughts adapted from the book "Words Kids Need to Hear" by David Staal. Happy parenting to you, from our 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.

WATERWISE TIP OF THE WEEK— Stop leaks

Check for worn tap washers. A dripping tap might not appear to be wasting much water but it quickly adds up. Repair leaking pipes. A single leak over a long period can waste thousands of litres. Also look out for undetected leaks which can be extremely wasteful and costly. A way to check for leaks is to read the water meter late at night then again early the next morning to see if water was leaking while everyone was asleep.

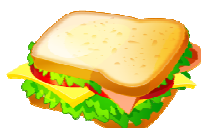


ZERO WASTE LUNCH DAY

Every Wednesday this year our School is holding Zero Waste Lunch Day !!!!!

We encourage all children to bring their lunch and recess in a re-usable container— like a lunch box or takeaway plastic food container. Please try not to use any plastic wrap like Gladwrap, plastic wrappers, plastic bags etc.

Zero waste lunch days are linked to our Sustainability Focus for 2013 and makes kids and parents aware of what we throw out and our need to recycle as much as possible.



VIRTUES AND BEHAVIOUR FOCUS

Over the next five weeks we are learning about **courtesy** and our focus behaviour is "When we go to the Bathroom."

We ask all parents to support and reinforce these points at home.

When we go to the bathroom . . .



We respect the privacy of others.

We use and flush the toilet.

We are hygienic and wash our hands.

We immediately report misuse of the bathroom to the teacher.

