Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

This week's newsletter showcases our cooking classes which commenced in our new kitchen classroom last week. Students in Room 2, 9 and 4 will have a two hour cooking class with Mrs Parker each fortnight where they will use the fresh produce from the garden to make delicious, healthy meals. We have included the recipe for Zucchini Slice this week and hope that it will become a favourite meal at home.

Is your child regularly reading a Lexile Library book at home and doing quizzes? Letters have been sent home with all children in Rooms 12, 4, 9 and 2 detailing your child's Lexile level and their log on details and we ask parents to support us to improve reading across the school. See page 2 of our newsletter for more details.

Our Garden Guardians have met with Mrs Gear, Mr Matthews and myself to brainstorm what they would like to see in our garden. They had many ideas including labelling plants and adding their art. The greenhouse has now been reticulated and classes will be learning how to grow new plants by taking cuttings, dividing plants and planting seeds.

On Thursday we are supporting Mr Gannaway, Bakers Delight, Forrestfield to run a Pink Bun Fundraiser at school. All proceeds from the sale will go to Breast Cancer Research.

Notes have gone home with children and we hope you will get behind this worthy cause.

Each bun is only $1.50

Next Wednesday is TED's 5th birthday. We invite parents to Room 4's Assembly commencing at 8.50pm to celebrate with TED.

Thanks to our wonderful P & C for holding the annual Mother's Day Stall. I'm sure that all our mums enjoyed receiving their gifts.

Diane Greenaway  PRINCIPAL

IMPORTANT DATES

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SCHOOL SECURITY

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

Please help us look after our school.

Telephone: 9453 6277 Fax: 9453 3566 Homepage: http://www.ffps.wa.edu.au Email: forrestfield.ps@det.wa.edu.au
HELP YOUR CHILD’S READING WITH THE LEXILE PROGRAM

Our focus this term is all children in Years 2 to 7 reading their Lexile Library books and passing quizzes. All students will know their Lexile log in and password. (It’s the same as Mathletics)

Go to www.mylexile.com.au

Please see you child’s teacher if you need help with passwords.

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**Attendance Update**

It has been great to see the students at Forrestfield Primary School making the effort to be at school, on time, every day. The number of students coming in late is becoming fewer and fewer every day. Our attendance is fantastic in our K and P classes where the students and parents are getting to school almost 90% of the time. We would love 100%, but 90% has been a great improvement. Our target for attendance at Forrestfield is higher than 90%, and if students fall below 80% they are deemed at risk and then have their attendance tracked.

The reality is that 80% is equal to 10 days off a term, and no one can afford to be missing THAT much school. We were delighted to be able to acknowledge the students who had 100% attendance for term 1, and they were all acknowledged at the first assembly in term 2. Those students will be receiving a movie reward during term 2. The movie reward will continue through the year. Every student has the chance to win, as we start with a clean slate each term. The school is looking forward to making a special presentation at the end of the year to any students who achieve 100% attendance for 2014. Remember to be on time and ready for work each and every day, and you effort an energy will be rewarded.

*Steve Matthews—Deputy Principal*

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**KINDERGARTEN 2015**

We are currently taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2015. If your child, or you know of family members, who are born between the dates:-

1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011

please complete an Application for Enrolment. Forms are available from the Front Office or can be downloaded from our website: www.ffps.wa.edu.au

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**Scitech Excursion Thursday May 29th**

We need approximately 10 parent volunteers to spend the day at Scitech to help with student supervision.

Please contact Mr Gear or your child’s teacher as soon as possible if you are able to help.
COOKING LESSONS
WHAT IS THANKSGIVING DAY?

Many countries around the world have an annual Thanksgiving Day, where it is often a public holiday for most people to take time off their normal work routine and celebrate the day. For example, the USA has Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday in November, and Canada on the second Monday in October. Even Japan has a national Labour Thanksgiving Day on November 23rd each year. We see the day featured in many Hollywood movies as wider families take the trouble to get together on this special day once a year.

Here in Australia we do not have another holiday day off, but we do have a National Day of Thanksgiving on our calendar.

Having a Thanksgiving Day is a cultural and religious tradition that reminds us of the blessings of our annual harvest and the fruit of our labours each year. In Australia we have not traditionally observed this day or celebrated with roast turkeys and pumpkin pie. However, we do have our own special day that is endorsed by our Government and is supported by many community groups. Our National Day of Thanksgiving is the opportunity given for us to celebrate and be thankful for our heritage as a nation, and to thank one another for the contributions each makes to our communities. It is a reminder that the blessings of appreciation and gratefulness are ours to give away, every day.

This year our Australian Day of Thanksgiving will be next Saturday week, 31st May. It is our special opportunity to make a difference in someone’s life, to let them know we appreciate them. We are encouraged to thank our neighbours and friends who through their thoughtfulness and kindness make our lives more pleasant and enjoyable. Also this year we are specifically thanking people who work in the transport and travel industries, including bus, train, taxi, and truck drivers. Others we could especially thank include pilots, transport company workers, couriers, and travel agents in our wider community. It is also a great day for us and our children to do something nice for a needy neighbour, such as mow their lawn or bake them a cake. Whatever we do with the day, let’s enjoy it with gratitude for our homeland, our heritage and our human family together.

Happy thanksgiving days to you and your family, from your school chaplain Paul Johnston, here for you on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The Chaplaincy position at Forrestfield Primary School is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education 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.

WATERWISE TIP OF THE WEEK— Waterwise Gardens

Keep planted areas dense and consolidated and group plants according to their water requirements. Sparse scattered plants are more difficult to water efficiently than those in defined areas.

Make use of windbreaks, pergolas, screens, lattice, shadecloth and vines to shelter the house, outdoor living areas and plants.

- Maximise the use of non-planting treatments such as paving and mulches whilst at the same time being aware of the risk of creating hot spots due to large areas of unshaded paving.

Regularly check your irrigation system is working correctly and when replacing broken sprinklers, always replace like with like.

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

Our focus virtue is currently COURTESY and our focus behaviour is “At Assembly we ”. We ask that parents reinforce these at home with their children.

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