Principal’s Report

One of our priorities at Fairfield Primary School is to ‘make learning visible’. This concept relates to a number of factors: how children can identify their own learning and learning pathway; how teachers articulate the learning intentions and achievement for children; and how, more broadly, parents can identify and be informed of the learning of their children.

Over the last few weeks, there have been some wonderful examples and opportunities for our children to present their learning to parents and other students. We have had an amazing senior school concert to celebrate (see article in Specialists Reports).

Our Grade 3 / 4 students led parents through their classroom and showcased samples of their learning across the curriculum. It was an opportunity for some informal discussions with teachers as well. It was pleasing to see how proudly our children shared their learning and how articulate they were in describing their achievement and learning focus.

Our Grade 6 students have presented their research on the Australian Defence Force to other students and parents in an engaging display of projects. It was excellent to see the commitment and pride, once again, in the level of research and presentation across the classes. This project represented a rich body of research for every child. As always, real learning may not always be realised as a tangible product but is inclusive of a process of thinking, exploring, wondering and drawing conclusions from a body of knowledge. When talking through the projects with the students, they were able to share their knowledge in an informed way. For many, the process of learning has deepened their knowledge and furthered a personal connection with some family and community history; All of which is very powerful learning. There is a photo galley of the exhibition in the Learning Matters section of this newsletter. A selection of the students’ projects will be on display on the stage in front of the Honour Roll in the Old Hall until the school Open Day next Thursday 21st of May.

Allana Bryant
Principal

Reminder - Pupil Free Day
Please be reminded that Monday 25th of May is a pupil free day.

Students are not required to come to school on this day.

After School Hours Club will be operating.
Bookings for childcare can be made by calling 0432680504 or booking online
Community Committee

Last Thursday, 7th of May, the Community Committee once again successfully operated the FPS Mother’s Day Stall. During the day children from every class were able to visit the stall to purchase Mother’s Day gifts for their mum or other special person. The stall raised more than $3500 and all funds raised will be put back into improving the school for our children.

On behalf of the Fairfield Primary School community, the Community Committee would like to thank our many volunteers for the time and effort they have dedicated to organising and operating the stall. A great deal of work is done behind the scenes to ensure events like the Mother’s Day Stall run smoothly. Without our wonderful volunteers we would be unable to continue to offer these events to our children. We would also like to acknowledge the families who donated goods for sale at the stall. These generous donations provide our children with a greater selection of gifts to choose from and help to ensure the stall remains affordable.

The Mother’s Day Stall is an important event on the FPS school calendar. It provides our children with the valuable opportunity to demonstrate their appreciation for all the love and support their mothers provide.

Event and Class Community Liaison Volunteer Roles

The Community Committee are currently seeking expressions of interest from volunteers for a number of roles within our events and broader school community.

Throughout the school year, our school enjoys a wonderful array of successful events that foster community friendships and raise funds to continue improving the school to benefit our children. These events could not operate without the support of our many valued FPS community volunteers.

The FPS art show, Art4All, is fast approaching and we are currently seeking volunteers to help us bring this spectacular event together. Volunteers will join small teams that will focus on planning and presenting individual elements of the broader event. Further information about Art4All will be distributed in the near future.

Planning for the 2016 Fair is already under way and we are seeking expressions of interest from FPS community members who would like to get involved early to help design and stage the event.

Our Class Community Liaison program will role out in the near future and we are seeking one or two parents from each class who are willing to assume this role. The role is primarily to support parent involvement in FPS community events. Class Community Liaison parents will be directly liaising with the Community Committee who will be guiding this role.

If you are interested in finding out more information or volunteering for one of these roles please contact either Kayti murphysinfinland@gmail.com or Elise on elise.coughlin@invest.vic.gov.au.

Working Bee - This Sunday

Please come along to our Autumn Working Bee this Sunday 17th of May between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

No special skills required, just the goodwill to assist us in cleaning up leaves, doing some general grounds tidying, etc.

We will finish the day with a BBQ and a chance to catch up and have a chat.
Sporting Round Up

Congratulations to those students who will participate in the upcoming District Cross Country Carnival. This carnival will be held on Tuesday the 26th of May at Bundoora Park. Children will catch a bus from school at 9:15am and the first race will start at 10:00am. The carnival should be finished by 12:00pm. There is an approximate running time of events on display outside the gym on the BER windows.

Interschool sports and circus skills have begun for our Grade 5 and 6 students. These programs provide opportunities for children to be involved in different sports and team games in a fun, learning environment. Parents are always welcome to attend these events and watch. Thank you to all students in Prep-Grade 5 for respecting the Grade 6 soccer game and remaining off the oval during lunch time on a Friday.

Performing Arts

After weeks of preparation and excitement, the cast and crew of The Jungle Book performed last Wednesday at the Darebin Arts Centre. It was such a joy to see our senior students present a concert that they have all been working so hard on. Not only did our students rehearse for hours for their performances; they also designed the costumes, created the sets, and designed and published the slides that helped make the show so spectacular. Students were involved in a variety of songs, dances, and acting scenes. We also had a group of 15 stage crew coordinating our sets.

By taking the dancing, singing, music and acting out of the classroom and placing it on the stage, our students have the opportunity to be engaged in authentic and meaningful performance-based learning. Performances like these are a fantastic way to showcase, share and celebrate our students’ talents and hard work.

There is still time to order a copy of the DVD of the performance. The DVDs cost $22.00 and order envelopes are available from the School Office.

There is always a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to make our spectacular shows happen, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people:

Steve Dowell; for coordinating and rehearsing the opening guitar and violin item ‘Blackbird’.

Amy Rogers; for helping to create costumes and props.

Ruth Katerelos; for choreographing the grade 6 dances and operating the microphones during the matinee and evening performances.

All of the staff who helped run after-school rehearsals, worked behind the scenes during the performances, and helped to organise the children on the day of the performance.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all of our Grade 5 and 6 students. Your performances were so energetic, fun-filled and entertaining and you should all be very proud!

Keri Spence
Staff Professional Learning - Powerful Learning

A team of staff attended the first of some professional learning at Charles Latrobe College last week. We have joined a project titled ‘Powerful Learning’ with some other schools in Darebin who will be working with Latrobe University over the coming years. We will become a ‘teaching school’ for pre-service teachers who are part of this national project aimed at aligning pre-service teacher training across multiple universities. We will be working with a team of professionals and exploring ‘precision pedagogies’ that optimise learning outcomes for children. As teachers, we have many strategies to implement particular learning activities and interactions in the classroom. This project is enabling us to explore current research and to identify models of classroom practice that will enrich our capacity to engage all students in their learning. Our team: Krista, Elly, Marcus, Robyn, Kelly and Faye, are very enthusiastic and have commenced exploring the research and sharing their insight.

Grade 6 Australian Defence Force Research Project Gallery
Area Spotlight - 3/4 Area

Grade 3/4 Open Afternoon

On Wednesday 29th of April, between 3:30pm and 6:00pm, Grades 3 and 4 held our first Open Afternoon. Parents and friends of Grade 3 and 4 students visited the classrooms to experience the learning our students have been involved in. This was an informal session where parents sat down with their children to explore the results of their learning and celebrate their achievements. A big thank you to all of our students who were great ambassadors for our learning. They enthusiastically presented every workbook and explained every learning task completed in Term One.

Healthy Living

This term, in our Integrated Studies unit we are exploring ‘Healthy Living’. The aim of this learning is to encourage students to build lifelong habits that will enable them to lead healthy lives. Teaching ‘Healthy Living’ requires a multifaceted approach, targeting physical (exercise and nutrition), social (healthy relationships) and emotional well-being. This inquiry unit is focused on the question ‘What does it mean to be Healthy?’

Below are some learning reflections and areas of inquiry students suggested when asked the question ‘What are you curious about?’:

“I learned that mindfulness can make you faster and smarter but I still want to learn when it was started.” - Josh P

“In class we learned about mindfulness. It is a calm and lovely thing to do.” - Isobel M

“Over the past five weeks we have been doing mindfulness during class. I find that it is very relaxing and calms you down.” - Tahlia M

“I would like to find out more about what’s healthy and not, because some things look healthy but are not and the opposite.” - Georgia R

“I want to know the 10 best pods to live on would be.” - Annabelle M

“I want to learn more about what gives you energy to run forever.” - Evie L

“I would like to know more about how much nutrition is in some unknown foods.” - Kon K

“What would happen to us if we didn’t keep fit?” - Jasper H

“How many muscles do we have in our body?” - Siena S

“What does fitness do to help us?” - Aaliya S

“Do nightmares affect a healthy body?” - Kalam R

“How often could you have junk food?” - Matilda B

“Do you need a certain amount of water?” - Annabelle C
Drama Toolbox Incursion - Preps
This term, the Prep children are busily exploring the many different ways we can keep our bodies safe and healthy.

We have recently begun looking at how different foods affect our bodies in different ways, and we had a wonderful time on Friday 8th May when Drama Toolbox came to visit and we all became ‘FBIs’ – Full Body Investigators!

The children were transformed into germ fighting white blood cells, oxygen-transporting red blood cells, squeezy stomach muscles and message-carrying neurons as they went on their mission inside an unhealthy body.

As a part of our learning about how fruit keeps us healthy, each prep grade created a simple graph to find out what the most popular fruit snack is, integrating an important aspect of the Foundation level mathematics curriculum into our unit of inquiry.

*The good old apple was the clear favourite on this particular day!*

Community News

Commonwealth School Banking Program
We are currently seeking a parent volunteer to collect and deposit students’ Commonwealth Banking on a weekly basis. After many years valuable service, our current parent volunteer is no longer able to continue in the role. Without a replacement, FPS will no longer be able to offer banking services to students with Commonwealth accounts.

Currently, students bring their bank book to school on Tuesday mornings. **We require a volunteer to collect the students’ banking from the school office and visit a Commonwealth branch to make the students’ deposits between Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday afternoon.** Students’ bank books need to be returned to the school office by Wednesday afternoon for distribution to the children on Thursday morning.

If would like more information, or to volunteer for this important role, please contact Elena in the School Office.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**
Knitting for Fun Club
Hands up if you love knitting? How about making things out of wool? Well, you're in luck because we are about to start our own Knitting for Fun Club. **Each Wednesday at the start of lunchtime** the sound of knitting needles clacking away will be heard from the 3/4A (Jourdan) classroom. All students are invited to come along and bring any ideas they have for creating things from wool. Children will have the opportunity to learn some knitting skills including finger knitting. Come and join us for a session of woolly fun!!

If any families have spare wool or knitting needles they would like to donate we would be most grateful. Please leave any donations at the School Office.

Thanks!
Jourdan and Ril

Lunchtime in the Library @FPS
Lunchtime in the Library has been a huge success! Children from across the school have been spotted reading together and to each other. Here are some of the children enjoying their lunch time visits to the library during the past couple of weeks...

Explorer’s Corner

A cloth covered table, tiny animals, different coloured pieces of cardboard and some glass stones – an inviting, open ended experience with myriad possibilities, where the children lead the way.

Watching how the children interact with such an experience, and where they choose to take it, is one of the most exciting parts of Exploration Time in the Prep area.

“We sorted them…these are all the Arctic animals.” - Augie

“I found the polar bear!” - Gianni

“…..and these are all the jungle animals…” - Augie

We as teachers observe this natural interest in animals and extend on it. The following Exploration Time, a variety of factual animal books were setup nearby and we looked up underwater animal videos on the iPads.

Who knows what learning adventures our young explorers will embark on next?
Community News

OSHClub Curriculum Day Bookings
OSHClub have been informed about the upcoming curriculum day and are hopeful that a session will run, however, this is dependent on numbers. Please contact OSHClub as soon as possible if you would like to enrol your child for the day or for further information.

Please note: OSHClub require a minimum of 15 children to run the day, parents will be notified on Monday 18th May if the day will proceed. All regular Before and After Care bookings have been removed.

OSHClub program phone: 0432 680 504
Coordinator: Ashlee de Leon
Assistants: Meaghan and Alexis
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account.

FPS Family Maths Information and Activity Evening
Join us for the FPS Family Maths and Information Evening on Wednesday 20th of May, between 6:00pm and 7:30pm in the Old Hall.

This event is for all family from Prep/Foundation to Grade 6.

Bring your children along and join us for an evening of information, fun maths games and activities that your entire family will enjoy!

We will be running maths games and activities to showcase the teaching and learning that happens in our school.

Parents will also have the opportunity to talk to the teachers about ways to help their children at home.

FPS Great Book Swap
During their Inquiry Studies in Term One our Grade 1 and 2 students focused on the Rights and Responsibilities of children. As an extension of this learning, and with the support of the Junior School Councillors, on Wednesday 26th June students will host a Great Book Swap with the aim of raising funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) and promoting awareness of every Australian child’s right to an education.

How it works:
- Students bring to school and donate quality second-hand books in excellent condition.
- On a set date, the books are displayed for the children to browse.
- Children can then swap a gold coin in exchange for a book of their choice.

When and where can I drop off my donated books?

Book donations will be accepted between Monday May 25th (Week 7) and Friday June 19th (Week 10).

Please give your books to your classroom teacher.
The Community Committee proudly presents:

Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?

Are you interested in meeting new people in the school community?
Are you game for a bit of an adventure?

We are holding the inaugural

Guess who’s coming to dinner? Mystery Dinner Event
on Saturday 20 June 2015.

More details will follow, but initially we are looking for 10 hosts who are willing to offer their home as a venue for a dinner party. You must live within 10 minutes walking distance of the school and be able to accommodate 10 people (including yourself) for dinner.

All food will be provided.

If you are interested and would like to know more, contact Julie Anderson on 0419 635 486 or jfand1@gmail.com. If you’re happy to sign up right now, then click here.
Hello from OSHClub!

We had a wonderful week last week celebrating Mother’s Day and showing our appreciation to someone we love. We had lots of fun making all sorts of gifts for our mums such as Peppermint Bath Salts, Heart Paper Gift Boxes and Mother’s Day Coupons! We also had fun playing musical statues and silent ball with a bean bag. The biggest hit for the week was the Heart and Star Cookies we made during cooking club!

This week we began our Sustainability projects. Here at OSHClub we care about the environment so we are learning about all different ways we can be sustainable not only at OSHClub but at school and home too.

Next week we will continue our Sustainability theme through Recycling, Reusing and Reducing! See below for some of the fun activities planned.

One person’s junk is another one’s treasure

We would like to say a BIG thank you to the families that have brought in lots of recyclable material! These will come in handy over the next few weeks. We are now asking if anyone has any old gadgets or appliances we can use for our “Tinker Table”. These will have to be old and unusable as we will be breaking them apart to investigate and see if we can reuse parts. Thank you!

Please drop by the room to say hello and to see the fun and exciting activities that are planned for this week.

Best Regards
Ashlee and Meaghan
OSHClub Program Coordinators

Next Week’s Activities

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Celebrity Heads</td>
<td>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle</td>
<td>Bean Bag Silent Ball</td>
<td>Recycling Hoopa</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Recycle Crafts</td>
<td>Recycling Dodgeball</td>
<td>Olive Bread</td>
<td>Recycled Lid Bugs</td>
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Parent Information

OSHClub program phone: 0432 680 504
Coordinator: Ashlee de Leon
Assistants: Meaghan and Alexis
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 16 May</strong></td>
<td>8:00am-1:00pm FPS Farmer’s Market</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 17 May</strong></td>
<td>10:00am—2:00pm Working Bee</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 20 May</strong></td>
<td>Family Maths Night</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 21 May</strong></td>
<td><strong>OPEN DAY</strong>&lt;br&gt;School Tour for prospective 2016 student enrolments 9.30am</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 25 May</strong></td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – No students at school&lt;br&gt;School Council Meeting – Staffroom 6.30pm</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 26 May</strong></td>
<td>District Cross Country 10am—12 noon</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 28 May</strong></td>
<td>Prep C &amp; D Excursion Jets Gymnastics</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 29 May</strong></td>
<td>Prep—1/2 Assembly</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 4 June</strong></td>
<td>Grade 1/2B, 1/2C and 1/2D Excursion Darebin Parkland</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 8 June</strong></td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday - No students at school</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 9 June</strong></td>
<td>Grade 6 Excursion ACMI</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 10 June</strong></td>
<td>Division Cross Country</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 11 June</strong></td>
<td>Grade 1/2E, 1/2F and 1/2A Excursion Darebin Parkland</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 12 June</strong></td>
<td>Grade 3/4 MCG &amp; Sports Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 15 June</strong></td>
<td>Buildings &amp; Grounds Committee Meeting—3/4 class 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 17 June</strong></td>
<td>Region Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 20 June</strong></td>
<td>Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner? Parents’ Function</td>
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<td><strong>Monday 22 June</strong></td>
<td>School Council Meeting – Staffroom 6.30pm</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 24 June</strong></td>
<td>Student Reports sent home</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 24 June</strong></td>
<td>Great Book Swap @ FPS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 26 June</strong></td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 9:00am&lt;br&gt;End of Term 2 – Early dismissal 2.30pm</td>
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**Fairfield Primary School**

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**www.fairfieldps.vic.edu.au**

**Out Of School Hours Care Program**<br>**OSHC program phone: 0432 680 504 or 03 8564 9000**<br>**www.oshclub.com.au**