



Newsletter 2: Friday 17 February, 2017

Principal's Report

Welcome School Picnic Postponed

Please note: The school picnic scheduled for Friday 24 February has been postponed. This is due to a clash with St Anthony's Fair which we know many of our families attend and we also want to support.

Term One Inquiry Overview

As we complete week three the level of engagement and enterprise in the classrooms is impressive. All students are settling into routines and there is a general learning buzz around the school. The following overview is a brief guide to the teaching and learning Inquiry focus for term one.

Foundation	Health and PE: How can I play and learn at school in a kind and respectful way? <i>What does learning at school look like?</i> <i>How can I make new friends?</i> <i>What does co-operation look like?</i>
Years 1 / 2	Health and PE: How do we live a healthy life? <i>What things impact on my health?</i> <i>What does it mean to be healthy?</i>
Year 3	Health and PE: Who is responsible for me? <i>How do my decisions affect my health?</i> <i>Who influences me and how?</i>
Year 4	Civics and Citizenship: How do school values affect our decisions and actions? <i>What influences our decisions?</i> <i>What are our rights and responsibilities?</i> <i>How are decisions made democratically?</i>
Year 5	Science: How do solids, liquids and gases change in different environments? <i>What are the properties of solids, liquids and gases?</i> <i>What are the different ways that matter reacts?</i>
Year 6	Civics and Citizenship: Who represents me? <i>What are the key institutions of the Australian system of government?</i> <i>Where do new laws come from?</i>

Our School Leaders

We had our first School Assembly this week and our Foundation students were presented to the rest of the school. It was also an opportunity to present our school leaders. Our school leaders had their first meeting with Paul Wallace and established some thoughts about what they would like to see improved around the school. The leaders also presented their ideas to staff and we will be working with the students to progress these. We were very pleased with the shared views between the staff and students as they articulated common interests. The themes were around: ensuring all students were challenged, creating opportunities

for gender inclusion, promoting kindness and friendship supports for all students, more seating area and more rubbish bins in parts of the school grounds and creating greater opportunities for across class activities.

Foundation Social Night & Parent Information Evening Success

One of our first social events of the year is our Foundation Parents evening and it was hosted on a balmy night, with good food and good wine on Friday 10 February. There were many new and returning parents and I hope everyone had an enjoyable evening. Thank you to Amy Osborne for organising the event.

Added to this, we had an engaging general information evening for our Foundation parents last night. It was a further opportunity to learn about our school and our teaching and learning program. All of the information will be made available on the website.

Our Year 1 – 6 Parent Teacher Interviews

Scheduled for Tuesday 28 February, the interviews will be an opportunity to discuss student learning goals and share information to assist us in planning a program for each child. Please ensure that you book your interview time on the Compass portal.

Accounts and Family Payments

Please be aware that our 2017 charges have been directly uploaded to your Compass account. You will receive a separate notification alerting you to this. This system will enable you to pay direct through Compass and we are hoping that this process makes the process easier for families.

A Fair to Remember—See our call to action, further in the newsletter

As our Fair plans are finalising we are seeking any support that you can offer on the day and before the event. Please tune in to the Fair newsletter update. For any information please contact the school or our Fair Convenors:

- Christina Scholzhorn: Ph./text: 0410857660; scholzhorn@gmail.com
- Dan Murphy: Ph./text 0420 243 782; danmurf71@gmail.com

A Fair to Remember—A Day on the Fairfield Green

The poster features a blue background with a silhouette of a person playing a trumpet in the center. Below the trumpet player, there are many silhouettes of hands raised in the air, suggesting a crowd or a dance. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout.

**A DAY ON THE
FAIRFIELD GREEN**

SATURDAY 25 MARCH 2017

2pm - 7pm LANGRIDGE ST, FAIRFIELD

FEATURING

- KIM SALMON • ASHLEY NAYLOR'S HIGH HORSE
- MONIQUE BRUMBY • REBECCA BARNARD
- THE BLACKEYED SUSANS TRIO
- KERRI SIMPSON, SUZANNAH ESPIE,
BARB WATERS & ALISON FERRIER

5 Weeks to Go!

Our next Fair Meeting is **Tuesday 21 February at 7:30** in the Staff Room. Come along and join in the fun getting ready for A Day on the Fairfield Green 2017. Everyone welcome.

Positions Vacant

- We are looking for a coordinator for the **Snow Cones Stall**, it is the cool place to be on a warm March day...and your kids will love you for it! If you can help out please come to the meeting or contact Christina (Ph./text: 0410857660; scholzhorn@gmail.com) or Dan Murphy (Ph./text 0420 243 782; danmurf71@gmail.com)
- Quimby has worked with a team on the **Silent Auction** for the last few years is looking for some new faces to help pull it all together. Our Silent Auction is typically one of the biggest earners at the fair— if you can help please Contact Quimby, (Ph./text: 0429051880; quimbymo@gmail.com)
- **Are you crafty?** Would you like to learn some crafting skills? Please contact Trish or Leanne if you are able to help with the preparation for this year's Craft Stall. Tricia Phelan (Ph./text 0449 252 187; tricia.phelan@gmail.com) or Leanne Coughlin (ph./text 0411 561 420, leannecoughlin@optusnet.com.au)

Advertising and Promotion of Our Fair—Billboards

- Publicising *A Day on the Fairfield Green* is an important job and we always have a great team of families who allow us to put a **billboard out the front of their house**. Billboards are dropped off and picked up by our wonderful sponsor Jellis Craig. If your house is in a prominent location and you are happy to have a billboard out the front please contact Carly (Ph./text 0417 592 732, carly@conceptmem.com.au)

Donation of Goods and Services

Silent Auction

Can you make a donation to the Silent Auction? Some suggested items include: Holiday house; services (fitness, house decorating, music lessons, etc.) activities and attractions (tickets to a music festival, ski passes, Luna Park tickets, etc.) Please get in touch with ideas, products, connections—we'd love to hear from you! Contact Quimby, (Ph./text: 0429051880; quimbymo@gmail.com)

Preserves Stall

Support the preserves stall at the Fair by donating ingredients. We are in need of the following ingredients:

- White sugar
- White vinegar
- Malt vinegar
- Cider vinegar
- Any produce from your garden: fruit trees (peach, plum...), onions, chillies, ginger, garlic.

Drop off your ingredients at the school office, along with any clean jars with lids. Contact Donna Buchanan if you have questions (Ph./text 0438 204 920; jdjzrbuchanan@hotmail.com)

Donations—Pre-loved and Vintage Books, Toys, Clothes and More!

Start organising your quality books, toys and clothes. We will be ready to receive donations in the Old Hall from **Monday 27 February**. More information about further donations will be coming soon!

Stay in Touch!

Facebook is a great way to keep up-to-date on all things Fair. Share our posts and invite friends and family to attend the Fair: <https://www.facebook.com/FPSAFairToRemember>

Our Sponsors

We thank our amazing sponsors:

- Jellis Craig
- East Ivanhoe Community Bank
- Crisp Green

Thanks to **Elgin Printing**, a business that supplies a range of quality materials to promote the Fair each year. Please support our generous sponsors and donors.

A Spotlight on Foundation

With open arms Fairfield Primary School welcomed the sparkly-follicled (from the jitter glitter) 2017 Foundation students.

Starting the year slowly, we have been enjoying settling into the learning area and spending the warm, late summer days getting to know each other and getting used to the rhythms of the day.

The Foundation space was alive with the joyous voices of 83 students learning new songs including a folk tune called *My Roots Go Down*, with adapted lyrics to suit our local area.

Spending lots of time learning the new routines of school, the children have been immersing themselves in some terrific Exploration, learning new games and left on day one carrying crisp new reading folders plump with their first reader.

But the most highly anticipated adventure for all so far was getting to meet our buddies, and what a thrill it was!

Foundation teachers would like to thank the families, staff and students at Fairfield Primary for supporting the new students' smooth transition to school, making it a joyful time for all. We are especially proud of the Foundation children for their endless enthusiasm and for practicing flexibility and care for each other.

~ The Foundation Teachers

Visual Arts Focus

Inspired by Rosalie Gascoigne

In Visual Arts this year we are being inspired by the contemporary assemblages of the Australian artist, **Rosalie Gascoigne**.

Her distinctive collections of mostly found, discarded materials: wood, iron, wire, road signs and everyday objects will influence the direction of our artwork.

We too will be manipulating unlikely materials, rearranging and exposing them in individual, creative ways.

In term one, of course we must as all artists, prepare our Art Folios. We personalise them with the word **ART**. We consider the elements of colour, line, shape and pattern; we reflect on design and arrangement of the letters.



We will also experiment with colour through **paint**, with each level focussing on specific colours:

- Foundation: Primary and secondary colours
- Years 1 and 2: Hot and cold colours
- Years 3 and 4: Complementary colours
- Years 5 and 6: Tertiary/tones/shades/tints

Art Room Plea

We require small wooden drawers for Year 5 assemblages. If you have any drawers you are able to donate, please drop them into the Art room.

~ Marjie Tkatchenko, Visual Arts Teacher

Community News

Community Committee—Focussing on Community Engagement and Fundraising

What a year 2016 was at FPS in both community engagement and fundraising! None of the events held at FPS would be possible without a tremendous amount of family and teacher volunteer support, ranging from overall organization of the event through to filling in for an hour on the day. Each person contributing to these events makes a huge impact on our children's understanding of community and the value of volunteerism.

In 2016, our **Fair to Remember—A Day on the Fairfield Green** started the year with wide reaching community engagement. An estimated 7,000 people visited the school to participate in the festivities, with rides, food and music for both kids and adults. Winter blues were held at bay with the **Rock Trivia** night. This event provided a great opportunity for us to use our random music trivia knowledge without embarrassing the kids! The **Art4All** weekend broke all previous records in both attendance and fundraising, with stunning artworks alongside the creative exploits of our children, which they are still talking about.

Other smaller fundraising and community events included the Mother's Day stall, Election Day BBQ and our inaugural Father's Day Breakfast. We promise to cater for all 350 of you next time!

Supporting the Community and Sponsorship

The school opened its doors to community groups throughout the year to utilize our gym, including *Shooters Basketball* for local children and *Walsh Martial Arts Taekwondo*, in which over 10 FPS families (adults and

children) participate. These community groups, along with our returning generous sponsors **Bendigo Bank, Dellios West Lawyers, Elgin Printing** and **Jellis Craig** have enabled our events through both cash and in-kind sponsorship for which we are most grateful.

Fundraising

In general, funds raised by our events in past years have contributed to many extra programs and resources such as: our Professional in Residence Programs, the Grounds Action Plan – Kaan's Winya, ICT equipment including iPads and interactive whiteboards and Community Committee resources which we need to hold our events.

The School Council is determining the ongoing allocation of our fundraising to continuously improve our school.

Join Us – Fair Meeting and Community Committee Meeting

Our next big school fair, *A Fair to Remember—Day on the Fairfield Green* is promising to be another festive event on 25th March.

- The next **Fair meeting** will be on **Tuesday 21 February**, at **7:30pm** in the staff room. Any new or returning families are welcome to come along to see where they may be able to help out.
- Our next **Community Committee meeting** will be held on **Tuesday 14 March**, at **7:30pm** in the staff room. We welcome all families to join us.

~ Jodie Palmer and Richard Lewis, FPS Community Committee Convenors

General News

Fairfield Famers Market: This Saturday, from 8am – 1pm

- As a reminder, there will be a **Level Crossing Removal Consultation Committee** at the Farmers Market. Make sure to connect with the project representatives if you have questions or feedback about the project.

School Photo Day – Thursday 23 February

- Photo Day order forms went home with children earlier this week. Please return your form to your child's teacher.
- Want a sibling/family photo? Collect the order form at the school office.
- We look forward to seeing students come to school on the 23rd in their school uniform, looking their best!

Parent Teacher Interviews for Years 1-6 – Tuesday 28 February, from 1:30 – 7pm

- Bookings for Parent Teacher Interviews are now open in Compass, on the homepage.
- We thank all the parents who have completed the "**Permission to Walk Home Alone**" Insight Survey, posted on your Compass homepage. If your child is to walk home at 1pm on the day of the interviews, please give permission as soon as possible.
- OSH Club will be open from 1pm, please book your care online:
<https://www.oshclub.com.au/oshclub.html>

Using Compass: Late to School; Early departure; Absent

- **Late to School/Early Departure:**
 - If your child is late or needs to leave school before the end of the day, **please sign in/out at the school office** (NOT at home).
 - This ensures we have the correct information as to your child's whereabouts. This is especially important when we conduct fire drills and emergency evacuations.
- **Absent from school:**

If your child is going to be absent, please go to Compass and enter the absence online.

 - It is preferable to enter an absence prior to the absence occurring.
 - If your child is marked as absent by the teacher, you will need to go to Compass and provide a reason for the absence and approve it.

Click to access the [Compass User Guide](#).

Attendance: Summary

Using Compass you can view up-to-the-second attendance information for your child.
To view your child's attendance, click on the Student Profile link on the home page and click the Attendance tab.

Approvals
This sub-tab provides a comprehensive list of attendance explanations for your child. From this tab you can also add absence notices (both past and future).

Unexplained
This sub-tab provides a list of all unexplained absences from class. From this tab you can click to approve specific absences.

Daily Snapshot
Provides a quick snapshot of today's classes and your child's attendance marking.

Attendance Summary
Includes a summary of attendance in each class. For full details about a specific absence, click the appropriate number in the grid. For an explanation of a heading item, hover your mouse over the heading of interest.

When students are marked 'Not Present' in class this can sit in one of three different categories. These include:

- NP SchL - Not present in class and is explained by a school related activity.
- NP Pamt - Not present in class and is explained by a parent approval.
- NP Unap - Not present in class with no explanation entered.

Attendance: Entering a Parent Approval

- 1 From the Compass home screen (or from your student's profile), click the 'Add Parent Approval' item.
- 2 From the pop-up window,
 - Select the reason,
 - Enter a brief description of the absence,
 - Select the start and finish time,
 - Click the 'Save' button.

Note:
Where possible, parent approvals should be entered prior to the absence occurring.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

- If you are eligible for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF), call in at the school office to collect a form, or click access the electronic version of the [CSEF Application](#).
- For those who applied for CSEF last year, you will need to re-apply again this year.
- For more information, read the [CSEF Flyer](#). The CSEF program for 2017 closes on 30 June, 2017.

Class Liaisons

- We are in the process of finalising our Class Liaisons. We thank all our volunteers so far; look out for an email from the school confirming your offer of support.
- Please [email the school](#) (providing your child's name and class) if you are able to act as a Class Liaison. We are looking for volunteers from the following classes:
 - 1/2E Emily
 - 1/2F Nanaki
 - 4A Monique
 - 5A Aaron
 - 5B Jenny
 - 5C Alison
 - 6A Nicole

Second Hand Uniform Shop

- The second hand uniform shop, located at the end of the year 5/6 hallway, has an array of dresses, shirts, polo tops and some house t-shirts available for purchase.
- All items cost \$2 and can be paid for at the school office.

After School Music Lessons

- Want to learn the guitar, recorder, violin, saxophone or flute? Click to find out more and download the [application form](#).

School Banking program

- Bendigo Bank's East Ivanhoe Community Bank® Branch provides a school banking service for children at Fairfield PS. Participants in the program will use a [Bendigo Piggy Bank Passbook Account](#).
- School banking books are collected from school each Tuesday and returned back to students by the end of the week, enabling your child to make regular deposits into his or her account.
- To open a Piggy Bank Passbook Account for your child, Bendigo Bank branch staff will be at school on the morning of **Tuesday 28 February**, from **8.45am – 9.30am** in the **Shelter Shed** area. Bring your current driver's licence for identification.

Outside of School Hours Club (OSH Club)

- OSH Club provides before and after school care for students at FPS. If you are interested in your child attending OSH Club, please enrol online at: <https://www.oshclub.com.au/oshclub.html>
- Information about the program can viewed on line, or collect a brochure from the school office.