



Newsletter 3: Friday 3 March, 2017

Principal's Report

As we are entering into Autumn we see all students well settled and engaged in their program. The Parent Interviews were an opportunity to share in the early planning and progress of the students and establish shared understandings as to how we can work together to ensure every child has a positive and constructive learning pathway.

School Leadership

Our year 6 leaders have been very active in their duties over the last week and we can be very proud of their endeavours:

RMIT

Allana and Alison accompanied three year 6 students (Declan S, Zoe A and Red M) to RMIT last Thursday. The students were invited to speak to a room of pre-service teachers about what makes an effective teacher and how do teachers engage students in learning. They spoke confidently and had the room laughing on multiple occasions. This fantastic experience was insightful for both the students and teachers present. The student's contributions will no doubt assist the next generation of teachers to be as effective as they can be. It was interesting to see how aware and relevant their views and observations were. As we know, the high leverage factor for student engagement is in the quality of the relationship between the teacher and student. Our students understand this and can candidly share their experiences of this.

GRIP Student Leadership Conference

We are really proud of our student Community Leaders and Specialists Captains who attended *the GRIP Student Leadership Conference*. This conference is unique in that it concentrates specifically on training student leaders for their role as school leaders. Our students found the conference to be a positive experience which helped them to clarify their vision and ideas of leadership.

Year 4 Discussion

Our school leaders were part of a Q&A with year 4 students who have been researching 'leadership' and the perfect source was to begin with our school leaders and learn from their understanding and early experience.

Paul Wallace also sat on a panel and shared his experience and responded to the many questions from the floor.

We are in admiration of the year 6 new colours for the year. It is always a highlight not just for the year 6 students but for all of us, who look forward to seeing what the students have selected.

Next week the year 6 students will be on the Canberra Camp exploring the many places of interest to support their learning. We wish them a wonderful time together and look forward to their stories on their return.

Project Update

Netball Court and Farmers Market

We are attaching a letter to the community that provides an update to the Farmers Market and our netball court. Please note, we are wanting to update you on all the information as we receive it. At this stage, we still do not know the definite plans for the market, nor do we know the definite timeline for the netball court. However, we hope [this letter](#) provides some insight into our developing school grounds.

Playground Stage Two

School Council met with Simone Bliss who presented a Stage Two plan for the playground extension from Kaan's Winya to the northern boundary. We are looking forward to sharing with you the broad plans shortly which will incorporate an active nature play area that offers children multiple opportunities to explore, socialise and be active.

Simone has extended the theme of Kaan's Winya with our connection with the Yarra River. A significant life form for this area is the eel and in taking this influence, Simone has developed a design that incorporates eel baskets and nets that flow through the area and invite different play forms.

We hope to start construction by mid-year.

Assistant Principal's Report

Staff Professional Development

Last week a number of FPS teachers attended a Maths presentation led by Professor Di Siemon from RMIT. Di Siemon is well known for her work in primary mathematics with teachers, schools and the Department of Education.

During this presentation staff learnt about the importance of students having 'number sense' which enables them to give meaning to numbers, use them flexibly and develop useful and efficient strategies for managing numerical situations. Without this number sense, students are unable to make meaning from their number work, including their use of operations.

Developing number sense is based on **Five Big Ideas**:

1. Trusting The Count

Understanding of the numbers 1-10, in terms of what they represent and how they can be reconfigured in relation to other numbers. E.g. when they hear 'seven' they can imagine what the collection might look like, including seeing it as 1 more than 6, 3 less than 10, 3 and 4 or 5 and 2.

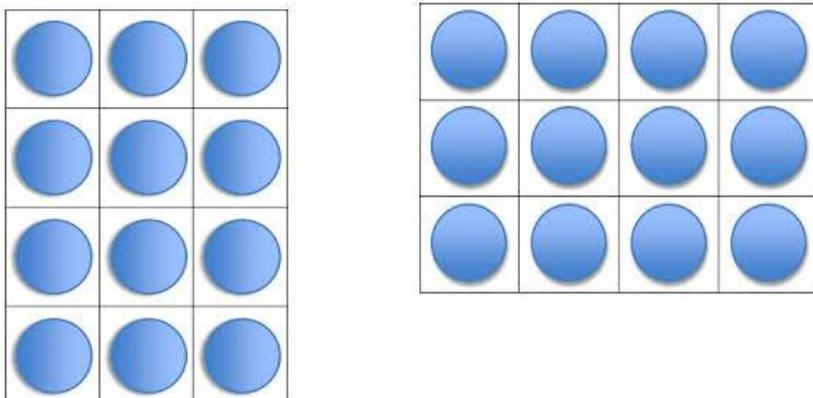
2. Place Value

Understanding that *10 of these is 1 of those*, to support more efficient ways of working with 2 digit numbers and beyond. Students can then confidently rename 2 and 3 digit numbers in terms of their parts e.g. *248 is the same as 24 tens and 8 ones*.

3. Multiplicative Thinking

Understanding when multiplication is required and how it relates to division. This supports efficient mental and written strategies and solving problems involving equal groups and proportion. When multiplication is understood through arrays (as below), students move away from working additively.

e.g. $4 \times 3 = 12$ can be rotated to 3×4 . This enables students to understand the commutativity of multiplication, giving them fewer facts to recall. It is important that students **understand** the multiplication facts as well as know them.



4. Partitioning

Working meaningfully with rational numbers (e.g. proper fractions, mixed fractions, decimal fractions and percentages). This involves understanding that equal parts are required and that the number of parts relates to the name of the part (i.e. fifths for 5 parts). Students therefore understand generalisations e.g. the more parts there are, the smaller the parts – a fifth is smaller than a third.

5. Generalising

Working meaningfully with a wider range of numbers and mathematical relationships in whatever form they appear. This bridges students' understanding from arithmetic to algebra during which they need to recognise = means *is the same as* rather than *the answer is*. To be successful at generalising, the students need to have an understanding of the concepts explored in these big ideas.

These big ideas will form part of our staff professional learning as the school continues to explore the most effective and powerful way for students to develop their understanding of number.

A Fair to Remember—A Day on the Fairfield Green

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

3 Weeks to Go!

Not long now – all the pieces are falling into place and everyone is getting excited!

We can't do it without you, and we just need a little something from everyone to make it a fabulous day.

Meetings

- Come along to the fair planning meetings. New faces are always welcome! Meetings are held at **7:30pm** in the **Staff Room**, the next meeting is **Monday 6 March**.

Volunteer

- Of course, the day doesn't run without our armies of parent helpers! Please go to the volunteer link at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084faea82faafd0-afairto2> and volunteer your time. It really helps the if you sign up early so we can see any gaps early on and do what we need to fill them.
- [Sign up now to volunteer](#)

Raffle Tickets

- Check your child's bag this afternoon for Fair Raffle Tickets. There are fabulous entertainment themed prizes this year plus an iPad as the Sellers Prize. If you need more books just ask at the office. Please return your books (sold and unsold) by **Thursday 22 March**.

Fair Signs and Posters



Each family will receive a sign publicising *A Day on the Fairfield Green*. **Please find somewhere prominent to display it**, front fence, front window or on a nearby fence? Covering the neighbourhood in these signs is really effective way to get the message out there!

This year we have also found a partner who will recycle our signs at the end of the Fair – so we will be asking you to return your signs to school a week after the fair is over!

We also have posters ready for distribution about the community. Collect some at the school office!

Pre-Loved Goods

- We have received some great donations already – but keep them coming! Please donate your good condition second hand books, clothes and toys.
- Donations can be left on the stage in the Old Hall until **Sunday 19th March**.
- If possible, please sort books and clothes before you donate to save volunteer time. Please make sure all items are clean and not ripped or broken. No magazines, DVDs or CDs.

Save the date for the Working Bee/Sorting Bee

- 10am – 2pm on Sunday 19 March

Love to bake?

- Cake trays go home **Monday 6 March!**

Lucky Dip Donation

- All kids love a Lucky Dip! We ask each family to donate one lucky dip item of up to **\$5 in value**. Ideas are stationary, craft packs, stickers etc.
- Please leave them on the Fair table outside the office.

Wine Donation

- Last year was the first time we had a wine raffle and it was a huge success! We are asking every family to **donate a bottle of wine**.
- Please drop a bottle into the office.

Wrist Bands

- Wrist bands are on sale now – don't miss out on the early bird prices that finish on **Friday 17 March**.
 - Early Bird, \$30 for children in Foundation and up
 - Early Bird, \$25 for children up to kindergarten age
- On the day of the Fair, single tickets can be purchased too: \$5 for a single ride or 3 rides for \$12.
- **Buy your wristbands through Compass.**

Stay in Touch!

[Like us on Facebook](#)

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>

**Jellis
Craig**



Our Sponsors

In particular, we would like to thank **Jellis Craig** and the **East Ivanhoe Community Bank** for their generous support. These long term relationships have been integral to the success of our annual Fairs.

We also recognise **Crisp Green Homes** as a new sponsor this year. Thanks to **Elgin Printing**, a business that supplies a range of quality materials to promote the Fair each year.



Thank you to **Campo Coffee** and **Fifteen Pounds** who are our coffee sponsor this year. Also, a big thank you to **Flour and Salt** for coming on board as a Sponsor helping us serve their delicious pizzas.

A Spotlight on Year 1/2

Off to a Great Start!

Year 1/2 students have had a busy start to term one. We have been using our **Start Up program** to develop a positive classroom culture, focusing on rights and responsibilities. Part of this work is to nurture an environment where students can strive for excellence and challenge themselves to achieve goals.

Our Home Reading program has begun. We encourage families to keep up their use of the Home Readers alongside any additional books you may be enjoying with your children at home. The Home Readers are specifically designed for young readers and are set at a level below that which is being used in Guided Reading with the teacher at school.

We have launched into an inquiry unit, '*Healthy Habits*'. This unit will lead us to unpack our big question: *How do I live a healthy life?* Our students have shared lots of prior knowledge, particularly about physical health.

Yoga and Meditation



On Friday 17 February students participated in a **Yoga and Meditation** incursion. This was a great experience for students to explore the idea that there are many ways to look after their personal health. Here are some recounts from the incursion:

On Friday 1/2C and D went to the gym. We did some yoga. First we learnt yoga positions and then we did some exercising. After we laid down and imagined we were on the beach and we were walking beside the water. We were imagining that we saw a crystal in the water. Then we got up and we saw a crystal on our mat. It was awesome!"

~ Lynette Z, 1/2C

On Friday the 17th of February 1/2C and 1/2D went on an incursion. My favourite part was when the teacher gave you a crystal that glows. The colour of my crystal was dark green.

~ Isabel L, 1/2C

Social and Emotional Health

We are looking into two other aspects of health – social and emotional health – as a way to build onto current knowledge and understanding. We have begun to explore how to look after our social health. Here are some comments from our students:

- Talking to new people to make friends. ~ Ava L, 1/2C
- Being kind. ~ Vinh K, 1/2C
- Helping others. ~ William L, 1/2D
- Telling jokes and laughing together. ~ Ava C, 1/2D
- Introducing yourself. ~ Sophie M, 1/2C
- If someone's lonely, you go over and cheer them up. ~ Archie B, 1/2C
- Asking questions and listening to the answer. ~ Lynette Z, 1/2C

~ The Year 1/2 Teachers

French Focus

Bonjour à tous,

Bienvenue for 2017. The French program has got off to a focused start. We set up the new year and French program in a purposeful way by questioning **why** and **how** we learn French at Fairfield.

Here are some of the student responses:

Why we learn French	How we learn French
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To teach us about different countries• To meet new people• To order food• To travel• To communicate• To try something new at school• To have fun and learn new things• We can keep learning it at High School• To learn about communication• To help us with English or other languages• To learn new songs and games• To see if we like it• To learn about words• To discover an interest or skill	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Role plays• Songs• Start with words and phrases• Look at signs around the room• Read books• Written work• Speaking in class/pair work• Listening to and watching other people speak French• Repeating French words• Making posters• Watching language videos online• Playing language games like Bingo or charades• Listening to French reading and stories

All grade levels continuously work on informal communication in class by greeting each other in French and asking *Comment ça va?*

Students also use French in the room for example,

- to for a drink; *Est-ce que je peux boire de l'eau?*
- or for an eraser; *Est-ce que je peux avoir la gomme?*

Current French Topics

- **Year 1/2** – Expressing opinions (J'aime/Je n'aime pas/J'adore) covering many topics including food, drinks and animals.
- **Year 3** – Le Temps (the weather). Looking at how to talk about the weather and moving on to giving a weather report.
- **Years 4/5/6** – Looking at verbs, tenses, writing about ourselves (grades 4/5 present tense) and our holidays (grade 6 past tense) using full sentences.

~ Ursula Woods, French Teacher

Sports Report

Welcome back to everyone in 2017. The beginning of the year is always a busy time for sports and this year is no exception. The 2017 **alternative sports program** for the grade 5 students is underway with students participating in their second lesson today. The grade 6 students have now played two games in **interschool sports** and will have a bye next week while they are away on camp.

This week, selected students from grade 4 - 6 competed in the **Northcote District Swimming Carnival**. On a hot day students delighted in the opportunity to swim and cool off. There were some outstanding performances in the individual swims and the relay teams also shared in the success to see a total of thirteen students qualify to compete at the Division Carnival to be held on **Tuesday 7 March**.

Community News

Introducing our Class Liaisons for 2017

Class	Teacher	Class Liaison
FA	Anna	Fiona Smeaton (parent of Archer S) Leah Ward (parent of Isabel W)
FB	Elly	Sarah Glass (parent of Chloe P) Daniel Scoullar (parent of Rupert S)
FC	Cathy	Nikola Sharp (parent of Eamon S)
FD	Rebecca	Olivia Beaman (parent of Jack B)
1/2A	Anne / Naomi	Wendy Diamond (parent of Will D) Helen Dellidis (parent of Lucas T)
1/2B	Leeanne	Tash Voller (parent of Neve V)
1/2C	Kelly	Florence Maslen (parent of Alexander M) Sarah McNab (parent of Jack M)
1/2D	Jourdan	Trish Phelan (parent of Rosie F)
1/2E	Emily	Tamlin Staples (parent of Abigael S)
1/2F	Nanaki	Taleen Malone (parent of Samilla D)
3A	Faye	Nickie Williams (parent of Ginger G) Anna Crompton (parent of William H)
3B	Brendan	Nikola Sharp (parent of Amelia S)

3C	Robyn	Kate Manton (parent of Isaac I)
4A	Monique	Hillary Schwantzer (parent of Charlie S)
4B	Jayde	Steve Darsow (parent of Oscar ED)
4B	Elise	Cate Gribble (parent of Oliver R)
5A	Aaron	Daniela Kirchlinde (parent of Scott B)
5B	Jenny	Melinda Brown (parent of Harrison B) Liz Storey (parent of Molly S)
5C	Alison	Amy Rogers (parent of Jack R)
6A	Nicole	Rebecca Northeast (parent of Minnie O) Fran Cusworth (parent of Red M)
6B	Ginger	Wendy Diamond (parent of Maya D) Lena Fiddelaers (parent of Gabe O)

General News

School Council Election Ballots

As a reminder, please remember to return your School Council Election Ballots to the office by **Monday 6 March by 4pm.**

Choir/Orchestra/Brass Update

The Music Department is busy preparing for our performance at the School Fair. Here are our scheduled practice times.

- **Choir: Tuesdays 2.40-3.30pm**
- **Orchestra: Thursdays 2.40-3.30pm** and extra practice Tuesday lunch times.
 - Please remember your instruments and sheet music each week.
- **Brass: Bring instruments every Thursday**
 - Sessions with Sean and Marc—from Thornbury High School—happen fortnightly and practice with Rosie/Ursula will occur on alternate weeks.

Opportunities for new students to join will happen in term two, we will keep you posted!

Want to Play Netball? Expression of Interest

The **NetSetGo Netball** program (which is run by Parkside Netball volunteer coaches) is offered afterschool on the courts at Fairfield Primary School. The program is seeking an expression of interest in the program, which is aimed at children in **Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2.**

- The program starts the second week of term two: 28 April 2017

- The program ends with a medal presentation on 23 June 2017 (9 sessions—no session the Queen’s birthday weekend).
- COST: \$70. All participants receive a NetSetGo pack including t-shirt and netball.
- Sessions will be 3.45pm - 4.30pm straight after school on Friday at Fairfield Primary School. Parent supervision during session is required.

If your child is interested in participating in this program, please register your interest by contacting Dona Schijf (0407 483 035; donna.schijf@gmail.com), or by signing the “Expression of Interest” poster in the Foundation corridor (from Monday 6 March onward).

~ Donna Schijf – NetSetGo Coordinator