



Principal's Report

Recognition of Allana Bryant

Two weeks ago, it was announced that Allana Bryant was successful in being appointed Senior Education Improvement Leader in the South Western Victoria Region. I would like to congratulate Allana on this appointment – I have no doubt that the schools she leads will benefit greatly from her knowledge and expertise.

It is important to acknowledge Allana for her many positive contributions towards Fairfield Primary School, and for her tireless commitment and dedication. The role of Principal is complex and multi-faceted, and throughout Allana's seven years at the school, she has led a number of school improvement initiatives that have resulted in enhanced outcomes in the areas of student learning, student wellbeing and school infrastructure.

It is not possible to list all of Allana's achievements in this article, however I am reminded of her great work when I visit classrooms and walk around the school grounds.

We are pleased that Allana will be attending our **end of term assembly** on **Friday 29 June** at **1.30pm**, so that she has an opportunity to say a few departing words. We invite all community members to this assembly.

On behalf of FPS, I would like to thank Allana for helping to make the school the great place that it is.

Year 5 & 6 Concert—Wind in the Willows

Last Wednesday, a packed house enjoyed the Year 5 and 6 performance of *'Wind in the Willows'* at Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre. The audience were treated to an evening of wonderful singing, dancing and acting as Toad, Mole, Rat and Badger took us on a heroic adventure to recapture Toad Hall from the weasels from the Wild Wood.



The concert provided another way for FPS students to display their talents – and what talented performances we enjoyed. Thank you to Keri Spence for her coordination; she was ably supported by Rosie and FPS staff.



School Review

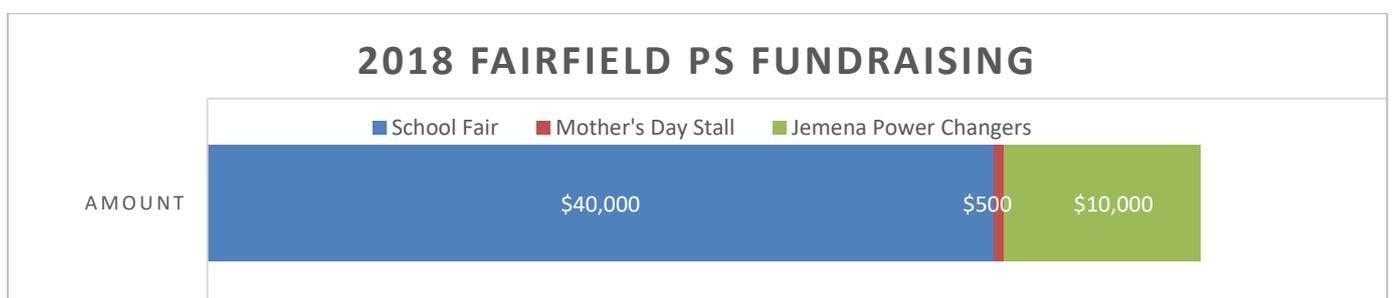
In [Term 2 Week 4’s newsletter](#), we informed families of 2018 being our Year of Review. We have confirmed dates for our School Review, which will take place in September.

As part of this process, the school nominates two challenge partners, who act as critical friends. We are delighted that Kerrie Williams – Principal of Northcote Primary School, and Cheryl Bondeson – Principal of Preston West Primary School, will be joining us on this journey.

Another important part of the process is gaining parent input. Early next term we will be hosting a parent forum, facilitated by our Senior Education Improvement Leader, Graham Stevenson. Keep an eye out in Compass for details.

Fundraising

The graphic below indicates the funds raised this year by our wonderful school community.



- We already know about the great efforts that contribute to the **school fair**. Some of this money has been used to purchase iPads for Performing Arts.
- The **Mother’s Day/Special Peron’s** stall celebrates the wonderful people in our lives, and a by-product of this is a small amount of raised money.
- The **Jemena** fundraising will be going straight back into sustainability initiatives within the school. Read more about this in the Community News section of the newsletter.

Year 4 students appreciate using the new iPads purchased with fair funds. They have been interpreting lyrics and choreographing dance routines using an understanding of AUSLAN sign language. Each dance has been created so that a hard of hearing person can experience the music by watching the performance.



Somers Camp

On Tuesday we said farewell to 24 students from Years 5 and 6, who left to attend Somers Camp on the Mornington Peninsula. This nine-day camp, run by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, provides opportunities for 160 students – from a variety of schools – to participate in a range of outdoor and environmental activities.

We look forward to hearing of the campers' experiences upon their return. Happy camping!

Chess Program

Following on from the success of last year's optional chess program, we will once again offer chess classes next term. This opportunity is open to all students from Foundation – Year 6, regardless of their chess experience and ability. If you would like to participate in the program, please enrol and pay via Compass by **Friday 22 June**.

Chess coaches from '*Kids Unlimited*' will run 1-hour lunchtime sessions at school.

- Lessons will be held every Monday (except for the first lesson, which is on Tuesday 17 July)
- There will be 10 weekly sessions: Tuesday 17 July - Monday 17 September
- The total cost of the program is \$165.

Netball Court Update

Below is an update from the Victorian School Building Authority in relation to the netball court. Unfortunately, further delays have meant that the court is not ready for early June, as was earlier communicated.

The school is preparing itself for the works to continue for the remainder of this term and for the playground space to be handed back to us for the start of next term.

I have been asked about the use of the court during the school day. The court has markings for **netball**, **basketball** and **volleyball**. There are reversible rings for netball and basketball, and it will be available for our many basketball-playing students to shoot some hoops during recess and lunchtime.

Once again, I acknowledge community members for their patience and understanding during these works.

Victorian School Building Authority Message

Netball Court works have been progressing well with the final stage now in reach. Lights are installed, new fencing at the school boundary erected and surrounding works complete.

Installation of the asphalt is booked in for Tuesday 19 June and works are scheduled to be completed within two days. Communication regarding the asphalt process will be issued to all parents and nearby residents.

We look forward to the completion of the netball court mid-July.

~ Paul Wallace, Acting Principal

Assistant Principal's Report

Books, Books, Books

The school recently purchased a number of take home books as well as more books for our guided reading sets. These texts provide students with the opportunity to engage with high-interest literature, designed to match and challenge students at their individual reading level. An enormous amount of work goes into levelling the texts, sorting them and preparing them for use. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Sarah Glass**, **Tracey Douglas** and **Tam Nguyen** for volunteering their time to prepare these books for our students. There is no possibility the books would have been ready for use without their assistance! I have already received positive feedback from students about the new texts.

School Reports

Semester 1 reports will be available in Compass on **Wednesday 27 June**. Closer to the date the school will communicate instructions for you to access your child's report. Following positive feedback last year, reports will not be printed and handed to students.

Reports provide students, teachers and parents with a clear and concise picture of a student's achievement and progress at a point in time. Teachers make informed and consistent decisions about student progress against the achievement standards using a variety of assessments and observations to inform their judgement.

In previous years, schools were required to report achievement standards and progress over a 12-month period. This year, requirements have changed. Schools are no longer able to report progress over a 12-month period and now must report over only a 6-month timeframe. This means that student reports will look somewhat different, with the growth represented as smaller because it is measured over a shorter period.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's report, make a time to discuss this with their teacher.

Bicycle Shed

It is always great to see the number of students their ride their bikes and scooters to school. Often our shed is packed with vehicles.

Unfortunately, in recent weeks some bikes and scooters have gone missing. Even though these bikes/scooters did not go missing during school hours, it is extremely disappointing for our students to discover their ride has been taken.

Although it can be a challenge, I encourage families to take bikes/ scooters home each night – especially over the weekend.

~ Katrina Lamers, Assistant Principal



Community News

Environmental Sustainability Working Group Update

The **FPS Environmental Sustainability Working Group** was first convened only a few months ago but already changes are afoot! Our focus to date has been waste—conducting audits, investigating improved bins and signage and increasing recycling and organic waste disposal opportunities. The student members of our working group are planning a litter assessment and considering the concept of ‘Nude Food’ for FPS.

In addition, we are investigating options for allocating the money raised from the *Jemema Power Changes* initiative. These include upgrading lighting through the Council-led *LED Light\$mart* program and improving the school’s management of recycling.

We have also joined the Victorian Government’s [ResourceSmart School Program](#). This provides a framework for our activities and gives us access to sustainability experts to support us in embedding ‘green practice’ into routine operations.

Lastly, we are planning a community screening of the G-rated documentary film ‘*A Plastic Ocean*’ on **Thursday 16 August**. Save the Date! Full details will be announced closer to the date.

~ Katherine Barraclough, Environmental Sustainability Working Group Member

In the Newspaper!

Check out page 10 of the latest edition of the [Northcote Leader](#) – published Wednesday 6 June. We have been referenced as fundraising recipients of the Jemema Power Changers program. There is also a quote about our commitment to using the funds for sustainability projects about the school.

A Focus on Physical Education

Term two is a busy time for Physical Education!

Foundation and Year 1/2 students

At this level, students participate in a number of different activity stations aimed around developing their fundamental movement skills. This term the focus is on underarm, overarm, two handed passes and catching. Students have a great deal of fun when participating in these activities and enjoy creating little games within their group that help them test their skills.



Year 3 – 6 students

Our students started the term with the challenging yet rewarding experience that is cross country. The cross country course is run around the school grounds with one lap of the course covering approximately 500m. Depending on their age, students either run a 2km or 3km course. Each lap the students completed earned a point for their house group. These points have been tallied up and the totals will be announced later in the term. I was extremely impressed with the commitment of the students to gain maximum house points by completing the full distance.

This endurance exercise has been maintained throughout PE with the focus of each lesson devoted to active movement such as skipping and running. In fact, some Year 4 students have been inspired by skipping so much that they have started a skipping club, more on that later. The remainder of the lesson has been focussed on learning the correct techniques required to safely and successfully complete athletic events. Next term, the Years 3 – 6 students will be attending the Collingwood Harriers Track to participate in the Schools House Athletics Carnival.

Athletics Update

As many families are aware, the Collingwood Harriers Track has been undergoing a major upgrade of the track and facilities. The upgrade is not yet complete however, our School House Athletics Competition for all Year 3 – 6 students will still run as planned at this location on **Thursday 26 July**.

There will be slight alterations to the program and events and we look forward to a successful carnival. A Compass event requiring consent will be sent home soon, as will a call out for volunteers. This day cannot run without the support of families who work with the students at each event. If you would like to know more about the carnival, please stay tuned to Compass and feel free to ask me any questions you have.

Cross Country Report

After completing the full distance at our School House Cross Country, the top eight boys and girls for each age group competed at the Northcote District Cross Country held at Bundoora. These students once again

accepted the challenge of running 2km or 3km on a much hillier course. There were some outstanding results with 16 children finishing in top ten places and earning a qualification to the Division Cross Country. We congratulate Toby Hopkins and Will Mooney who won their races, Pippa Kluge and Bonnie Lee who came second and Jasper Hopkins who finished in third place. Well done to all who attended and good luck to those who are competing at the next stage.

Skipping Club

As mentioned earlier, students from Years 3 – 6 have been involved in skipping as a lesson warm-up. A group of enthusiastic Year 4 skippers decided to take this a step further and have set up a skipping club for children in any grade. The aim of the skipping club is to have fun learning and practising skipping. The skipping club instigators have been teaching beginners to skip for the first time and showing more advanced skippers new tricks as well as teaching and playing games using the ropes. Skipping club runs every Thursday at recess outside the music room and is open to any student who would like to have a go. It is great to see such a passion and enjoyment in being active.



Learn to Swim Program

Thank you to all those families who have signed their child(ren) up to the Learn to Swim program for 2018. We have reached a maximum number of enrolments and the program is full. The program success has shone through with an extra 24 students enrolled this year to take part.

Families will be informed soon about when their child(ren) will be swimming and volunteers will be required to help in the change rooms with changing. If you are interested in helping out please speak to your classroom teacher, you will need to have a current [Working With Children Check](#) to be able to assist.

~ Geoff McShane, Physical Education Teacher

A Spotlight on Year 5

It has been another busy start to term two in Year 5. At the beginning, we had the build up to NAPLAN and to the credit of the students, they managed the experience exceptionally well.

Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone involved.

Our main focus for this term has been the Australian Gold Rush in the 1850's. This theme has been integrated across our reading, writing and the maths curriculum. Students have been involved in the learning process of historical fiction writing, researching and mapping 'The Walk from Robe'.

Term 2 of 2018 was off to a great start with the Year 5's Inquiry focus being the Australian Gold Rush. So far, we have been learning to write historical fiction stories and now we are researching different things about the gold rush in the 1800's.

Next week we are going on an excursion to Sovereign Hill to learn more about life back then. We can't wait!

~ Eliza F and Oscar ED, 5B



In Term 2, Year 5 we are looking at the **1800's Australian Gold Rush**. We get to pick our groups and choose a topic that we are interested in. This topic connects with our historical fiction writing and our Maths, **Walk from Robe**.

Some of our topics include food, politics, women on the goldfields and the **Eureka Stockade**. We use all of this knowledge to help us write our historical fiction stories because we are writing about the **1800's Australian Gold Rush**.

I think that our projects are going well. At the start, we looked at pictures and information on posters and now we are putting it all together – most of the groups have already done lots of work. Kids would take information and rewrite it into their own words and then we would check those facts again on another website so that we could be sure the facts were correct.

We have just started a Maths project called **Walk from Robe**. It is about measuring how much time it would take us to... you guessed it, **walk from Robe!** We looked at a website where some people are retracing the steps of the Chinese Immigrants and that really helps some people with their Inquiry projects.

Learning about the **1800's Australian Gold** Rush really helps us with our historical fiction narratives because by using real facts we can make our stories better, more believable and more exciting. It also helps us better understand the gold rush.

We also try to compare 'then and now', and in doing that we started to watch a series called '**My Place**', and we realised how people were treated back then. Most of the groups included a T-chart in their posters to their 'then and now' and it makes our posters really interesting.

My Place is a series of episodes that act out the 1800's life of children. Topics include **Convicts**, the **Eureka Stockade** and **The Gold Rush**. It is really fun and interesting.

The projects are super fun and amazing and I am sure we are all really proud of them. They are giving the students something to work on and look forward to.

~ Darcy H, 5A



On Wednesday 30 May, we saw a brilliant performance by students in an adaptation of 'The Wind in the Willows'. They simply rocked it. Congratulations and thank you to everyone involved on a successful concert.

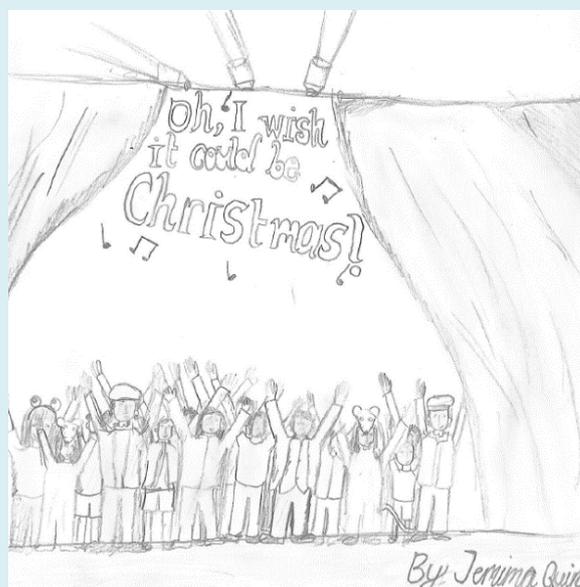
The feedback from parents, other family members and staff was very positive and everyone had an enjoyable night.

The thing I loved most about the concert was everyone got to participate in the concert and show their courage on stage. Performing was so much fun, mostly because we were doing it with our friends.

The audience, especially our family members, enjoyed the performance of 'The Wind in the Willows'. The dance my class did (5B) was 'Sweet Dreams' and so much about it made it fun, the costumes, dancing, props and the applauding!

My sister, in the audience, said she loved the show.

~ Jemima Q, 5B



Yesterday, Year 5 students had an amazing excursion to Sovereign Hill as part of our learning focus on the Australian Gold Rush. It was a fun-filled day with lots of activities to squeeze in. Students from across all three classes enjoyed their experiences there. Some of the great things we saw and did were; gold panning, an underground mine adventure, sweet making and watching a blacksmith at work, to name a few.

A great day as had by all. Many thanks to everyone who helped organise the excursion and supported the teachers throughout the day.

