



Principal's Report

End of Term Review

Now that we have reached the end of term, we should allow ourselves the opportunity to take a breath and reflect upon all that has taken place. Every week there has been something significant to celebrate, or information to be shared with the community – this could only be achieved thanks to the support of students, staff and parents.

This term we have enjoyed our wonderful new netball court, celebrated Art4All and the Father's Day Breakfast, been involved in two concerts – '*Seussical the Musical*' and '*Peter and the Wolf*', hosted '*A Plastic Ocean*' and Nude Food Day, and much more besides.



We are currently in the midst of a major building project. The relocation of students, furniture and resources has occurred in preparation for the demolition of the art block during the school holidays. I would like to thank students and staff for their support of this move – relocating three classrooms, including the art room, can be a challenging, and at times, a stressful task.

Throughout the term, students and staff have maintained an unwavering focus towards learning and teaching. Improving student outcomes remains at the centre of the school and I would like to acknowledge everyone's efforts in working to ensure that this term has been such a big success.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, I will run a '*Meet the Principal*' session so that I can share my vision for the school with families. The date of this is **Wednesday 17 October at 7pm**. Further details will be available next term via Compass.

Wishing all of our families an enjoyable two-week holiday.

School Review

During the last two weeks I have spent three days on the School Review Panel. This was a valuable opportunity to assess how the school is performing in relation to its previous Strategic Plan, and to plan goals for the next four years.

This was a very timely process due to my recent appointment as Principal. The panel were positive about the 'vibe' of the school and they all commented on:

- There is a whole-school approach to learning and teaching.
- There is an upward trend in student learning outcomes.
- The students enjoy learning.
- The students are aware of what they are learning and why it is important.
- There is a strong sense of community.
- There is an outstanding specialist program.

The panel's role is also to challenge the school, and they discussed the importance of maximising learning time, maintaining a focus on writing and developing opportunities for student voice.

I thank everyone for their contributions to this process and I look forward to sharing the report with families next term.

Art4All Weekend

This year's Art4All celebration was once again a big hit. On the opening night we enjoyed listening to the orchestra as visitors viewed the artwork and visited the shop. On Saturday night, everyone was dressed in all their finery for the gala evening with our Year 6 students the perfect hosts. On Sunday, the grounds were packed for family day as people split their time between the activities, the food, the entertainment and the art.

As a school we are truly grateful for the hours of commitment and dedication that our parent community devote. First and foremost, such events are about community engagement and we also reap the benefits of raising funds for the school.



Many thanks to all of our parent volunteers for your time and effort, with a particular acknowledgement to our coordinator Julie Calvert.

Path Installation

As part of the new netball court project, a new bluestone crazy paving path will be installed between *Kaan's Winya* and the junior playground during the school holidays. A new path is required as the gravel on the existing path will damage the acrylic surface of the netball court, which is due to be laid during the term four holidays. Some of the cost of the path will be covered by the grant that the school received for the netball court project and some will be covered by contributions to the School Building Fund.

Lighting Upgrade

Earlier this year the school received a \$10,000 grant from Jemena thanks to our involvement in the *Power Changers* initiative. The Environmental Sustainability Working Group have been discussing how best to use these funds and have agreed upon the installation of LED lights throughout the school. This lighting upgrade will reduce the school's carbon footprint and will make an estimated saving of \$4,000 per year on our energy bills. This work will take place during these school holidays.

Kiss & Go Parking

I have recently had a number of conversations with people regarding the parking situation around pick-up and drop-off times. It is important that we all recognise the importance of student safety and the necessity for following parking signs.

Darebin City Council will be updating the signage on the 'No Parking' areas around the school. They will be installing the *Kiss & Go* signage on the existing No Parking areas. Please read the information provided by Darebin City Council.



Creating safe conditions for children around schools is something that we are all responsible for. You will notice these 'Kiss and Go' signs near the school in the No Parking zone. Drivers are allowed to stay inside or within three metres of their car for up to two minutes for the quick pick up and drop off of students. Disabled Permit holders can park for up to five minutes.

When parking elsewhere, please do not encourage children to run across the road to meet you at your vehicle. Cross the road to meet them safely. Children should also enter and exit vehicles on the curb side only, and not on the road side of the vehicle, where oncoming traffic may be a danger.

~ *Darebin City Council*

Welcome Baby Ruby

FPS is excited to welcome baby Ruby Kefalas to our community! Ruby is the lovely newborn of Chris – our IT technician – and his wife Amy. Congratulations to Chris and Amy on the safe arrival of their little girl!

~ *Paul Wallace, Principal*

Assistant Principal's Report

NAPLAN

The school recently received its NAPLAN results for 2018. NAPLAN is used by the Department of Education to measure the school's performance in the area of student learning and provides formative data that can be extracted to inform future teaching.

The data indicates that FPS is performing above the State mean in all areas in Year 3 and 5. The relative growth between Year 3 and 5 is also greater than the State mean; this means that we have more students achieving high growth and fewer students achieving low growth than the State.

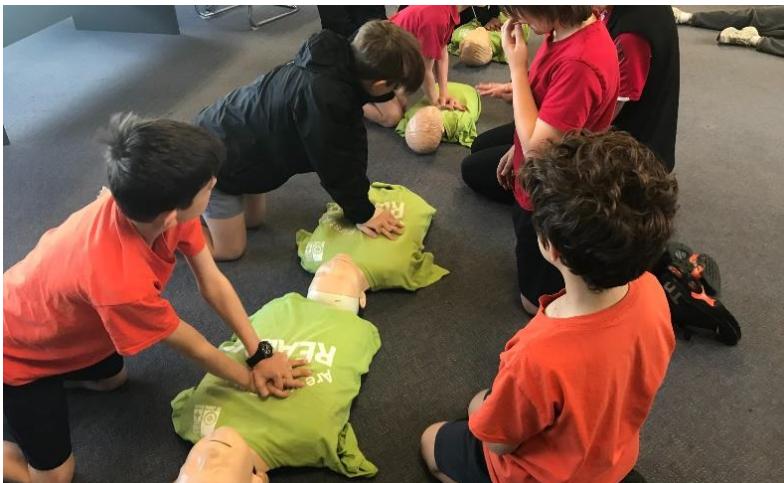
This improvement in outcomes is the result of staff understanding the learning needs of their students, and students working hard to achieve their goals.

A detailed analysis of the NAPLAN results will form part of the Annual Report meeting, which parents will be invited to next year.

First Aid

Each student at the school recently participated in First Aid Training with St. John Ambulance Australia. This was a free program where students could learn and understand basic first aid skills. All of the students were extremely positive about the experience and I have received positive feedback from parents. Thank you to Anne Killick, who coordinated the learning experience.

St John Ambulance have also launched a [Learning First Aid free mobile game](#). The game can be used to reinforce some of the skills the students learnt in the First Aid Program.



Professional Learning Communities (PLC)

Anna, Paul, Aaron, Monique and I have continued to be involved in the PLC initiative, as was mentioned in a previous newsletter. At present, the team have been able to use student data to *Evaluate and Diagnose* and to *Prioritise and Set Goals* (steps one and two of the *Improvement Cycle*, illustrated below).

Based on this data, they team have selected **writing** as the focus area for improving student outcomes, with a particular focus on improving the use of **punctuation in writing**. Teaching staff are now investigating different evidence based approaches to trial with students as part of developing a plan. They are also implementing these strategies with students. During the next term, the team will meet to monitor the

impact on student learning and outcomes in writing. They will then present this information and share their journey with other schools.

IMPROVEMENT CYCLE



~ Katrina Lamers, Assistant Principal

School Council Update

School Council Representatives

Firstly, the School Council would like to congratulate Paul Wallace on his appointment as Principal. Paul gave a presentation to the Council regarding his vision for the school and noted that it is great timing to be appointed with the school review underway, giving us an opportunity to pause for reflection, determine strategic goals to work on and to celebrate success. In term four, Paul will communicate with the broader school community his vision for FPS.

School Council also welcomed a new staff representative, Anna Lithgow, who has been appointed to fill a casual vacancy left by Paul, who has moved into the Executive Officer position.

NAPLAN

We were also pleased to hear from Katrina Lamers about the school's NAPLAN results and see such steady improvements. Thank you to teachers for such sustained efforts in building the learning of our children. Please refer to Katrina's newsletter item for further information.

Scientist-in-Residence

School Council, and the school community more broadly, has embraced both the visual artist-in-residence and the performing artist-in-residence in recent years. At this Council meeting, we heard from Alison Knox, Year 6 teacher and scientist, about the merits and logistics of supporting a scientist-in-residence. Early stage planning is underway and we look forward to sharing more as the program is developed. Once the program is finalised, the school will be seeking input from parents who work in scientific fields, as we have such great community capacity.

Events

Our community is always preparing for and simultaneously recovering from an event it seems! While the popular *Music Trivia Night* is well underway in planning (save the date for Saturday 27 October), we are also wrapping up and celebrating another fantastic Art4All. Sincere congratulations and thanks to Julie Calvert and team for convening the event and for building in sustainability measures, reducing the need for volunteers (and we think this caused such a spike in sales at the BBQ and other food stall as everyone relaxed and enjoyed the day), and a newly formed link with the Fairfield Trader's Association. It was wonderful to see student involvement at every point, from the colourful painted and felted works in the Children's Gallery, to the lovely food service at the Gala, and enthusiastic participation in ArtZone. Thanks to the volunteers who staffed all our events, including the Father's Day/Special Person's Breakfast, and the countless hours in the lead up to Art4All and over the whole weekend.

Sponsor

Nan Caple, a board member of the *Bendigo Bank*, one of our school's major sponsors presented to the Council. Nan explained the *Bendigo Bank* model and philosophy and how that fits in to their ability to sponsor local schools, such as ours, and provide substantial grants to worth community causes.

Parking

Darebin Council will install *Kiss and Go* signage around the school. Parents are strongly encouraged to abide by parking by-laws in the vicinity of the school to ensure student safety. FPS Council is also writing to the Darebin Council to request a zebra crossing at the Langridge Street entrance.

School Council Minutes

A reminder that you can [access the minutes](#) of each School Council meeting, once approved, on the FPS website.

~ Anita Galli, FPS School Council Parent Representative

Community News

Walk to School Month – 8 October to 2 November

In term four, FPS will be participating in [Walk to School Month](#). This program runs from **Monday 8 October to Friday 2 November** and we will be encouraging everyone to walk, ride or scooter to school during this time.



This week, our lunchtime student Sustainability Club met with Kasia from the City of Darebin to learn about the program. The Club will organise some exciting school activities for *Walk to School Month* to help keep motivation high. Teachers and students will also be collecting and analysing data and communicating our successes with the school community.

We know many of our families already walk to school, but we are keen to reduce the amount of cars on the road and increase the amount of feet on the footpaths!

Over the holidays you can prepare by pulling your scooters from the shed, pumping up your bike tires and planning your routes to school.

Stay tuned for more information and we are looking forward to seeing you on the footpaths next term!

Mango Fundraiser

Once again, we are offering a delicious and nutritious fundraiser to our school community – fresh North Queensland Mangoes – direct from the farm to FPS.

Purchase a tray (approximately 7kg) of mangoes, which ship directly from the farm; they are not held for long periods in storage or ripening rooms.

- [Order your mangoes online](#)
- Delivery to FPS between 10 – 14 December
- Orders close Monday 29 October, 11:30pm
- Cost: \$27 per tray



FPS 'Halloween Scream' Music Trivia Night - Saturday 27 October

Prepare your dancing shoes, brush up on your music trivia and channel your inner ghoul... the FPS Music Trivia Night is drawing near, and this year we celebrate all things Halloween! This is a full dress rehearsal for Halloween, so come dressed as if you are going to the best night of trick or treating ever!

- Join the fun in the FPS Old Hall on Saturday 27 October at 6:30pm, ready for a 7pm start.
- BYO food. Drinks at bar prices.
- Nefarious Quizmaster Tony Moclair will host the event
- Live music from Ashley Naylor, Kerri Simpson, Bin Night Romeos, Parental As Anything, Mean Average, Stephen Levickis and Rosie Wozitsky-Jones.

Tickets

Tickets go on sale Thursday 11 October at 7pm (week one of term four). A Compass communication will be sent on Tuesday 9 October with a link to buy tickets.

Purchase either:

- A table that seats 10 for \$300 (10 tables will be available for purchase.)
- Individual tickets at \$30 per ticket (A total of 40 individual tickets will be available for purchase.)



Fairfield Village Traders

Fairfield Village Traders Association have put together a '*Showtime*' event to over the school holidays. [Click for details](#).

Tennis Lessons

Interested in tennis lessons at FPS during term four? Lessons are held before school and start Thursday 18 October. For details and to enrol, [click here](#).

Thank you!

Over the course of the year, we have so many parents that freely donate their time and efforts to FPS. We would like to recognise the following people for quietly working behind the scenes to support us!

Jenny Walter – Second Hand Items

Been browsing through the second hand uniforms? Noticed the neatly folded items and hanging items, organised by size? We thanks Jenny Walter for her efforts in keeping the area clean and tidy.

Toni Clark-Smith, Olivia Beaman – Lost Property

It is an ongoing battle to keep the piles of lost property organised and to a minimum. Thanks to Toni and Olivia for returning named items to their owners and keeping the area tidy.

Tamara Tse – Commonwealth School Banking

Thanks to Tamara Tse for managing the Commonwealth Bank school banking process. On a regular basis Tamara would manage the deposit process and return bank books to students. As we no longer offer Commonwealth Banking to students, we thank Tamara for her dedication across a number of years.

Di Edwards and Martin Caves – School Grounds

Our school grounds are looking better than ever thanks to Di. Di spends many hours pruning, planting and sweeping. Last weekend, Di and Martin were kept busy removing the mosaics from the art block wall.

General News

Learn to Swim Program

The swimming program for Foundation, Year 1 & 2 students wrapped up this week with a 'fun day', which included games of underwater scarecrow, kickboard tiggy and several turns each on the inflatable slide.

We have noticed an enormous growth in the ability of the children to manage their possessions and to change themselves with increasing independence. Their confidence levels and ability to move safely around the pool have also developed. Some children have reported that they 'didn't used to like' swimming lessons, but that they are now ready to return to them.

Many thanks to all of the parents who helped in the changing rooms before and after the swimming sessions – we appreciate your time.



~ Foundation & Year 1/2 teachers

OSHClub and Bikes

Due the building works, students will not be able to access the bike storage area after school hours.

Students who attend OSHClub in the afternoon will need to get their bike/scooter straight after school ends and walk it over to OSHClub. The undercover area outside OSH will be a designated storage area for student vehicles. Students will only be permitted to access this area when a guardian or staff member is present.

Have a happy and safe holidays, we will see you at Alphington for OSH Holiday Program!

~ Lauren Walkley, FPS OSHClub Coordinator

A Spotlight on Year 5

Anglesea Camp

Year 5 students have certainly had a busy and exciting term! Perhaps the biggest highlight was camp last week at Anglesea YMCA. The students all engaged in challenging activities, with everyone trying something brand new. We were very proud of how students cooperated with one another, and the skills they developed to encourage one another as a team.

One of the toughest activities faced was the crate climb. Although it looked easy at first, everyone soon found it took more concentration than expected. Another of the highlights was the giant swing. It takes a lot of bravery to swing that high, but it really was a lot of fun to feel as though we were flying. Finally, one of the most entertaining activities was the hut building. Students had to use a variety of sticks and leaves to make a hut, which was then tested by the elements (also known as teachers armed with buckets of water). Although students got wet, everyone always managed to keep a smile on their faces.

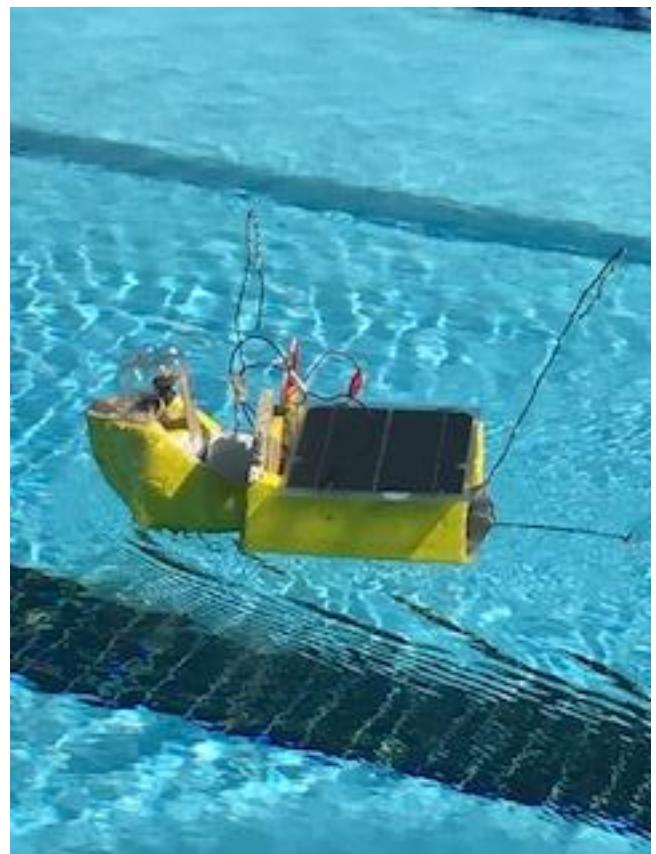


Solar Boats

The sun finally shone for the Year 5 Solar Boat time trials yesterday at the Northcote Aquatic Centre. Students have been developing their social and collaborative capabilities by applying STEM skills to builds solar boats. The initial part of the day saw teams race, observe the boats and make adjustments in order to improve times. While some boats succumbed to engineering fatigue, most were able to get through the entire race. It was wonderful to see students being so kind, encouraging and helpful to one another when facing challenges. A number of teams were able to adjust their energy source – responding to the looming clouds overhead. This provoked questions about the pros and cons of renewable energy sources and the best ways to utilise energy.

The races were conducted with good spirits and the top four groups will represent FPS at the *Solar Boat Challenge*, hosted at Scienceworks on the 20/21 October (the 21st is for teams who reach the next round of the competition).

Well done to all the students, teachers and parents who came down to support the day!



~ Year 5 Teachers

Art4All 2018

Whilst we still have to finalise numbers, the expected amount raised at this year's event is around \$30,000. Funds like this go towards school initiatives like the Artist-in-Residence program.



THANKS TO YOU

Thank-you to all those who visited, participated and purchased at Art4All 2018.

We hope you had fun!

THANKS TO HELPERS

Events like this do not just happen – they are planned, managed, resourced and helped out by so many!

THANKS TO THE ARTISTS & MAKERS

This year we have one of the largest number of Artists & Makers supporting Art4All.



Thanks to our Suppliers

This year we invited our friends from Fairfield Village. We would like to give a special thanks to:

- John from *15 Pounds*
- Nick from *Three Locals*
- George from *Brazen Brownies*
- Andrew from *Brenta Butchers*

BIG thanks to our Sponsors

Some of our sponsors helped out differently this year. We hope you all enjoyed:

- *Bendigo Bank* photo booth
- *Jellis Craig* colouring-in competition
- Gala speech by Paul from *Dellios West & Co.*
- Catalogues from *Elgin Printing*

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