



### Principal's Report

#### Meet the Principal Session

On Wednesday, I hosted a *'Meet the Principal'* session where I shared my vision for the school. I thank the parents who were able to attend the session. Below are some of the points that I discussed during the evening:

#### Learning Outcomes

Learning will remain at the centre of the school improvement work at FPS. Learning can take many forms and be applied in many ways, but ultimately it is about equipping the students as best we can with the relevant knowledge, skills and understandings, which will support them to lead a happy and healthy life.

Students have different starting points when they commence primary school. It is our role to gain a clear understanding of their learning levels and to provide programs that will support and challenge. We will maintain high expectations of our students and work hard to support their learning growth.

Literacy and Numeracy education is fundamental to children's success at all levels of education. The school will remain committed to students having daily experiences of reading, writing and mathematics, providing meaningful learning experiences in the process.



#### Social and Emotional Learning

As well as teaching academic skills, FPS places high importance on promoting student resilience, wellbeing and positive social attitudes. The school aims to achieve this through the implementation of the *'Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships'* program which covers eight topics of Social and Emotional Learning and are part of every grade's weekly timetable.

The school implements a range of other programs and interventions including *'Bounceback'*, *'Zones of Regulation'* and *'Restorative Practice'*. We have also been delighted to engage with Kate Wilde again this year as she works through a resilience unit with Year 4 students before she presents to parents on Tuesday 13 November.

Throughout every child's seven years of primary schooling and beyond, children will be faced with challenging social situations that can cause stress and challenge. Creating positive classroom and school

cultures, where staff unconditionally support students and where they are given a voice will remain part of the school improvement plan.

### **Creativity**

Visitors to the school often comment on the creative opportunities that are provided to students. Creativity is essential as it provides an openness to learning. We will endeavor to provide opportunities and challenges that require our students be creative, innovative, enterprising and adaptable and to apply their knowledge, skills and understandings in a range of contexts.



### **Community**

Our value of community presents itself in numerous ways and I value the parent commitment, which I see on a daily basis in differing ways. From volunteering at fairs, concerts and in the classroom, to attending committee meetings, working bees and presentations, the parent community is an extraordinary asset that the school is able to rely upon.

As Principal, I recognise the importance of maintaining clear communication between home and school and keeping the parent community informed of the reasons for decisions made.

When making decisions that involve the use of locally raised funds and maintenance/development of the school grounds, I will continue to consult with the parent community. I will use the newsletter to keep the community informed regarding funds the school has raised and the allocation of this money.

### **In Conclusion**

The last 18 months has been a steep learning curve for me as I have become increasingly familiar with the complex Principal role. Regardless of the size of the issue, decisions that I make will be with the students' best interests at the heart. I feel grateful and privileged to be in the position of Principal of this great school. I thank the community for their support upon my appointment and I look forward to working alongside you.



## Curriculum Day & Public Holiday

**Monday 5 November** is a curriculum day at FPS and **Tuesday 6 November** is the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday. There is no school for students on either of these days.

## Congratulations to Keri and Geoff

Our school community has a new member! We welcome Violet – who arrived over the holidays. Huge congratulations to Keri, Geoff and Amelia – who is very excited to have a little sister.

~ Paul Wallace, Principal

## Assistant Principal's Report

### Building Update

As stated last term, the school will use the newsletter to keep families informed of our building upgrade progress. Below are some images and a summary of the works completed – as provided by the contractors *Fleetwood*.

*The building is constructed off-site with the aim of it being installed in late November/early December in preparation for use, Term 1 2019. The following has occurred:*

- *Structural frame & internal partition walls constructed*
- *Electrical rough-in*
- *Plasterboard to walls*
- *Bathroom walls, wet area linings installed*
- *Bathroom tiling*
- *External walls insulated and battened to take cladding*
- *External windows and doors installed*
- *External decks in progress*
- *Internal windows & glazed door components fabricated*

~ Fleetwood Contractors

EXTERNAL LOWER LEVEL, DECKING BOARDS CURRENTLY BEING INSTALLED



EXTERNAL UPPER LEVEL



[Click to enlarge these images and see others](#)

## Art Studio

This week students were able to experience Visual Art lessons in the new Art Studio.

While minor works still need to be completed, the feedback from students and Marjie has been overwhelmingly positive.

Marjie even commented that she feels it may be even better than the old Art room! The move was a big process for staff – in particular Marjie – however, the enjoyment of the new space makes the effort and process very rewarding.



*Year 1/2C Students working on finger knitting in the Art Studio*

## Thornbury High School Concert

On Tuesday night, FPS Choir, Orchestra and Brass students performed at the Thornbury High School Concert at the Furlan Club in Thornbury. This year we have had around 70 students express their enthusiasm for the choir at different stages and we have had a number of students join the Orchestra. The commitment from these students to attend rehearsals and practice has been excellent and the pride they demonstrated while representing our school was clearly evident. Rosie and Olivia have done an excellent job in supporting the students to express their talent and creativity. It was also extremely pleasing to see the amount of parent support with families coming along to enjoy the night and support their child's performance.

~ Katrina Lamers, Assistant Principal

## Community News

### Fair Coordinator – Could this be You?

For those of you who do not know, **Saturday 16 March** is the day for our wonderfully fun and entertaining school fair, **A Fair to Remember**. We are on the hunt for a fair Coordinator (or a pair of Coordinators) to bring this awesome event to life!

The Fair is a hugely anticipated and cherished day in the school calendar (especially for the kids) and raises between \$50-60,000 of needed funds for our school. If you, or you and a friend, are interested in running the 2019 Fair, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Quimby (0429 051 880) or Anita (0422 935 683).

~ Quimby Mills and Anita Galli, FPS Community Committee

### Art Cards – Order Date Extended!

Date extended! There is still time to [place your online art cards order here](#). All purchases need to be submitted by **Monday 22 October** for processing.

### Tennis Lessons at FPS

'Tennis in Stages' lessons have started. If you wish to enrol, [download the form](#) and hand it into the office.

## Mmmmm... Mangoes!

Have you ordered your fundraising mangoes yet?

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



### Why are these mangoes special?

- The mangoes are herbicide free.
- The farm uses less than half of the fungicides and insecticides generally used in the mango industry.
- The farm uses 70% less synthetic fertilizer than most conventional mango farms.
- Holistic farming practices are employed
- The mangoes are delivered directly from the farm – not put into storage.
- Support an Australian farmer!

## Save the Date—Music from the Wetlands Event

Join the local Alphington and Fairfield community in celebrating music, environment and community on **Sunday 18 November**, from **11.45am – 5.30pm**.

For further details, [please see the event website](#).



## Celebrating Learning

### Berthe Mouchette Poetry Competition

We have recently received the finalised results from the Alliance Française Berthe Mouchette Poetry Competition.

Congratulations to the twenty Year 4 students who represented Fairfield Primary School in this competition. Particular mention to Amelia Spears, Romy Lewis, Jeevan Taylor, Mae Vance, Freya Tonkin, Anika Menz and Zoe Jackel. These students all achieved a 'Brilliant' or perfect score in the first round of the competition. This qualified them for the final round of the competition, which took place at the St Kilda Alliance Française.

Over four hundred Year 4 students across Victoria participated in the Berthe Mouchette competition this year. Of these, seventy qualified for the final. We were thrilled that seven of our students represented Fairfield Primary School as finalists. *Félicitations!* Here they are with their congratulatory certificates.



~ Emily Lindsay-Smith, French Teacher

## Fairfield PS and Thornbury HS – Concert Collaboration!

We are very proud of our continued collaboration with Thornbury High’s Performing Arts Department. Coming off from our involvement with ‘*Seussical*’, our Choir, Orchestra and Brass ensemble made a special guest appearance in this year’s Thornbury High Concert. Besides playing and singing pieces from our own repertoire, we also joined in to perform with ‘*The Lion Sleeps Tonight*’ with our Thornbury High counterparts. It was a great night and the performers were thrilled at a chance to perform for the public.



FPS students are to the left of the photo.

~ Olivia Li, Performing Arts Teacher

## Girls Soccer Tournament

Last week, the Year 5 & 6 girls soccer team ventured to McDonnell Park to play in an all-female soccer tournament. This is the third year that the friendly tournament has been organised as a way of prioritising girls involvement in sport.

Our students were committed – they practised soccer skills every Friday morning in term three and focused particularly on controlling the ball and passing to each other... and boy, did it pay off!

We were really impressed by the perseverance, cooperation and positivity each one of them demonstrated.

Thursday also just happened to also be *International Girls’ Day* and they did themselves proud!



~ Jayde Brownhill and Anna Lithgow, FPS Soccer Coaches

## A Spotlight on Foundation

Term four is upon us already! In a couple of weeks, our orientation to school program will begin, where we will welcome children who will be attending Foundation in 2019. Our current Foundation students will expand their experience of school a little too, when they visit the Year 1/2 rooms in preparation for their transition to Year 1. Exciting times!

### Literacy

We still have much to learn and explore in Foundation though. Children are continuing to establish their narrative writing skills, and are enjoying using story stones and other methods to help to create tales, as well as recording their own personal experiences. Watch out for their 'Ouch!' stories.

#### 'Ouch' by Heidi, Foundation A

Heidi was running down a rocky road and Heidi slipped on her side. "Ouch!" Heidi said. Mum put on a big band aid.

*Image is of Heidi's 'Ouch' plan.*

While many Foundation students continue to focus on decoding skills as they read, we have also introduced the comprehension strategies. These help students to delve deeper into their chosen texts, assisting them to read for meaning, and moving them from 'learning to read' to 'reading to learn'.



### Mathematics

In maths, we are investigating three-dimensional shapes; the lovely weather we are having has been perfect for enjoying 'shape walks', where we look for 3D shapes in our school environment. We are also adding groups together, creating and recording addition stories. While many children know that '5 and 5 makes 10', some have been surprised to discover that 6 and 4 ALSO makes ten – and so does 7 and 3!

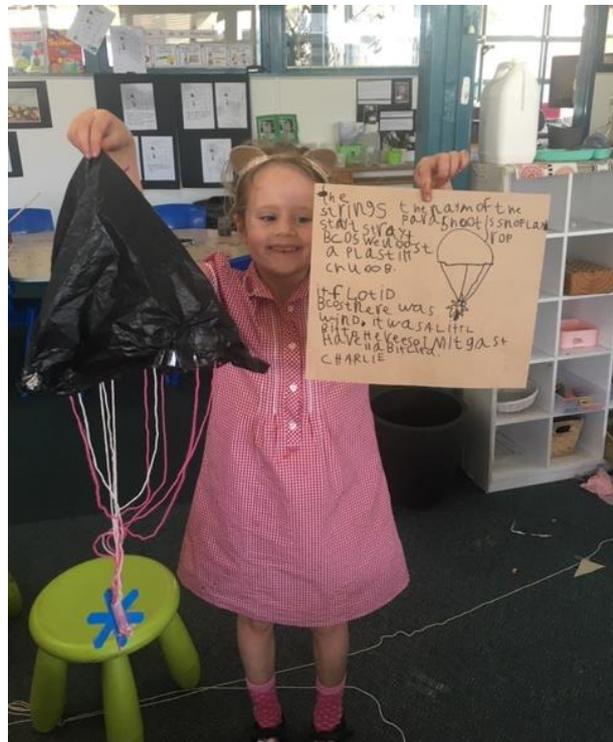
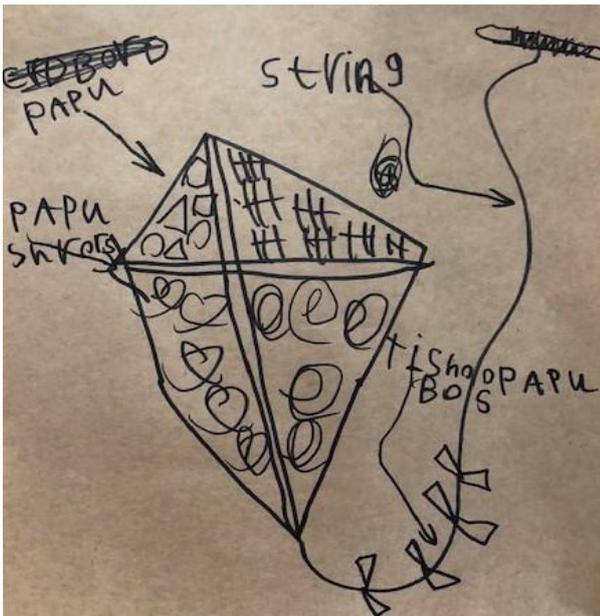
- 'We found a rock that was a cube shape' ~ Gus S, Foundation B
- 'There was a basketball – that is a sphere' ~ William J, Foundation B
- 'The wooden pole is a cylinder' ~ Aurora M, Foundation B

### Other Learning

This term we will also be learning about keeping ourselves safe and healthy. While nutrition and exercise are a large part of the unit, we also cover road safety, personal hygiene and emotional wellbeing.

## Exploration

The learning continues in Exploration, with a narrative writing table enabling students to continue this interest. We have been exploring physical science with parachutes and kites; the children have shown enormous growth in their ability to plan for and then carry out their ideas, test them and then re plan according to the results.



Our investigation of chemical science has challenged the children to ‘make the sultanas dance’. What is the combination of common kitchen ingredients that will make this happen? Once again, students are sharing their learning with each other, recording their observations, revising their ideas, making connections and persisting with the task.

- ‘When I put the salt in at the end the sultanas started dancing. Then they stopped. Next time I might put in more salt.’ ~ Lila R, Foundation C
- ‘The sultanas sank! Next time I might sing to them and then they might dance.’ ~ Esther H, Foundation C

We are all looking forward to another enjoyable term of learning together in Foundation.

~ Foundation Teachers

## OSHClub Update

We hope you all had a fantastic school holiday and a big welcome back to school from all of us at OSHClub!

### Thank You!

OSHClub staff and children would like to say a big thank-you to those who came and supported us on the last day of term three at our bake sale fundraiser. We **raised \$156**, which all went straight to the **Aussie Farmers Foundation**. We hope you enjoyed the yummy treats the children at OSHClub made during the week.

### OSHClub – Monday 5 November

A friendly reminder that Monday 5 November will be a curriculum day/pupil free day at Fairfield and OSHClub will be closed. However, if you need care for the day you may book in at Alphington OSHClub as they will be running a full day from 7am – 6pm. If you do decide to book in remember to pack a hat, water bottle and full lunch box including extra snacks! Please also make sure you label all items to ensure they return to you.

~ Lauren Walkley, FPS OSHClub Coordinator