

Principal's Report

A Visit from the Premier

On Wednesday, we welcomed a number of distinguished visitors to our school in response to the announcement that we received \$7m in the recent state budget. Our visitors included Victorian Premier, Daniel Andrews; Member for Northcote, Kat Theophanous; Regional Director for North-West Victorian Schools, Jeanette Nagorcka. The school was represented by myself, Sarah Abbott, Bronwyn Wolfgang (School Council President) and three of our Year 6 Community Leaders – Pippa, Hudson and Jack.

The Premier was struck by the history of the school, particularly when we visited the Old Hall. This is a cherished part of the school that tells a story in itself. The party then went on to visit the Year 5/6 building where the Premier was impressed by the look and design of the building, and took the time to meet 6B. We visited the new Wingrove St site, discussed the netball court which is nearing its first anniversary, and we also showcased the Eastern Playground.

Arguably the highlight of the Premier's tour was a visit to Foundation, where he took the time to talk to FA students, ask them questions about their work and about school in general. There were 'no holds barred' in the students' responses and questions, as they asked whether he was in charge of England or the boss of Australia.



In the Foundation Area

The positivity and energy that permeates throughout FPS on a daily basis was once again in evidence during the Premier's visit. Who knows, we might see him back when we open our Wingrove St site.



In the Year 6 Classrooms



Touring the new playground

Wingrove St Site

The Victorian School Building Authority have indicated that we will be proceeding with the design in the Masterplan, created in 2016 for the Wingrove St site. This will result in a second campus of two storeys, accommodating eight classrooms and with its own playground space.

Once designs have been approved and presented to School Council, I will make them available for the parent community to view.

Trivia Night

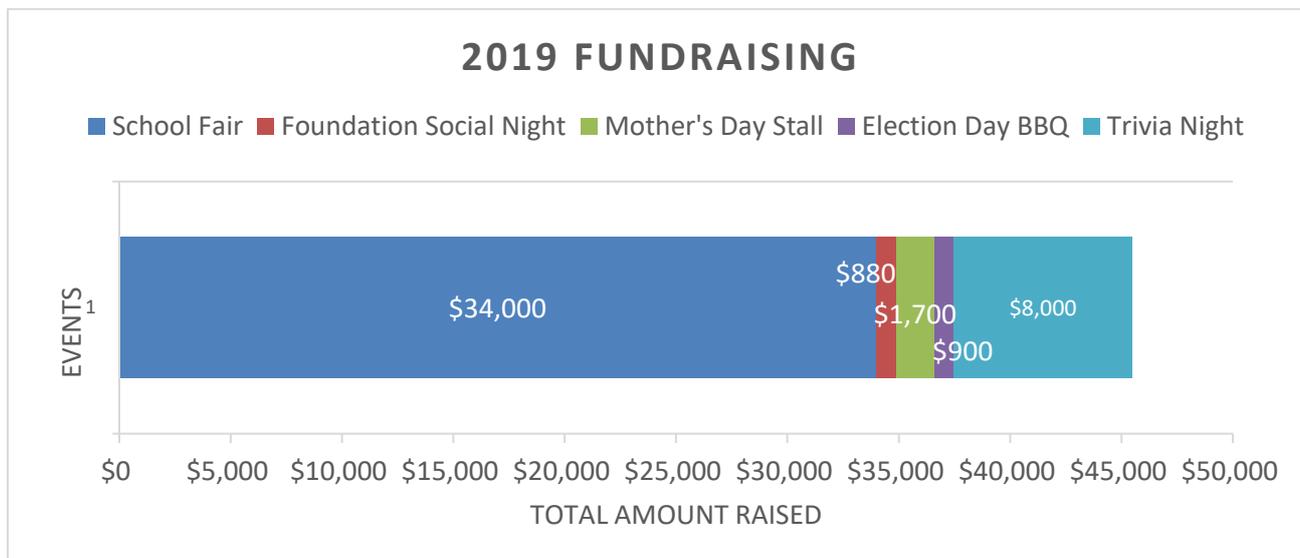
I arrived at the Regal Ballroom, Northcote, last Saturday evening and was greeted by legends of the 80s and 90s. From *The Pet Shop Boys* to *Jessica Rabbit*, and from *Devo* to multiple *Teenwolfs*, it was the place to be on this chilly evening.

The night was a terrific success. Once the trivia had finished, parent bands performed their hearts out as the venue rocked until the late hours.

Many thanks to the numerous volunteers who gave up their time to support this event. In particular, thank you to Daniel Emeny and Sally Blight for their overall coordination.



As always, the main objective of these events is to develop community spirit and relationships. In this case we raised \$8,000. Some of these funds, along with Election Day BBQ and Mother's Day / Special Person's Stall, will be used to purchase iPads for the specialist programs, as they currently have to share across the four subjects.



Happy Holidays and Curriculum Day

We can reflect upon term two as a very successful and enjoyable term. We have celebrated the opening of the Eastern Playground, Year 6 students acting as tour guides at Heide Museum, the Year 5/6 Concert, various incursions, excursions, and much more besides.

The school remains committed to its vision that *'All students feel part of the FPS community and are provided with opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills and resilience to enable them to thrive and learn, in and beyond school'* every day I see that students are experiencing new learning and developing new skills.

I wish everyone a wonderful and safe two-week holiday. A reminder that we have a Curriculum Day on Monday 15th, therefore **students return on Tuesday 16th July.**

~ Paul Wallace, Principal

Assistant Principal's Report

Student Reports

On Wednesday 26th June, the school released reports through the Compass Portal. Parent Teacher Interviews will occur in week 3 of next term on **Thursday 1st August** (excluding **5A**, whose interviews are scheduled for Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 August, from 3:45 – 6:15pm).

As always, if you have any questions about your child's progress or their report please speak directly to their classroom teacher.

2019 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)

At our last staff meeting, we revisited our AIP goals and completed a mid-year review. This was a great opportunity to celebrate our successes and reflect on future directions. Staff had the opportunity to discuss how they felt the school was progressing towards our goals and contributed their ideas on future steps to ensure we achieve our goals by the end of the year.

This year, the goals we are focussing on are *'improving literacy outcomes for all students'* and *'improving student health, wellbeing and engagement'*. As a school, we have covered work regarding improving literacy outcomes and we have been working on building our teachers' capacity in this area. In relation to the health, wellbeing and engagement goal, staff agreed that although we have programs across the school that teach our students about health and wellbeing, it has not been a focus. The school has identified wellbeing as a focus for the second half of the year. Part of this work will include regular wellbeing items in the newsletter.

~ Sarah Abbott, Assistant Principal

School Council Update

The School Council met on 17 June 2019.

OSHClub Holiday Care

School Council has accepted a six-month trial of OSHClub providing holiday care at FPS. As many of you may be aware, students requiring holiday care currently need to travel to other schools. The six-month trial is likely to commence in January 2020 with more details to be provided over the coming period.

Change of Uniform Supplier

School Council conditionally approved [A Plus Schoolwear](#) as FPS's new uniform supplier. Approval is subject to some further negotiation surrounding outstanding uniform stock. Thank you to those who provided feedback around the supplier, per a previous newsletter.

Grounds and Maintenance

School Council approved the installation of AIRCONOFF in the main school buildings. This will ensure that air-conditioning systems are turned off during non-operational times.

The State Government funding announcement of \$7 million was briefly discussed and there is no further information to be shared at this time – as soon as there is, we will let you all know.

School Council is discussing an initiative that would allow the school grounds to be unlocked during non-school times. This is seen as a positive step to support the local community in being able to access our fantastic school grounds. Further discussions will be held at the next School Council meeting.

Please do not hesitate to talk to your School Council representatives if you have anything you want to discuss about FPS. School council [meeting minutes](#) are posted to the school website.

~ Daniel Emeny, FPS School Councillor, Policy Committee

Community News

A Rockin' Trivia Night

Saturday 22 June was the Music and Trivia Fundraiser and from all reports it was a roaring success, meeting the expectations of the biggest night of the year in the parent-school calendar! This year the teacher's table lost their crown, which passed to *'Risky Quizziness'*. Well done to *'Kathleen Turner Overdrive'* who came second and third went to *'Whip It'*. A special mention to the bottom of the leader board *'One Question Wonders'*.

Pre-event nerves were high given the event was showcasing a new venue, the provision of food, a new quizmaster, a new brains trust and a new house band. No doubt I am a little biased, but from all reports it was a rocking night. The new house band *Double Denim* were nothing short of amazing – we have very talented parents who worked extremely hard to put on a professional show. Hats off to our new quizmaster Warren Staples for a sensational job, and a big thanks to Dan Beaman for the wonderful photos which can be found [here](#) and on our [Trivia Facebook](#) page. Everything ran seamlessly thanks to all our organisers, volunteers and local sponsors/donators.



Quiz winners 'Risky Quizziness'



Double Denim



Rocking out to Double Denim

Importantly, the event raised approximately \$8,000. On the night, we gave away over \$2,000 in prizes, all of which were donations from fantastic local businesses. Thanks too for the great deals provided by *Regal Ballroom, Carwyn Cellars, Dough Slingers, Tim Marmach* (sound engineering) and *bs sound* (equipment).

We thank our other great sponsors:

See Change PT Fitness	Mumma Says	Brazen Brownies	Oasis
Fairfield Flight Centre	Grandview Hotel	Three Locals	Brazilian Butterfly
Estelle	Northcote Social Club	15 Pounds	Officeworks Preston
Awesome Dancer	Thornbury Theatre	A1 Bakery	Balloons Melbourne
IGA Fairfield	Fairfield Wellness	Biviano & Sons	Storage Solutions
Elgin Printing	Ili	Big 4	Fairfield

Thanks for being such a great community, until next year.

~ Daniel Emeny and Sally Blight, Event Organisers

General News

House Athletics

On **Thursday 25 July**, all **Year 3 – 6 students** will be participating in our annual School House Athletics Carnival. The day is based around participation with students rotating around a variety of track and field events (shot put, discus, long jump) scoring points for their house simply by participating.

This carnival requires a lot of extra support from the community—[we need volunteers](#). You may offer your services for half a day or the full day:

- Full day: 9:45am – 2:15pm
- Morning session: 9:45am – 12:05pm
- Afternoon session: 12:05pm – 2:15pm

[Please sign up here!](#) If you have any expertise or interest in a particular event, please indicate that when you sign up. Thank you in advance for all your support in making this day a highlight for the children.

~ Geoff McShane, Physical Education Teacher

Tennis Lessons

Want to learn tennis at FPS? Lessons are held Thursday mornings before school. Click for [details and to access the enrolment form](#).

A Spotlight on Year 3

Mathematics

In maths, students have explored the concepts of multiplication and division, and their relationship. The students have used arrays to solve a range of multiplication equations. They developed a range of strategies to help them solve their 2, 3, 5 and 10 timetables, such as *'double and add 1 more group'*. They have connected their understanding of multiplication to division, using fact families, e.g. If $4 \times 3 = 12$, then I know $12 \div 3 = 4$. The students have used arrays to help them solve division questions, and have applied their knowledge to solve worded problems and various games. In *Chance*, the students had fun creating spinners,

and conducting experiments to test their hypotheses on the likelihood of the spinner landing on a certain colour.

- “My favourite thing about maths this term is learning about division because it’s fun and I like splitting them up!” – Hamish M, 3B

Literacy

For reading this term, students have been consolidating their repertoire of comprehension strategies. Most recently, they have been practising the skill of determining importance in both fiction and non-fiction texts enabling them to make succinct and sequential summaries.

This term students have worked hard to draft, edit, revise and publish their scripts. The students have incorporated their research on insect and animal lifecycles from Inquiry to create a script, characters and settings for a *Claymation*.

The students have worked in groups to film the Claymation and add audio through the program *Stopmotion* on the iPads. The students enjoyed incorporating new skills they learnt about *Stopmotions* in the *Techkids* incursion.



- “My favourite thing about writing and inquiry has been sculpting characters.” ~ Winona B, 3A

Inquiry

In Inquiry, the students have been exploring the importance of lifecycles for living things. They have been practising being scientists by applying the elements of the *Scientific Method* to conduct an experiment on growing a bean plant.

As a group, students researched their chosen plant or animal to support their writing, using a checklist to guide them. Students had fun participating in an incursion by *Wildlife Xposure*, in which they learnt about different animals, and their lifecycles including the Spiny Leaf insect.

- “My favourite part of term 2 has been holding a baby Saltwater Crocodile in the incursion.” - Hugo DR, 3A

~ Year 3 Teachers and Students



A Focus on Performing Arts

Hello from the Performing Arts department!

Foundation

Foundation students have been developing their acting skills this term, focussing on telling stories cooperatively. We read and reenacted *The Elves and the Shoemaker*, *The Flying Emu* and *Anansi and the Turtle*. Students then chose their own favourite story to put on independently as a performance for the rest of the class. Foundation students who have been eagerly eyeing the drums in our room will be happy to hear that playing instruments will be our focus next term.

Year 1/2

Now that we are in the midst of 'concert season', there is a lot of activity in the Performing Arts room. Year 1/2 students have wrapped up their ukulele unit and begun preparation for their concert '*The Giraffe, The Pelly and Me*'. We have begun learning our songs and dances with the Year 2s eagerly awaiting their speaking parts (they will come next term, I promise!) With a record seven Year 1/2 classes this year, we have ample opportunity to tell our story with lots of different characters.

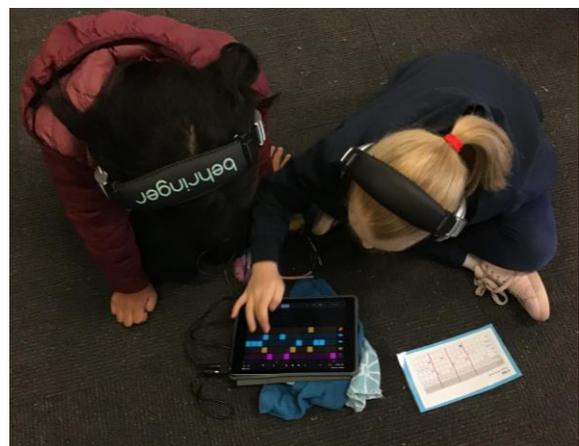
Save the Date, the concert will be held on **Tuesday 27 August** at Xavier College Performing Arts Centre.

Call for help!

We are keenly searching for a parent costume coordinator for the Year 1/2 concert. Sewing skills are not required; rather, the ability to coordinate parent volunteers and come up with creative ideas is ideal. Please [get in touch with Rosie](#) as soon as possible if you would be interested in this role.

Year 3/4

We have spent the term exploring the *Garageband* program with the new specialist iPads. Students used a beat sequencer, sampler and synthesiser to compose their own electronic tracks. We have also watched performances by different electronic artists to see how they use these different instruments, including one who made music from sounds (samples) in a dry cleaner! The students took great pride in sharing their beats with the class, with spontaneous dancing breaking out frequently during the session.



- "A sampler can be an electronic device that that records a sound that you can then change the pitch/tone" ~ Rachel S, 3A
- "A beat sequencer makes a sound based off a drum depending on what button you press" ~ William W, 3B
- "A synthesiser is a changeable keyboard which is in a grid pattern. Ours was digital but you can buy actual 3D versions" ~ Zoe G, 3B

Year 5/6

It has been an amazing term for the Year 5 and 6 students. We poured our hearts, our souls and every inch of creativity we had into our showcase concert, *'The Rainbow Fish'*. The result of this was a journey of overcoming challenges, bouncing back and achieving personal goals for many of our students. Their confidence shone on stage and they certainly brought the magic of the theatre to the audience, including those students who stage-managed and operated the sound and AV for the production. The core of the story of *'Rainbow Fish'* is that of being inclusive and part of a community—these values are consistently reflected in everything the FPS community undertakes, and it was no exception for this concert. The kindness, enthusiasm and help rendered by parents and staff is indeed commendable. Teaching at Fairfield Primary School can sometimes feel like being on the set of the television show *'Glee'*. Students asking if they could work on their music during recess and lunch, and honing their drama skills and dance choreography in the playground. Talent is abound everywhere at FPS and I am glad that they had this opportunity to showcase it for the community.



Choir and Orchestra

Choir and Orchestra are working hard to build up repertoire for our next performances at Art for All.

~ Rosie Wositzky-Jones & Olivia Li, Performing Arts Teachers