

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWSLETTER



LEARNING FOR LIFE

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS CENTRE IS A CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE OF BULLYING.

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

HOLIDAY THANKS

A huge thank you to the parent volunteers who completed tasks around the school/EYC grounds during the recent school holidays in particular the chicken coop and garden. Your efforts were greatly appreciated. This area looks so much better and is ready for lots of fabulous learning (& playing) in 2021.

PARENT INFORMATION AFTERNOON

Our welcome back get together is planned for all school families next **TUESDAY** February 16th beginning at the earlier time of 3.45pm. Parents and children will meet with teachers in the Undercover area for a quick briefing then head off to the classrooms. The informative part of the afternoon will take just a little longer than 30 minutes. Whilst the information sessions are happening for parents, the children will be supervised in the playground. The session will conclude at 4.30pm. Tea/Coffee will be provided for parents from 3.30pm in the undercover area. Please note, mask wearing and social distancing will be in place while indoors.

EXCITING 2021 ARTS PROJECT

We have been successful in receiving a grant from Regional Arts Victoria. Peter Day, local environmental artist will be overseeing the planned project. The project will consist of a multi-tiered 'art meets ecology' community project under the name of 'Jump Up Country'. The project focus will be sculpture and ephemeral artwork largely made in the landscape, depicting threatened wildlife, flora and fauna. Our school will work with a chosen local threatened fauna species, the platypus, making sculptures and researching the species habitat. The project will unfold to include neighboring schools, local community and a public showing of artworks. Peter's first visit will be in March.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The February school council meeting will be held next Monday February 15th, beginning at 5:30pm in the senior classroom.

FRAMED WINDOW

The school has an unwanted framed window 1870x1520mm. Free to new home. Currently near the Kinder entrance.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

- 9 Art (MACC Visit with Ms Jess)
- 10 Recharge Day 2 – for Foundation Students Only
- 15 School Council Meeting@5.30pm
- 16 Library (MARC Visit with Ms Mac)
- 16 Parent Information Afternoon
- 17 Recharge Day 3
- 23 Art (MACC Visit)
- 24 Recharge Day 4

MARCH

- 2 Library (MARC Visit)
- 8 Labour Day Public Holiday
- 9 Art (MACC Visit)
- 15 School Council Meeting@5.30pm
- 11 Polwarth Sports Day - Alvie T.B.C.
- 12 Polwarth Sports Back Up Day T.B.C.
- 16 Library (MARC Visit)
- 23 Art (MACC Visit)
- 30 Library (MARC Visit)

APRIL

- 1 End of Term 1 2.30pm Finish
- 2 Good Friday Easter Holidays
- 19 First Day of term 2



Our school/EYC setting is a Sunsmart location. Hats are to be worn outside throughout term 1.

SCHOOL PRIVACY POLICY

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores students and parent's personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself on the school's collection statement, found on our website

www.forrestps.vic.edu.au

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

COVID UPDATE

Visitors to school grounds must continue to comply with physical distancing and practice good hand hygiene.

To support contact tracing, schools must keep a record of all staff, students and visitors who attend on-site for more than 15 minutes. Schools must record the name, contact details, date and time of attendance at the school. The visitors book is located at the school office.

Thanks for your continued support in this regard.

Hoping you have a great week.

Darryl Hartly

HELPING HANDS

- ✓ **JOHN & LACHIE FOR HELPING UNPACK THE NEW TABLE TENNIS TABLE.**
- ✓ **TINA FOR HELPING MR HARTY WITH A TASK.**



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Learning effort: **Poppy Schuhmann** for being organised and motivated with her learning this year. Well done Poppy and keep up the good work!

Learning behaviour: **Fox Bartlett** for working hard and settling into the routines of the Senior Room. Excellent efforts Fox!

Learning effort: **Jasmine Crabbe** for fantastic efforts to strive to finish all learning activities from art at spelling- a wonderful trait to be developing.

Learning behaviour: **Sion Roberts** for his eagerness to attend to his sounds-write sessions!



SENIOR ROOM NEWS

Hello all and welcome to 2021. We have had a lovely start to the year, the students have all settled in well and we are establishing our work and play routines. This term, our major focus for our Inquiry Unit is to create a model village. Starting around 1850, a group of people have been tasked to establish a town in an empty space, each student occupies a specific role, and these include baker, farmers, hotel/inn, general store, saddlery/stable, butcher and blacksmith. Students will trade, barter and sell goods, establish roads, manage natural resources and many other activities. We

will embed Literacy, Numeracy, Civics & Citizenship, Economics, Drama, Creative Arts, and lots more into this unit. The students are very excited! So far we have planned the town, the wild and common areas, built tents, planted (origami) trees and are beginning to research what items, produce and goods will be available. Stay tuned!

Other areas of interest include trialing our new Math program Stepping Stones across the school. I am happy to report that so far, our unit of place value and decimals has been interesting and engaging.

In literacy, students have begun work in their Seed books, planting and sprouting ideas for writing. To further stimulate writing, I have established a *Table of Curiosities* at the front of our room. Students are encouraged to bring in small items of interest that we can explore and use as a basis for research and creative writing.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns, and we can arrange a time to meet.

Regards Leanne

JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

What a wonderful start to the 2021 school year! The classroom is full of energy and enthusiasm, and everyone is happy to be catching up with each other. A special welcome to Aarli, Shira, Stella and Willa-these students are a terrific addition to the Junior room.

Over the last couple of weeks our students have been learning about learning behaviours and positive mindsets. We will be

developing our classroom agreements which will go home this week for families to peruse.



We made a wonderful start to making our holiday memory boxes working with Year 6 buddies and

the Year 5's helped out the other younger students. Thanks for your help in gathering some souvenirs- the kids love sharing their stories.

Readers are going home this week so keep on eye out for

them in our new home communication bags!

Lastly, please activate your "See Saw" account as I will be sharing students work and notes via this and Skoolbag.



EARLY YEARS CENTRE NEWS

Welcome back for 2021!

We do hope that you all had a Wonderful Christmas and New Years and you are all rested after a very tumultuous year!

We would like to say a very big Welcome to Finn, Edie, Tara and Luke who have joined us from Melbourne and started with us in the Daycare.

This week the kinder children have been focusing on their literacy skills with listening, talking and following directions, not always in that order. Together we read the book, *The Perfect Square* by Michael Hall, before talking about what we understood from this wonderful book. The children were then asked to go and make their own perfect

squares, the results of which can be seen in the EYC foyer.

Outside there has been a lot of imaginative play with digging using the trucks, cooking in the home corner and building our own obstacle course. The children have been extending their gross motor and space orientation skills through trampolining, sliding, running and playing chasey with the crocodile.

The daycare children have been exploring a wonderful book, *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister, which explores the concepts of sharing and how, in doing so, it can make not only us happy but others as well. They have been colouring in some fantastic

scales to make their own Rainbow Fish shine.

The OSCH children have been enjoying sometime in the big yard climbing and swinging on the bars while inside they are demonstrating their creative side by getting involved in drawing, glueing, colouring, construction and puzzle play.

Within the last few weeks we have had quite a few birthdays in the EYC with Liza on the 18th January, Sarah and River on the 28th January and Marlon on the 6th February. Happy Birthday to all of the wonderful people who help make up the Forrest EYC family.

Cheers Di, Vicki, Liza, Shari & Paul.

INDO CORNER: Komodo

There are many ways to describe this peculiar species found in the exotic islands of Komodo, Rinca, Padar, and Flores in Indonesia. Some observe the measurements and conclude it is the tallest and biggest lizard in the world at three meters long. Others focus on the evolution of this dragon, labelling Komodo as one of dinosaurs' close relatives and the oldest ancient species still living today.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS ABOUT THEMSELVES:

1. What are you excited about right now?
2. What was your first thought when you woke up?
3. What's a small thing that makes you happy?
4. What's something you want to do, but can't yet?
5. If you could only eat one food for an entire year, what would you choose?



COMMUNITY NEWS



LITTLE SPORTS HEROES

CONTACT TAHLIA
LSHparties@gmail.com
or 0402 892 811
call

SPORTS BIRTHDAY PARTIES
suitable for ages 3-8

f i ndis



Welcome to Otway Play Therapy

Positive therapeutic play in a safe environment.

Play therapy is a relationship-based therapy, enabling a child to act out his or her feelings in the company of a therapist with a non-judgemental and accepting attitude towards them. In the safe space of the Playroom, a child can express his or her feelings through creative art, toys, props, and imaginative play.

Play Therapy has been found to provide an effective treatment for children who are feeling anxious, or finding it difficult developing and maintaining relationships, and children who are/or have experienced trauma.

Benefits of Play Therapy

- Supports emotional healing and growth
- Helps develop greater self-esteem
- Assists in developing inner resources for healing
- Fosters the ability to develop friendships
- Helps develop an understanding of the world he or she lives in

Otway Play Therapy is suited for children aged 3-13. A standard session runs for 45 minutes, once a week. Sessions are held in a **covid19 safe** private practice located in rural Gellibrand, Southwest Victoria.

www.otwayplaytherapy.com

Lena Collopy 0447 773 454

Early Childhood Teacher

PRESEASON TRAINING

UNDER 12 / UNDER 16

- Wednesday and Friday nights (starting 3/2/21)
- 4:00pm-5:30pm
- Central Reserve Hockey Grounds

COLAC OTWAY
ROVERS
A.F.C.

