FOREST FOCUS Issue No. 3 Week 6 Term 1 2013

Principal’s Message

Your school, your community

Awards
Many thanks for the number of positive messages I received about our recent change to the award system. It has been lovely to see so many children proudly achieving silver, gold or medals in assembly.
A reminder that 10 PBs go to the classroom teacher and all other awards come into the basket outside the staffroom by 9.10am Wednesday morning. May I ask that the children put their name and class on the awards so they can be returned easily by our Year 6 leaders.

Sporting equipment for children
Many thanks to our Year 6 leaders who are taking out sporting equipment for the children to use at recess and lunchtime on the oval.

Safety around school
It is wonderful to see many families taking time to enjoy a chat after school whilst the children play. Please take advantage of the picnic tables outside the canteen, or under the trees on the top playground. Due to the large number of children and toddlers on the play equipment after school I am concerned for safety of our little ones and am requesting families not to use the equipment after school. Thank you for your understanding in this matter of safety. The children have ample opportunity to enjoy the equipment at recess and lunchtime.

Homework review
Thank you to parents for your patience as we review this policy. I will have the policy ready for parents over the next two weeks with a view to implementing in Term 2. Please note, children in years 1-6 have access to Mathletics if they would like to continue their interactive maths at home.

Gail Smith
Principal

Coming events
Thursday 7 March Trivia night meeting for year 5 & 6 parents 7.30pm school office
Tuesday 19 March Year 7 placement test for NBSC
Wednesday 20 March IMAX excursion
Thursday 21 March Botanic Gardens and Art Gallery of NSW excursion
Friday 22 March P&C disco – K-2 5pm-6pm, 3-6 6.15pm-7.45pm (time change)
Thursday 28 March Easter Hat Parade 11.45am for K-2
Wednesday 3 April Grandparents morning 10am
Thursday 4 April K-6 cross country
Congratulations to our Assembly Award Winners in Term 1, Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>BLUE AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Lila S, Harrison H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Sophie Y, Joden A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Cordelia D, Owen M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Abby H, Charles M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Joshua M, Andres A, River W, Freya McG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Matthew B, Torika T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3P</td>
<td>Harshdeep D, Jonathan D, Thomas S, Mikayla H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Charlotte M, Erin L, Harvey S, Ruby G</td>
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<tr>
<td>4S</td>
<td>Flynn M, Willem S, Oliver C, Byron A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5D</td>
<td>Xavier R, Caitlin M, Jordon H, Max C, Alexander Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5Y</td>
<td>Mark P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Sara O'S, Will D, Casey H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6W</td>
<td>Phoebe H, Mitchell A, Charly W, Ashleigh M</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily C, Mikayla H, Katelyn G, Corey G, Elena B, Kirra G, Jacob W</td>
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<th>GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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and Term 1, Week 5

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<tr>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Tahlia P, Billy C</td>
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<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Kiara J, Gauravdeep D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Alessio V, Kate M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Ivy S, Oliver M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Toby S, Isaac L, Nicholas L, Dougy E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Ashleigh B, Alexander Y, Amberley H, Nathan R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3P</td>
<td>Orson tL, Jeremy tL, Evan R, Alessandra G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Austin M, Siaan C, Ruby G, Gabrielle L, Erin C, Quinn V-K, Tahlia S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4S</td>
<td>Emily B, Nathan R</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5D</td>
<td>Alastair McD, Jan B x 2, Aidan B</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Lucy P, Yasmin tL, Jasper H, Harry B</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6W</td>
<td>Ella M, Reed H, Connor O’N, Lucy E, Liam C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harshdeep D, Charlotte M, Austin M, Tahlia S, Casey H, Heather M</td>
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<tr>
<th>GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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<tr>
<th>MEDAL RECIPIENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Yasmin tL, Elena B</td>
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**Sports News**

PSSA sport has commenced and the first round saw some excellent results for Frenchs Forest. Sadly the second round was washed out due to the heavy rain.

On Monday 4 March, 40 students represented our school at the Warringah Zone Swimming Carnival. It was a fantastic day and many of our students made finals and achieved outstanding results including:

- Tamara A – 5th in 8 years 50m Freestyle
- Charli B – 1st in 11 years 50m Freestyle, 1st in 11 years 50m Backstroke, 1st in 11 years 50m Butterfly, 1st in Open 200m Individual Medley, 2nd in 11 years 50m Breaststroke, 2nd in Open 100m Freestyle
- Jackson B – 2nd in Junior 50m Butterfly, 4th in 9 years 50m Freestyle, 7th in Junior 50m Breaststroke
- Liam C – 8th in 11 years 50m Breaststroke
- Willem S – 6th in Junior 50m Butterfly
- Taine W – 8th in 11 years 50m Butterfly

Charli B topped off her fantastic day by being presented with the trophy for the 11 years Age Champion. Well done to all who swam and represented our school with pride. We wish Charli and Jackson all the best as they progress to the area carnival.

Over the past few weeks several students have been involved in Warringah Zone trials for a variety of sports. These trials are the first step in the process for students attempting to achieve selection for Sydney North and represent the region at state tournaments later in the year. The trials are very competitive and are usually attended by students who play representative sport outside of school. Congratulations to Harrison Beauchamp who was one of 8 players selected out of 40 at the Warringah zone basketball trial. He then attended the Sydney North basketball trial where he competed for selection against 60 students from the Central Coast through to the North Shore. Though he was unsuccessful in the final trial, we are very proud of his commitment and dedication to the sport.

Basketball is a sport that is growing in popularity with several students from FFPS now playing in competitions outside of school. On Thursday 7 March students in years 3-6 will participate in a basketball clinic with former Olympian Brad Dalton and former Sydney Kings player Luke Cooper.

Matthew Philips  
Sports Coordinator

**Library/Resource Centre News**

The year has started with the usual flurry of activity in the Library Resource Centre. All students have been borrowing lovely books, discovering the delights of usernames and passwords on the PCs and lunchtime activities are proving as popular as ever. There are two special pieces of news;

**Premier's Reading Challenge**  
As some have already discovered, the website is open now for students to logon and enter online details of the books that they have finished. Please do not hesitate to contact me if your child has any difficulties with this process. You will find the online records at [https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html](https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html) where each child needs to go to Logon on the first left side menu and then Student Reading Record at the top of the next left hand menu that opens. All classes will be able to practise in the computer room as well. Congratulations to Henry, Zali and Jasmine who have already completed the challenge. Wow! Well Done!
**Book Covering**
I would like to thank most sincerely all the lovely people who have volunteered their assistance in the LRC. Help with shelving is of inestimable assistance with maintaining order and tidiness, and our book stocks have been substantially increased courtesy of those who answered the call at parent information night and have been busily covering books ever since. I, and the children, say a very big thankyou to you all.

_Claire Peters_
Teacher Librarian

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**Kindys enjoying the new picnic tables – rewards from last year’s Earn and Learn points**

**Easter Hat Parade Invitation**

Continuing the exciting tradition at Frenchs Forest Public School, the children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be participating in an Easter hat parade at the Forestway Shopping Centre on Thursday 28 March 2013 then at school.

Students in years 3-6 will be invited to watch K-2 parade their hats. Hats for years 3-6 are optional. Following the K-2 parade, families are invited to stay for a picnic lunch.

**Please note:** children will be making their hats at home and may need some assistance or ideas.

**Lost and Found**

Lost - a plastic bag with a pair of shorts, t-shirt and black belt on the seat outside 4S classroom. If anyone has found this or mistakenly taken it home, please hand into the school office.
P & C News

The term has already been a very busy one with lots of activities still to come. It was unfortunate that our welcome picnic was rained out but we were still able to farewell Mrs Angela Helsloot at both assembly and the afternoon tea following. Our first all school working bee will be held on Sunday 17 March at 2pm. Our Grounds & Gardens committee will be providing refreshments and a BBQ afterwards, so it is a lovely opportunity to work together and then socialise afterwards whilst the kids play. We will be working on the area around Forest Kids and some cleaning and minor works in the centre.

Thank you to the parents and staff who attended the P&C Meeting on Monday. We are fortunate to have a community who feel able to voice any concerns in an open and fair forum. At the meeting, motions were put forward that the special meeting regarding Forest Kids be held on Monday 18 March and that it be an information session where all options can be discussed. We welcome all parents to this meeting. An Agenda and Information paper will be circulated beforehand.

P&C DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS FOCUS

Friday 15/3/13 – Uniform shop open 8.45 – 9.15am
Sunday 17/3/13 – Working Bee & BBQ 2pm – 5pm (weather permitting)
Monday 18/3/13 – Special Meeting – Information evening for Forest Kids 7.30pm Staffroom
Friday 22/3/13 – School Disco from 5pm for K-2 6.15pm for 3-6

Volunteer News - Thank you to all of the Parents who have already volunteered to help in various ways in our school community this term. For those who would like to be involved but are not sure how, we are looking to hold a P&C information and social evening for all parents, where the Executive and Sub-Committee convenors will attend and talk about what we do whilst enjoying drinks and nibbles. Look out for date in the next Focus. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact myself, the executive or any of the sub-committee convenors at ffpspandc@gmail.com.

Your P&C executive are always willing to meet with and/or discuss any idea, issue or concern that you may have.

Mishell Currie
P&C President
0424 958 515
ffpspandc@gmail.com

Sushi day thanks
Many thanks to Pam Holland and her wonderful band of ‘sushi day volunteers’ for putting together another yummy sushi day deal for our children.

School24 changes
We have recently been advised by the team at School24 that they will start charging fees for schools to use their online ordering system. We have been fortunate to date as we have been
able to use their system without any charges, however they are unable to continue to offer this facility without some financial assistance from participating schools.

There are two options for the fee structure and you can choose which one better suits your needs.

Plan 1: (Pay as you go)
$0.25 per order (Ideal for parents who don't use the online system frequently)
This fee will be added to the total of each order and then deducted from the credit balance in your SCHOOL24 account.

Plan 2: (Unlimited number of orders)
$8 per family per year (Ideal for parents with more than one child and who order frequently).
Please note that for 2013 the fee for the remaining number of terms will be $6. This fee is charged directly to the parents.

If you decide to go with the "Pay as you Go" option, you can change your mind at any time and move to the fixed fee option.

These changes came into effect from 1st March. The rollout of the fee structure is happening school by school so you will not receive a message about the fees when you log in until such time as they have 'switched our school on'.

If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact Fiona Caden at fiona.caden@gmail.com.
A general information sheet and registration details are available from the Canteen section under 'Parents Resources' on the school website.

Volunteers
Thank you to all of our volunteers and a welcome to the new volunteers who have put their hands up to help out in the Canteen this term. We really appreciate it.

Thank you for your continued support.

Neroli Greenland
Canteen Coordinator
Email neroli.g@optusnet.com.au

Uniform Shop News

As Term 2 is approaching, it is time to think about winter uniforms. Please come and see us soon to buy your winter outfits. A reminder that either long or short sleeve shirts may be worn in winter by both boys and girls. Girls may wear black tights or short white socks with the winter tunic and the boys are required to wear long trousers. All are available at the Uniform Shop. We also have wonderful raincoats for those wet days!

Today every student should have brought home a note regarding the purchase of a polar fleece jacket for winter. This is a one-off order. If you are interested in purchasing one for your child, please complete the form and return it to the office (silver letterbox) by the latest Thursday 28 March. The cost is $45, cash or cheque payment only please. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept orders after this date.

Opening dates for the remainder of the term are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>15 March</th>
<th>23 March</th>
<th>12 April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8.45 – 9.15am</td>
<td>3.45 – 4.15pm</td>
<td>8.45 – 9.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8.45 – 9.15am</td>
<td>3.45 – 4.15pm</td>
<td>8.45 – 9.15am</td>
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Kim Beauchamp
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator
On Thursday 14 February the Navy Band came to visit our school. It was awesome! The Band conducted a workshop for year 5 & 6 senior band members and then the whole school was entertained by the drum corps, concert band and rock band. A separate email with an animoto of the event has been sent home today. Big thanks to Sarah, Donna D, Liz and Robyn for their assistance in making the event memorable for everyone.

Now it’s time to gear up for Band Camp. Permission notes will be emailed very soon. Also please note the Senior Band will be performing at assembly on the 22nd March. Finally can all parents please check the Duty Roster published in the latest Newsletter. Your help in the band room at rehearsals is greatly appreciated. If you have any other question regarding band please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Pam Holland (9975 9259)
Band Coordinator 2013

Grounds & Gardens Committee Notice

FFPS Working Bee

When: Sunday 17 March 2013
Where: Meeting outside the office
Time: 2.00 – 5pm

Come and enjoy a rewarding family afternoon working in and around our beautiful school grounds. Bring the whole family along. Children are welcome to bring scooters, trikes/bikes along for a play.

A note will follow next week but please save the details and we hope to see you there. Remember: Refreshments for all the busy workers will be provided.

Contact: Judy Gombos for any questions in the meantime through the P&C email address: fffspandc@gmail.com

Please note that the advertisements appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily carry the endorsement of Frenchs Forest Public School. The credentials of advertisers have NOT been checked by the school. For reasons of child protection, interested parents are strongly advised to closely check the credentials of any person or group advertising activities that would directly involve the participation of their children (e.g. camps, coaching classes, etc.)
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE

The mobile Red Cross blood service will be located at Bunnings, Belrose on Friday 22 March from 9.00am to 2.30pm. Every blood donation saves three lives. By visiting the mobile van you can make a huge difference in the lives of many people.

MOSMAN HIGH SCHOOL EXTENSION PROGRAM

Mosman High School is running special programs for talented students in Drama, Music, Visual Arts and Academic extension. The office has several flyers inviting applications from year 6 students for entry to these programs for year 7 2014. All programs are aimed at students with special talents, interests or gifts. If you are interested, please ask the office for a copy.

Let’s Playgroup

Let’s Playgroup for children 0-5 years of age
In the playground and small hall at Frenchs Forest Anglican Church
67 Bantry Bay Rd

Every Monday morning
9.30-11.30am during term time

Contact Bee: 0406 409964
Church Office: 9975 5410
TRIPLE P seminar series

In around 90 minutes each, these three seminars will aim to leave carers feeling more confident, competent and ready to deal with common child behavioural and emotional issues. Topics include ‘The Power of Positive Parenting’, ‘Raising Competent, Confident Children’ and ‘Raising Resilient Children’. These seminars are for parents and carers with children 3-10 years old.

When: Saturdays March 16th and 30th and April 6th 10-12pm

Where: Relationships Australia
5 Sera Street Lane Cove

(Sorry, no childcare available)

Counselling for couples, families and individuals is also available at our Neutral Bay, Lane Cove, Dee Why and North Ryde offices

ALL SEMINARS ARE FREE. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED CALL 9418 8800 TO SECURE YOUR PLACE

For more information email northadmin@rana.ws or visit our website http://www.nsw.relationships.com.au