Principal’s Message

School merit award system
Across the school there is a consistent award system where children earn PBs, certificates and medals. Children may exchange their awards as follows. PBs are given directly to the class teacher and all other awards should be placed in the basket outside the staffroom. Please ensure awards are in an envelope or bag with the child’s name and class.

- 10 PBs = Blue certificate
- 4 Blues = Silver certificate
- 3 Silvers = Gold certificate
- 2 Golds = Medal

Awards are presented at assembly on a Friday at 2pm; parents are warmly invited.

Attendance at school
This year, schools are operating under a new DEC school attendance policy. If your child is absent from school please phone the office during the day. When your child returns to school please send in or email a note explaining their absence. Teachers will send home a reminder of absences if an explanation has not been received. Please follow the links below for further information on the policy and procedures.


Class parents
One of the many ways our parents help at school is by taking up a class parent role. This is primarily a social role and one very much valued by our community. If you are interested in this role, please email me at gail.margaret.smith@det.nsw.edu.au or chat to your class teacher.

Grandparents’ morning
Grandparents are warmly invited to join us at school on Thursday 19 March. We will meet in the hall at 9.30am for a short presentation then grandparents will be escorted by Year 6 to the classrooms. Grandparents may like to visit the library to donate a book during the morning. We will finish with morning tea in the staffroom from 11.00 to 11.30am.

I would like to put together a photostory for the grandparents so I am asking parents to send in a photo of their children spending time with grandparents. Please limit these to 2 photos per family. Photos can be emailed to me at gail.margaret.smith@det.nsw.edu.au or given to the class teacher.
Swimming Carnival
Thank you to all our parents who were able to join us last week and special thanks to those parents that helped make our carnival run so smoothly. It was great to see so many children having a go and earning house points! The swim team for the zone carnival has been selected and these children will go on to represent the school on Monday 9 March. As always we wish our team the best and know they will conduct themselves respectfully and responsibly.

School Development Day Term 4
I am writing to let parents know that we will be requesting a change to our Term 4 school development day from Friday 18 December to Saturday 2 May. We have the opportunity to have an expert in maths (Anita Chin) give the staff a day of professional learning on the Saturday before she leaves for the US. This will not affect vacation care at Forest Kids. Please email me if you have any objections to this request.

Gail Smith Principal

Coming events
Thursday 19 February Dance begins
Friday 20 February Swimming ribbons presented at 2.30pm
Friday 27 February Tea@Tinas 3.10pm
Tuesday 10 March Interrelate 6pm and 7.15pm
Thursday 12 March Sundaes in the Canteen
Sunday 15 March Grounds and Gardens Working Bee 2pm-5pm
Monday 16 March P&C 7.30pm
Thursday 19 March Grandparents morning 9.30am – 11.30am
Monday 23 March Young Leaders’ Day for Year 6
Thursday 26 March School Athletics Carnival K-6
Friday 27 March Sport patches presented at assembly
Saturday 28 March Election cake stall
Thursday 2 April Easter Hat Parade 2.15pm

Last day of Term 1

Respectful Responsible Learner
The focus for this term is:

| Weeks 1 and 6 | Am I prepared for school? |
| Weeks 2 and 7 | Politey greet and respond to all |
| Weeks 3 and 8 | Say please, thank you and excuse me |
| Weeks 4 and 9 | Uniform – am I wearing my uniform with pride |
| Weeks 5 and 10 | Accept differences and encourage others |

Student Wellbeing
At FFPS we have a strong student wellbeing program, PBEL – positive behaviour engaging learners. Staff explicitly teach a core set of expectations designed to support students to make positive choices.
Teachers work very hard to take time to talk to the children about their behaviour and how we work together co-operatively in our school environment. We very much value working closely with parents to support our children whilst they are at school.

How can you support your child? Ask them about their day, drawing out the positives and new things they learnt. Listen if they are upset and work out if it is an issue that the school needs to know about.

Teachers will make every effort to resolve school issues in a timely way as they believe that children learn best when they are happy and in a safe supportive environment.

It is best if parents refrain from dealing with issues by confronting children or sending emails to parents. Often the story from the children may not be completely accurate and teachers are able to chat to all children involved and gain a clearer picture of the events.

We are committed to ensuring FFPS is a safe, nurturing, supportive and happy school and I want to build strong partnerships with all our parents.

Gail Smith

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**Assembly Award Winners Term 1 Week 3**

**SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS**
Heather M, Fraser McC, Ruby G, Maxim G, Chloe D, Maximilian C

**GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS**
Torika T

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**P & C News**

**President’s Report**
Thank you to everyone who came to our first meeting for the year. It was lovely to see so many new faces as well as the wonderful regulars. Among the things discussed and resolved were approval for new curtains for the band room, the use of the P&C room by Forest Kids to accommodate growing numbers, setting the date of the first working bee for the year (15 March), election of our new secretary and looking at the year moving forward. Keep watching this space for exciting developments to come.

In order to facilitate easier communication between the school community and the P&C, we have put together a contact list for your reference. Please see below.

Our next meeting will be Monday 16 March, 7:30pm in the staff room.

Sandie Docker
President
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>For matters relating to</th>
<th>Currently in Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcpresident@gmail.com">ffpspandcpresident@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>The role of the P&amp;C in 2015 and any aspect of the P&amp;C's partnership with the school and community, significant P&amp;C initiatives for 2015.</td>
<td>Ms Sandie Docker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vice President 1</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcvicepresident1@gmail.com">ffpspandcvicepresident1@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>How the P&amp;C works (e.g. rules, meeting procedures), an alternative contact if the President is unavailable.</td>
<td>Mrs Mishell Currie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vice President 2</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcvicepresident2@gmail.com">ffpspandcvicepresident2@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Morgan McCullough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcsecretary@gmail.com">ffpspandcsecretary@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Copies of minutes of P&amp;C meetings, the schedule of upcoming meetings (inc. significant agenda items) and membership.</td>
<td>Mrs Amanda Morey</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandctreasury@gmail.com">ffpspandctreasury@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Any P&amp;C financial matters (inc. subcommittees) and related activities (e.g. expense claims, reporting).</td>
<td>Mr Alex Richards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com">ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Charlotte Nash</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Band</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcband@gmail.com">ffpspandcband@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>The services provided by the subcommittees, parent and community support and subcommittee plans and initiatives for 2015.</td>
<td>Ms Sally Tate</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Uniform Shop</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcuniform@gmail.com">ffpspandcuniform@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Deb Hishon</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcfundraising@gmail.com">ffpspandcfundraising@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs Tonya Richards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grounds &amp; Gardens</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandcgrounds@gmail.com">ffpspandcgrounds@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Judy Gombos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GENERAL ENQUIRIES</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffpspandc@gmail.com">ffpspandc@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Any other general questions in relation to the P&amp;C, volunteering opportunities.</td>
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</table>
The first Tea @Tina's for 2015 is coming up on Friday 27 February. It is held once a term outside the school canteen from 3.10pm-4.30pm and is a great chance to catch up and meet new people over a cup of tea, coffee or a cold drink while the children play. There is also delicious home baking for sale. Please note dogs are not allowed on school grounds.

Charlotte Nash
FFPS Canteen Convener

Uniform Shop

**REMINDER** The Uniform Shop will be open this Saturday 21 February from 3:45pm-4:15pm. Our opening times for the rest of Term 1 are:

- Saturday 21 Feb from 3:45pm - 4:15pm
- Friday 27 Feb from 8:45am - 9:15am
- Friday 13 Mar from 8:45am - 9:15am
- Saturday 21 Mar from 3:45pm - 4:15pm
- Friday 27 Mar from 8:45am - 9:15am

If you are not able to visit at these times you can complete an order form which is available from the office or download from our FFPS website. Orders are filled each Friday and can be sent to your child’s classroom or available for collection at the office.

Please note that at the Uniform Shop or if using the order form payment is by cash or cheque only. Please make the cheque payable to FFPS Uniform Shop.

For all parents, current and new, if you would like to help out in the Uniform Shop please let me know (I can be contacted via the P&C email). You would only be required for 30 minutes on a Friday, a couple of times a term or even on a Saturday afternoon if that suits you better. Younger siblings are always welcome too – we have a play corner with toys!

Deb Hishon
Uniform Shop Convener

Band News

All bands have recommenced their rehearsals and group tutorials this week, with the speedy return of our band director Mr Squire. Please make sure you arrive for your rehearsals on time, and ready to play!

For those children who attend after school care: if you are practising your instrument please take care to be Respectful and Responsible with your own instrument!

Please take note of the following dates for your diaries.

**Sunday 29 March**: Training Band to have a “Jam in” day – an intensive day at school, in the format of Band Camp – tutorials, maintenance/instruction groups and fun activities. It is necessary that all training band students attend.

Sunday 17 May – Performance Band to play at the St Ives show 11am (to be confirmed)

Sally Tate
Band Convener

**Grounds Working Bee**
Please join us on Sunday 15 March from 2.00pm for our school working bee followed by a BBQ. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Anyone interested in a spot of weeding before drop off and pick up: this month’s focus - the garden beds as marked on the grounds & gardens plan that will be displayed on the notice boards by the hall and canteen.

Judy Gombos
Grounds & Garden Convener