Principal’s Message

Grandparents’ morning
Every year we invite our grandparents to visit the children in their classrooms and share morning tea with us. I would like to prepare a digital photo display for the grandparents to enjoy over morning tea so I am requesting parents to send in a photo of a shared moment between grandparents and their grandchildren. Please email photos to gail.margaret.smith@det.nsw.edu.au.

Please pass the following information to grandparents who may be attending:
- 9.15 arrive at school and meet in the assembly hall for a welcome by Mrs Smith
- 9.30 visits to the classrooms and library
- Mrs Peters will have our annual donate-a-book happening throughout the morning
- 10.30 morning tea back in the school hall
- 11.15 exhausted grandparents may go home for a nap if needed!

Class parents
Class parents at Frenchs Forest School are organised through the P&C. We have one parent who is elected at the P&C AGM to co-ordinate and support the class parents. We are currently looking for parents to volunteer to take on the role of class parent for their class.

The role is primarily a social one; class parents are asked to organise social events for children and parents. Class parents will also collate and distribute a class social contact list.

If you would like to take on the role of class parent please email Kerryn at ffpspandcclassparent@gmail.com.

Engagement team
Last year a school engagement team was formed comprising five parents, one teacher and myself. Our aim is to look at how we can communicate more effectively to parents and engage parents in our childrens’ learning journey. One area we discussed was communicating school systems to parents so, in this Focus, I will begin with Learning Support.

Learning Support (student wellbeing)
FFPS has a learning support team comprising the principal, the executive team and the school counsellor, meeting every Monday. Children may be referred to the learning support team for learning, social or emotional support.

Teachers identify learning goals for children and will liaise with parents about the learning goal. The learning support teacher develops a program of learning to achieve the goal in consultation with the class teacher. The program is delivered by the learning support teacher or a learning support officer. Support may be individual or small group withdrawal, or in class.
Children are assessed by the learning support teacher against their learning goal and this information is communicated to parents. Children achieve their best when the school and parents work together to support them.

**Centenary Assembly**
Thank you to Sugar Princess who baked and decorated the 320 Centenary cupcakes - a delicious surprise for the students.

**Remember…**
- Thursday 24 March  Easter Hat Parade K-2 at 2.15
- Friday 25 March  Good Friday (no school)
- Monday 28 March  Easter Monday (no school)
- Thursday 31 March  Year 3 excursion
  - Mrs Smith at principals’ conference
- Friday 1 April  Special awards Assembly (medals, certificates, sport ribbons)
  - Mrs Smith at principals’ conference
- Thursday 7 April  Grandparents’ morning 9.15-11.15
- Friday 8 April  Last day of Term 1

**Gail Smith**
Principal

**Focus for Parents**
I subscribe to an online blog called Positive Parenting Solutions – it is worth a read as the parenting topics are varied and interesting. I came across this post from Heather Shumaker, author of “It’s OK to go up the slide”.

[http://www.positiveparentingsolutions.com/parenting/a-radical-solution-to-elementary-homework](http://www.positiveparentingsolutions.com/parenting/a-radical-solution-to-elementary-homework)

**Respectful Responsible Learner**
The focus for this term is:

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<thead>
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<th>Weeks 1 and 2</th>
<th>I will have a go</th>
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<td>Weeks 3 and 4</td>
<td>I am here to learn</td>
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<td>Weeks 5 and 6</td>
<td>I will co-operate with others</td>
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<td>Weeks 7 and 8</td>
<td>I will bounce back</td>
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<td>Weeks 9 and 10</td>
<td>I will make good choices</td>
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**Assembly Award Winners**

**Term 1 Weeks 6 and 7**

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**Centenary News**

We are looking for parents who are interested in joining the centenary committee to help organise the finer details of our centenary events. The meeting will be on Tuesday 22 March at 7.30pm in the staffroom (enter via Sorlie Place). The agenda will include:

- October 15 evening event for the wider community
- October 14 and 15 open school events
- Centenary bush walk
- Centenary 100 years book
- Memorabilia

**Gail Smith** (Principal) and **Sandie Docker** (P&C President)

*Your school community working together*

**Administration News**

**SCHOOL GROUNDS**

Please be aware that no animals (dog, cat, rabbit etc.) no matter how cute, are allowed on school grounds.

Students who have completed the bicycle safety agreement and are riding their bikes to school, must alight at the school gate and walk their bike into school (parent's as well) and out. No riding within the school grounds. This applies to skateboards as well. There is a bike rack behind the Canteen to park the bike until the end of the school day.

**Linda Lyell**

Administrative Manager

**P & C News**

**President’s Report**

ffpspandcpresident@gmail.com

On Monday night, your P&C held their second meeting for the year. It was great to see some new faces at the meeting and wonderful to see so many dads there. The mood was jovial and, between lots of laughter, we discussed many matters that affect your children; from canteen updates, to the purchase of new zone athletics uniforms, to the creation of a Centenary Bush Walk, to possible changes to the girl’s summer uniform and so much more.

Coming along to a P&C meeting is a great way to find out what’s going on in the school and an exceptional opportunity to have your say in these important decisions. We meet in week 3 and week 8 of every term. The meeting is over by around 9 pm and our Treasurer puts on a pretty good spread for you to enjoy. Come along next time and surprise yourself with how much you'll
learn and how much fun you’ll have. NEXT MEETING: Monday 9 May at 7:30 pm in the staff room

Sandie Docker
President

Canteen
ffpspandccanteen@gmail.com

Thank you to all the bakers and volunteers who helped out at Catch-up @ Carrie’s. There was a delicious assortment of goodies and it was a busy afternoon.

The Committee is still looking for a roster co-ordinator and a treasurer. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the school community and get to know other parents. If you are interested, please contact me via the email address above.

If you would like to join the Committee, our next meeting will be held this Monday 21 March at 7.30pm in the P & C room (opposite the Uniform shop).

Charlotte Nash
Canteen Convenor

Band
ffpspandcband@gmail.com

Congratulations to the members of the training band who attended “Jam In” day with such great enthusiasm! By days end, there were a few tired faces amongst the crowd. Thank you to all parents who helped on the day – without you, we would find it very difficult to get everyone supervised, fed and tutored.

Band camp for the older band members is fast approaching. The roster for parents will be out very soon; if there are any dads who missed out on the opportunity to stay overnight, IT’S NOT TOO LATE!! Please contact me at the email address above if you can help out as we are a bit light on for dads.

Band members must remember to be respectful when in the band room

- respecting other members’ time by not interrupting Mr Squire
- not touching other students’ instruments
- sitting quietly and listening to instructions

Sally Tate
Band Convenor
Fundraising
ffpandcfundraising@gmail.com

We are looking for a Fair co-ordinator. This doesn’t have to be a person on their own. Alternatively, get a group of your friends together. There will be lots of assistance from the school community and each year group will be allocated a stall to co-ordinate. The fair is such a fun event so please get involved. Please contact me for any further information.

A reminder that raffle ticket books are due to be returned by Thursday 24 March, either sold or unsold.

Lisa Frew
0418 672 759

WARRINGAH COUNCIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Vacation care bookings opened on Monday 14 March 2016. To download the full program and Booking Request Form, please go to www.warringah.nsw.gov.au.