Principal’s Message

As we move through week 4, the children are settled and happy in their new classes for 2014. Many are making new friendships and the challenges of a new grade are being taken up enthusiastically. I am happy to confirm that we will maintain our current class structure of 14 classes for the year.

Teachers are spending professional learning time looking at PBEL (Positive Behaviour Engaging Learners) across different school settings and in the classroom. Children are involved in discovering what a Respectful Responsible Learner looks like as they develop their class behaviour expectations together.

Homework
As per our policy, all children are expected to read throughout the week at home. This may include silent reading, reading aloud or being read to – all valuable reading activities! Teachers have spent quite an amount of time planning engaging homework activities for students who would like to take up these opportunities. The activities are designed to be interesting and stimulating as we encourage children to engage with their learning in a meaningful way both at school and home.

P&C
We are fortunate at FFPS to have an interested and committed group of parents who support our school through the P&C (Parents & Citizens). I would like to thank all our 2014 volunteers and encourage you to read the P&C message in this Focus. Please join us this evening for Pinot and Canapés in the hall where you can find out more about how you can be involved at school.

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 teachers. If you are interested in this role, please email me at gail.margaret.smith@det.nsw.edu.au. We currently need class parents for KD and KS, 1W, 3H, 3/4W, 4S, 5/6D, 5/6M, 5/6P, 5/6Y.

Gail Smith Principal

Coming events
Thursday 20 February P&C Pinot and Canape information evening 7.30pm
Friday 21 February Special Religious Education begins
Friday 21 February Chess lessons begin (years 2-6)
Friday 21 February Tea@Tina’s 3.10pm outside the canteen (all welcome)
Monday 3 March P&C 7.30pm – all welcome
Some housekeeping notes…

Before school supervision of children

- Teachers are on duty on the top playground from 8.40am until 9.10am. Parents are asked to supervise their children if arriving before this time.

Waiting for children in the afternoon

- Parents are asked to consider waiting for their children away from the classrooms where conversation can be distracting for the children.

Congratulations to our Assembly Award Winners in Term 1, Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>BLUE AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Imogen L, Finn G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Toby V, Mia V, Rory Z, Stefan B, Ben P, Alec B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Oliver M, Ethan H x 2, Angus McC, Tyra T, Ryan S, Owen M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Alex S, Billy C, Liam T, Alexander K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Riley M x 2, James B, Nicholas L, Carl H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2S</td>
<td>Lucas H x 2, River W, Max L, Charles M, Samantha H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Thomas S, Eva B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4W</td>
<td>Jackson B, Samantha G, Kirra G, Natalie Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4S</td>
<td>Kimberley D, Kaitlynn D, Emily C, Siaan C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Lucy E, Brandon D, Keeley F, Corey G, Stefani M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Max C, Caitlyn A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6P</td>
<td>Jan B, Flynn M, Claudia B, Grace D, Miranda L, Byron A, Amy H, Jade A, Jon A</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
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<tr>
<th>GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamie H</td>
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<tr>
<th>MEDAL RECIPIENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miranda L, Claudia B, Ben L, Hannah G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P&C News

I would extend a huge thank you to the number of new families expressing interest in becoming involved in the P&C. Whether it’s doing laundry for the canteen or rostering on for the uniform shop, every extra volunteer we have, the more effective your P&C is.

Your P&C work with the school to provide opportunities and services to your children above and beyond what the Department of Education provides. These include fundraising events to raise money for the purchase of resources such as new computers, picnic tables and beautiful literature; a uniform shop that enables the availability of uniforms so easily on site; a wonderful band program to enrich your child’s music education; and a canteen that provides a much needed and utilized service. And all of these opportunities and services are only available to you and your children because of parent volunteers and a small number of specialists (like the band director and canteen manager) who are employed by your P&C.

Without you, without your P&C, these wonderful enhancements to your child’s school life simply wouldn’t be possible.
If you want to find out more about what we do, why not come along to the Pinot & Canapé evening tonight in the hall at 7:30 where there’ll be plenty of refreshments, fun and prizes. Don’t worry if you haven’t rsvp’d. We’ll still welcome you with a glass of wine and a smile.

Current vacancies on the P&C: Vice President, Canteen Convenor, Band Convenor, Fundraising Convenor.

**Sandie Docker**  
P&C President  
ffpspandc@gmail.com

Thank you to all of our new and current volunteers who have put their hand up to help with canteen shifts, laundry and baking. Your assistance is very much appreciated and we look forward to welcoming the many new faces at the canteen.

The canteen is humming along and it lovely to see so many kindy children coming to the canteen at recess or lunch and gaining confidence in making their purchases. The new Juicie Tubes are proving very popular. A reminder that frozen items are only sold at lunch time.

**This Week – Friday, 21 February**  
Our first Tea @ Tina’s for 2014 will be held at the Canteen tomorrow afternoon from 3:10pm. Tea @ Tina’s is a social gathering for students, siblings and parents held on a Friday afternoon once a term. It is a great opportunity to catch-up with new and current FFPS families over a tea, coffee or cold drink while your children play. Delicious Home Baking also on sale!

**Wednesday, 12 March**  
Make a Sandwich Day – This is a fun day for all where the children get to make their own sandwich at school, choosing from lots of different fillings. It is a great opportunity for children to try something new. Look out for the note coming home soon.

**Neroli Greenland**  
Canteen Co-ordinator

**Uniform Shop News**

A reminder that the Uniform Shop is open this **Saturday February 22 from 3:45pm to 4:15pm**  
Opening times for the rest of Term 1 are:

- Friday 28 Feb from 8:45am to 9:15am
- Friday 14 Mar from 8:45am to 9:15am
- Saturday 22 Mar from 3.45pm to 4:15pm
- Friday 28 Mar from 8:45am to 9:15am
- Friday 11 April from 8:45am to 9:15am

If you are not able to visit at these times you can complete an order form which is available from the school office or download one from our FFPS website. Orders are filled each Friday and are sent to your child’s classroom or available for collection at the office. **Please ensure your order**
form is the current 2014 form as there have been some small stock and price changes from 2013.

Please note that 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 office). You would only be required for 30 minutes on a Friday, a couple times a term. Younger siblings are always welcome too – there is a play corner with toys!

**Deb Hishon**  
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

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.)
The Forest High School

GATS (General Achievement) Test

Saturday 15th March 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians of Year 6 students,

The Forest High School will be running their GATS Test on Saturday 15th March from 9am to 11.30am in the school hall.

Students wishing to be placed in our Gifted and Talented class for Year 7 2015 must first sit for this test. The Year 7 G&T class for Year 7 2015 will be determined after close examination of the test results and the students’ NAPLAN results from Year 5.

The cost of the test is $20.00, payable on the day. Students are to bring a 2B or B pencil, an eraser and a ruler. No calculators or dictionaries can be used.

The test consists of three parts:

Part 1 – Mathematics - 40 multiple-choice questions.

Part 2 – Reading and language – 40 multiple-choice questions

Part 3 – One writing task

Students are requested to arrive at The Forest High School by 8.45am for a 9am start. They are also requested to bring a copy of their NAPLAN results on the day of the test.

If you would like your child to sit for this test please ring The Forest High School on 94515111 and register your name, your child’s name, address and phone number. Please register before Friday 7th March.

Mrs Jane Dean
Deputy Principal