PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT
Last week, the Department of Education & Training appointed our Senior Room Teacher, Craig Donahoo to the acting principal role at Alvie Consolidated School for 12 months. Information about this appointment was conveyed to the school community on Friday. We congratulate Craig on his appointment and will no doubt see him at CARS cluster events involving both schools. A replacement teacher will be appointed shortly and will take up the position on October 9th. Parents and students will be informed of this appointment in due course. For more information do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

PUBLIC SPEAKING at FORREST
The First Polwarth Public Speaking Event conducted by the Forrest & District Lions Club in conjunction with Forrest, Birregurra and Deans Marsh Schools is planned for Thursday September 14th. This event will be held at the Forrest Hall this year and will begin at 7pm. Four selected students from Grades 3/4 & 5/6 will be asked to speak on a chosen topic. Independent judges will be adjudicating. Entry is free and will conclude with supper. Prizes will be awarded to the best speakers. Family and friends are most welcome. Info about the school public speaking evening on Sept 7th will be sent home later this week.

PARENT SURVEY
DET have noted very low participation rates in regards to the completion of the Forrest PS Parent Opinion Survey this year. The closing date has been extended to Sunday September 3rd and only one survey per family is to be completed. Your feedback will be useful to school council with future planning. Please find attached a letter attached with all the details.

SALTBUSSH EXCURSION
On Thursday August 31st, the school is attending the Saltbush performance at COPACC. Saltbush is an interactive journey through the culture and landscape of Aboriginal Australia, following two friends through the Australian landscape, from river country to an urban landscape, through desert and seas. The story is filled with beautiful dance, music, songs and stories, and the children will find themselves immersed in a live, projected artwork that introduces them to the shared culture and language of Indigenous Australia. Permission forms (pink) went home with students last week. Please complete the return slip with payment by next Monday August 28th. Thanks.

DRESS UP DAY on FRIDAY
JSC has organised a fun Dress Up Day on Friday August 25th. Children are asked to dress up as their favourite book or movie character. Children having trouble with costumes only need to ask a JSC rep for some help as we have a good supply of dress up items. It is a gold coin donation for the Anti Cancer Council to celebrate Daffodil Day.

EXTREME WEATHER
All our wonderful children—Kinder and Primary School included—are to be congratulated on the way they approached the difficult stormy weather we have had recently. Wow! That thunder on Friday was loud and surprised US all!

“Do it now. Sometimes later becomes never!”
Reader’s Theatre

On the 11th of August at our Friday Assembly, it was the Senior Room’s turn to make a performance. This week one of our groups enjoyed presenting a Reader’s Theatre play. Reader’s Theatre is a strategy that combines reading practice and performing. Its goal is to enhance students’ reading skills and confidence by having them practice reading with a purpose. Reader’s theatre gives students a real reason to read aloud. Children self-seeded based on their reading skills, and performed extraordinarily well in a mixed age group. It was particularly interesting to observe the confidence in the children after a relatively short time practising. It also provided an opportunity for those who tend to be shy, being able to perform safely within a group.

Reader’s Workshop

On Monday, our Professional Learning Team undertook professional development with Deb Sukarna, a well qualified and sought after educational consultant. The focus for this visit was Reader’s Workshop, which is a framework for reading instruction that provides students with a supportive environment and involves them in authentic reading experiences that focus on the strengths and needs of each individual student. In the Grades 3-6 class, Deb worked with children to understand the Reader’s Workshop routines and then she observed the current practices under Craig’s instruction. She debriefed both Craig and Kaz, gave very practical advice, feedback and resources to help us improve our practice at Forrest PS.

An opportunity for Craig

For the past 12 months, I have been interested in developing my career in school leadership, and have undertaken professional development in this area. Recently a 12 months acting Principal role came up at Alvie Consolidated School. I felt it was good timing, and after much consideration, I applied for the job and was successful. This was announced to our community on Friday, and as expected, the Grades 3-6 children were not particularly happy. On Monday, we spent time discussing our feelings, and we came to mutual understanding based on respect. Please be assured Forrest PS will continue running successful learning programs and operate in a positive and productive learning culture underpinned by excellent learning behaviours.

LEARNING BEHAVIOUR: REUBEN FREDDI

For consistently using his reading skills to comprehend texts during guided reading.

LEARNING EFFORT: WILLIAM HUNT

For his persistence and resilience whilst learning new skills in gymnastics.

Helping Hands

Maddy for helping a younger student sort out a problem.

Noah for returning a ball back to the sports cage.
CHILDCARE & OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Well winter has arrived, children enjoying the muddy outdoors. Please don’t forget to send wet weather gear so we can go outside, Benefits of being outdoors; children are able to run, skip, jump, climb, throw, hop and catch and use their outside voices, which provides a healthy break from being inside. Being outside gives children the opportunity to stretch their muscles, breathe fresh air and enjoy the freedom of space. Great to have Arlie and Abigail join us, we still have some spots left for care please speak to Sarah or myself (Vicki) if interested. Jackie has settled in well; the children are enjoying having her around and is a great help with the transitioning of the new children also.

Childcare
We have been busy with new families starting. We have been making some changes to our art room adding a mat area and shelving with some toys and books. This allows both groups to separate and enjoy activities which are age appropriate. Staff and children are utilising areas well! Childcare interviews will be held this Thursday if you have not booked a time and would like to, just mark it in a time that suits. On the sheet located next to the childcare sign in book.

After Kinder Care
With the winter bugs going around its being a bit quiet, children are engaging with each other sharing experiences, the favourite activity now is construction play, building with blocks – great for problem solving, also teaching mathematics, and helping children understand concepts of length, height, weight and area. Children over the next few weeks will start preparing their Fathers’ Day Gifts. We experimented with shaving cream and powder paint this week, with the children mixing colours and writing their own names. This was a great sensory activity enjoyed by all.

OSHC
This week, Poppy took it on herself to prepare afternoon tea, fantastic effort, showing great leadership, setting the table, cleaning after herself and making sure others were fed before herself. Well done Poppy! Claudia, Sophie and Poppy tried their hand at drama this week, making props, dressing in costume, preparing scripts. Drama helps children creativity and imagination, also engaging in social development. Great acting girls. We have also started our Father’s Day gifts. Our Sports program has been enjoyed across the whole school with all levels learning new skills in gymnastics. Please don’t forget to send a snack to have before the session starts.

Some Photos of the children catching rain drops with their tongues, gymnastics, construction play and sensory activities. Thanks Vicki

LEARNING EFFORT: JAXON KURZMAN
For his excellent thinking during maths work about groupings and sharing. Excellent work Jaxon!

LEARNING BEHAVIOUR: BELLA WILLIAMS
For her much improved efforts to keep trying when she meets challenges in her learning. This is a wonderful step in your learning Bella! Never Give Up!!
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Polwarth & District Tennis Association

- Home and Away competition on Saturdays.
- Season from 1st Saturday in October until mid December. Recess for January. Start again February, then finals in March.
- Beginner coaching programs.
- Juniors (under 16 at 1st October) play at 9am. Teams of 4. Players play 3 doubles sets each. 5 grades based on ability from beginners.
- Afternoon competition plays at 1pm. Teams of 3 men & 3 ladies. Players play 3 doubles sets each.

Please contact your local club

Bambara  Kristin Mackinlay  0409 802 723
Barongarook  Steph Glennon  0427 988 179
Barwon Downs  Gavin Brien Ph  0407 041 960
Beecar  Kim Bayne  0408 393 580
Birregurra  Sylvia Tyer  0429 696 207
Colac Lawn  Jason Murnane  0419 535 713
Coronie  Darren Rosevear  0438 316 244
Deans Marsh  Carolyn Carew  0429 363 359
Elliminyt  Dale Edwards  5232 2362
Forrest  Mark Murnane  0429 015 664
Kawarren  Cathy Maxwell  0448 092 262
Swan Marsh  Andrew Kent  0409 847 751
Pennyroyal  Rhiannon White  0457 754 811
Waroonoort  Nigel Hawker  0458 855 948
Yeodene  Noni Langdon  0404 020 799

Friday the 25th of August we are having a dress up day – the theme is come as your favourite book/movie character.

It is also daffodil day so a gold coin donation is encouraged, the money will be donated to the Cancer Council!

Activities will be held during lunch time with JSC representatives leading the groups.

IS YOUR CHILD INTERESTED IN PLAYING TENNIS ???

Barwon Downs Tennis Club is seeking school aged children who want to learn / play tennis.

Junior tennis practice will start end of September 2017.

Saturday competition starts 7th October 2017.

For further details please contact
Robyn Ferguson
on 52366282 / 0439366282 or email lucrob1@bigpond.com

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

MAKE THE HEALTHY CHOICE THE EASY CHOICE

CHOOSE TO CHANGE COLAC!

Do you care about the health of our children?
Do you want to make the healthy choice the easy choice?
Do you want to create the town that YOU want?
If you answered yes to any of these questions then WE NEED YOU!

When: Thursday 7th September 2017
Where: COPACC, 95-97 Gillibrand St, Colac VIC 3250
Option A: 9.30am-1.30pm (Lunch provided)
Option B: 5.00pm—9.00pm (Dinner provided)

For more information or to register
Erin McClusky  (03) 5232 5347 or em McClusky@ahs.vic.gov.au
RSVP Essential

Along using your children or inquire about our children management options
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BOOMERANG BAGS SEWING CIRCLE**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 27 FORREST HALL 1-4:30PM**

ALL AGES AND SKILLS WELCOME.

There are many ways to help:
cutting of material; ironing, pinning and
sewing pockets; cutting and sewing handles,
sewing bags; preparing origami paper bin liners
(for when you finally run out of plastic bags
at home).
We will also have a fabric painting activity for the
kids. We will be here for a few hours but pop in for as
long as you like.

Donations welcome: thread, material.
Please bring your sewing machine if possible.
Afternoon tea provided.
More info: 03 5236 6591
OR forrest.nh@gmail.com

JOIN THE WAR ON WASTE IN FORREST!!!

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**THE POWER OF YOUTH**

The Forrest District and Community Group (FDCG)
invite an interested young person
to join our monthly meetings
where we discuss many important issues
relevant to our town and its development.

We believe there is a valid place
for a representative
from our younger ones in the community
to participate
and add their informed and imaginative views.
Especially as we look forward to planning a new look
for our ‘Forrest Common’ recreational area.

The voice of our next generation
needs to be part of decision making
in our unique community
Ready to take on this challenging role?

Contact: Mary Dracup, Secretary
      ☎️ 5236 6411
      📧 forrestcommunity@gmail.com