August 7, 2014

PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

Sorry it’s a late Newsletter again. This was due to our newsletter editor (Nadeesha) being absent from work yesterday. We hope to have Nadeesha back with us next Wednesday. Thanks to our fill in editor for stepping up to the plate again today.

The response to the Parent Survey has been very pleasing. Thanks to those that have found the time in their busy schedules to complete the questionnaire. We currently have 64% of surveys returned. The winner of the lucky draw prize is Sophie Lane. Congratulations and hopefully you enjoy the treats. The school has been able to extend the closing date until Monday, August 11th. I encourage those who as yet have not completed the survey to consider returning it, as your input will be valued by School Council.

Last Monday, classes were able to find time to celebrate National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Day, finding some time in their busy programs to acknowledge this day. The children completed a variety of tasks which they enjoyed.

Yesterday we had a special visit from Heather and her dog, Cilla who spoke to the Pre School and Junior Classes about Responsible Pet Ownership, and important things related to caring for pets. It was an important message Heather gave. Please find out more about the visit later in this newsletter.

Today as a mark of respect, we flew our National Flag at half mast to honor the victims of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17. The Government declared a day of National Mourning to honor the innocent victims.

Throughout the week I am endeavoring to spend time daily in all three learning spaces at Forrest Learning Centre. One thing I have noticed is the comprehensive curriculum our children are being provided by our teachers. For example yesterday, in addition to Heather and Cilla, our school students participated in an art lesson with Ms Jess Gibson and an Indonesian lesson with Bu (Mr) Bimo Soeharto. Forrest L.C. is fortunate to have such a dedicated team of teachers working together here. I have no doubt you agree with my assessments in this regard.

Yesterday the Learning Centre received an impromptu visit from Sarah Henderson, Federal Member for Corangamite. Sarah was interested in finding out more about the services we currently provide at Forrest. She was taken on a tour of the centre and was impressed with what she saw. Sarah presented flags, and a book for our library, to students.

Emma from the Forrest Guesthouse has asked for the “Naming of the Guesthouse Café” competition to be promoted in our newsletter. Students received information about this “special” competition last week. Just a reminder that entries close on Aug 8. Please also note the Guesthouse is closed for the month of August and will reopen on / near September 1st.

That’s all for this week. Hope you enjoy the remainder of the week.

Darryl
JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

Learning Goals

We now have our learning goals clearly displayed in the classroom. These cover behaviour, reading, writing, spelling and maths. Our whole class focus for behaviour is to put up our hand to question or comment. This goal avoids students talking over each other. They learn to show respect to the person who is talking and listen to their contribution. Every child has a right to be heard.

Responsible Pet Ownership

Heather visited us on Wednesday with her dog ‘Cilla’. The students had a very informative session. They learnt, or were reminded, that if they wanted to pat a dog on a lead to stop, ask permission from the owner, put out their hand for the dog to sniff it and then walk around to the side of the dog and pat from neck to tail. They also practiced how to behave around aggressive dogs – stand still, arms to the side and look to the ground. They also know that they shouldn’t pat dogs when they are asleep, eating or injured.

Reading

I love to celebrate the students’ achievements. As a class we decided how to celebrate 50, 100, 150 and 200 nights reading. All of the class has read for 50 nights and we enjoyed popcorn (last term) during our Friday afternoon session. Several students have read for 100 nights and to celebrate I made them milkshakes. The students decided they would like a celebration choice for 150 nights of reading – ‘free’ free time on Friday afternoons or a ‘free’ community lunch. Congratulations to Joe, Kohima and Luca, the first students to reach 150 nights reading! I hope our ‘celebrations’ meet with your approval. Any problems please let me know and the choices can be adjusted.

Sound Waves

This week the Preps are learning about the sounds ‘l’, and ‘u’. The Year 1 and Year 2 students are working on Unit 20 ‘p’ and ‘r’ sounds. Group 1 has the additional focus of homophones and Group 2 – adding ‘ed’ and ‘ing’ to words.

Forrest Kids Go Bush

Thanks to parents for supporting this program. I know it takes an extra effort to be organised on Fridays, dressing your child for FKGB and helping them to remember to take the extra clothing you have packed, not to mention the additional washing afterwards!

Lena and I take a common sense approach to the weather on Fridays and the running of the Forrest Kids Go Bush program. If the wind is strong and therefore posing a safety threat, falling branches and trees, the program is cancelled. While we endeavour to go ahead ‘Rain, Hail or Shine’ our program is adjusted, and sometimes shortened, to make allowances for children’s general health and comfort. The children enthusiastically enjoyed last Friday morning but cold hands and wet heads meant we lasted about an hour before calling it a day. Thursday and Friday were unusually cold. Hopefully this Friday will be ‘warmer’.

Miss Mac.

Junior Room Teacher
SENIOR ROOM NEWS

Over the last couple of weeks all students have been refining the process of writing information reports. Students have been instructed to follow a specific ‘no fail’ process that covers the ‘correct’ ‘literacies’ of information reports. First we modelled as a class, then students were guided to write one about the Zoo. Students were then asked to produce a basic information report on themselves, and currently using their new knowledge to create an information report on any topic of their choosing. Below are excerpts (partial copies) of three grades 3&4 students writing pieces. I have also included a picture of some fantastic Armitage’s that students have created over a number of art sessions, they look fantastic! Come and have a look.

Elkin-Rose Wittenberg

Elkin is a nine year old girl who lives in Forrest. She has one brother and two sisters. She is a student at Forrest P.S. She goes on the bus to school every second week. Elkin enjoys writing, art, and going on walks.

Elkin enjoys writing at school. She likes writing when she is free to write anything she wants. She likes writing stories from her imagination. Elkin likes it when her stories turn out enjoyable.

Claudia Schuhmann

Claudia is an eight year old girl who lives in the outskirts of Forrest, Victoria. She has two sisters. She is a student at Forrest Primary School and travels on the bus to school and back every day. Claudia likes maths, cooking and playing games.

Claudia likes doing maths at school. She enjoys learning her times tables. She likes adding up hard numbers. Claudia finds number lines useful.

Braeden Kurzman

Braeden is a nine year old boy who lives in Barwon Downs, Victoria. He has two brothers. He catches the bus to Forrest P.S each day. He likes maths, football and mountain bike riding.

Braeden enjoys maths at school. He likes doing Mathletics. He likes doing the times tables. Braeden is very good at maths.
The weather during last week’s Bush Program was very cold and wet. We stayed outside for about 45 minutes before many of the younger children had had enough. They were feeling cold and their hands were aching after playing with water, so we decided to go inside. It was interesting to see that the older school children seemed more resilient and didn’t seem to worry about the cold as much.

The Responsible Pet Ownership Program

Today, we will have a visit from the Responsible Pet Ownership Program. This is very timely for us as many of the children have puppies at home at the moment. Hopefully some parents are able to stay for the parent session (approx. 30 min). I’m aware of that many of you went last year.

Quality Improvement Plan

One part of the Pre-school Committee’s job is to help with the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for the Forrest Early Learning Centre. From 2013, all Children’s Services are assessed and rated against seven quality areas in the new National Quality Standard (NQS). The seven different quality areas are displayed on posters for parents to read, underneath the noticeboard in the Pre-school. Different rating levels can be awarded for each quality area, as well as an overall rating. More information about the ratings can be found on the official ACECQA website (http://www.acecqa.gov.au/). The QIP is an ongoing process, and the Pre-school committee and staff has been working on the QIP over many meetings. The Depart of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) have now informed us that it’s our turn to be assessed. We have to send the QIP to the DEECD by the 11th of August. The assessment of the Early Learning Centre (Pre-school, Child Care and Out of School Hours Care) will happen sometime between the 25th August and 22nd September. All staff and the Committee members are now busily trying to make sure that we are up to scratch with the QIP and every policy, law and regulation.

Thanks Kaz

A big thank you to Kaz for putting in a lot of time applying for a grant for a second shade sail for the Early Learning Centre. Now let’s hope we will receive it!!
Two excursions

Just another reminder about these excursions. We have two excursions planned for this year. The aim is for each child to have a parent accompanying them, so please put these dates in your diary. There will be more information closer to the dates:

**Wednesday 17/9 - The Flying Bookworm performance in Apollo Bay.**

**Friday 24/10 - The Dental Health Clinic in Colac.**

Lena Collopy

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

*Wed 6/8, 9:00-10:35, Responsible Pet Ownership Program.*

*Fri 8/8, 14:00, Committee meeting.*

*Fri 29/8, Colac Dental Health visit.*

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**CHILDCARE AND AWESOME AFTERS (OSHC)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00– 10:45</td>
<td>Outside Activities *</td>
<td>Outside Activities *</td>
<td>Outside Activities*</td>
<td>Pre-School</td>
<td>Pre-School</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-School (3 and 4 year olds)</td>
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<td>FORREST KIDS GO BUSH!</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-11:15</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
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<td>11:15– 12:30</td>
<td>Inside Games and</td>
<td>Inside Song and</td>
<td>Inside Free Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1:00</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00– 2:00</td>
<td>QUIET TIME/</td>
<td>QUIET TIME/</td>
<td>Inside Free Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00– 3:30</td>
<td>Inside play: toys,</td>
<td>Colouring pages</td>
<td>Inside play: puzzles,</td>
<td>Yoga,</td>
<td>Arts and crafts:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>trucks, drawing,</td>
<td>and decorating art</td>
<td>drawing, home corner,</td>
<td>sing-a-long songs,</td>
<td>child centred craft</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>painting</td>
<td>projects</td>
<td>book corner</td>
<td>story-time</td>
<td>activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30-4:00</td>
<td>Healthy SNACK</td>
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<td>Healthy SNACK</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00-5:00</td>
<td>Outside play</td>
<td>CRAFT TIME</td>
<td>COOKING</td>
<td>CRAFT TIME</td>
<td>Outside play</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00-6:00</td>
<td>Weekend storytelling</td>
<td>Outside play</td>
<td>Sing-a-long songs and</td>
<td>Outside Play</td>
<td>Relaxation: reading</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dance</td>
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<td>and quiet games</td>
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* Outside Activities will he held providing weather is suitable
The Polwarth & District Tennis Association is having a free open day for all tennis players, junior and senior from beginners through to advanced.

VENUE – Elliminyt Tennis Courts, Main Road, Elliminyt.

DATE - Sunday August 24th

TIME - 10am – 2pm

ACTIVITIES –
  Speed Serve - Tennis Victoria is providing a radar gun to check just how fast you can serve.
  Lots of FREE activities for all ages
  FREE Tennis coaching provided by Michael Mullen
  FREE Sausage Sizzle
  Prizes and giveaways.
  Ponds Tennis Academy PRO-SHOP OPEN.

Bring your tennis racquet or racquets will be available for use on the day.

Come along and have a fun day.
See what Polwarth & District Tennis Association and it's clubs have to offer.

For more details contact - Jane Harwood on 0420 732 072

Clubs at Bambra, Barongarook, Barwon Downs, Beeac, Birregurra, Colac Lawn Tennis, Corroooke, Deans Marsh, Elliminyt, Forrest, Kawarren, Swan Marsh, Warncoort
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CAFÉ IS CLOSED FOR AUGUST AND THEREFORE THERE WILL BE NO LUNCHES DURING THIS TIME.

WIN $100

Name the café at Forrest Guesthouse???

Can you help us? Do you think the Café at the Forrest Guesthouse could have its own name? We’d love to hear your thoughts...

Name criteria:

• Preferably use the word “Forrest” in the name
• Is easy to say when meeting friends, “let’s meet at the .........................”
• Doesn’t need to have ‘café’ in the name. Can just be “Idea’s”, or “Idea’s café”
• Suitable to go on a label like a jam jar
• Will also sound good with Guesthouse “ ............ & Guesthouse”
• Must meet legal naming requirements (ie. not an existing business name)

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

• Deadline – Friday 8 August, 2014
• Email submissions only
• Limit 2 entries per person
• Judging will be a panel of staff and selected external advisors
• Winner announced 1 September (after our break; don’t forget the Guesthouse is closed for August)
• All submissions notified by email

Email: info@forrestaccommodation.com.au

Subject: Café competition

My idea(s): ________________________________
Supplied by (your name): ________________________
Contact email: ________________________
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

All pre school and primary school parents are welcome to come and have an informal cuppa at the Forrest Brewery/cafe on Friday mornings between 9am -10am. See you there!
SNAPSHOTS OF BIRREGURRA
ENTRY FORM

Terms and conditions of Entry

1. Entries open on Friday 8 August 2014 and close Friday 26 September 2014.

2. A maximum of two photos per person may be entered and must depict your interpretation of the 2014 theme, “My Birregurra”. (Each photo should be on a separate entry form).

3. Please deliver your entry to one of the following drop off points: Birregurra General Store (59 Main St, Birregurra), Cowlick Bookstore (66 Murray St Colac), Colac Library (173 Queen Street, Colac), Red Rock Gallery (520 Corangamite Lake Road, Cororooke), Forrest Brewery (Forrest-Apollo Bay Road, Forrest). Other drop off points may become available. Check the Birregurra Arts Group website.

4. By completing and signing this entry form, you are granting permission for your photo to be displayed during the 2014 Birregurra Weekend Festival on 10/11/12 October 2014. Please ensure that you have the permission of all persons appearing in the photos for public display.

5. A copy of your photo may be displayed on the Birregurra Festival & Art Show Facebook page, the Birregurra Arts Group website, the Birregurra Mail and in future Snapshots of Birregurra exhibitions. It may also be given to Colac Otway Shire’s library service, Birregurra Mail and Birregurra Historical Society. Winning entries may also be displayed on permanent exhibition in the Birregurra Community.

6. Your entry will not be returned to you, so if you love your snapshot, it’s best to keep a copy.

7. Awards for Under 13 and Open categories will be announced on Friday 10th October at the Birregurra Arts Show opening night. The People’s Choice award will be announced on Sunday 12th October on the main entertainment stage. Winners will also be advertised in the Birregurra Mail, on the Birregurra Arts Group website and Facebook page, and on the Birregurra Festival & Art Show Facebook page.

8. Winning entries will remain with the Birregurra community and may be displayed as part of a permanent exhibition.

9. Awards will be judged on the basis of originality, creativity and technical skill. The Len Robb People’s Choice Award will be voted on by the public on Saturday 12th October at Birregurra Weekend Festival.

Category entering (please tick): Open □ Under 13 □

I confirm that I have read and understand the terms and conditions of entry.

Signed: __________________________ Name (Please Print): __________________________

Please note that although this is an amateur photographic competition, we welcome photos from professionals. Please tick here if you are a professional photographer so we can exempt you from the Awards. □

For more information contact Rachel Mann on 0425 770 619 or email birreartsgroup@gmail.com.

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