PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

The End of Year Celebration Night is organized for next WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9th. The night will be held in the Forrest Hall. Arrival is 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start. Speeches, awards, songs and a possible special visitor are all planned. Supper will occur at the end of the proceedings at around 8.15pm. It would be great if you could please bring a plate to share for supper. Community members are most welcome to join the school community in celebrating another successful year at Forrest Primary School & Early Years Centre. Hope to see you there!

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Unfortunately Bluewater will not be running school swimming lessons in 2015. However we are in discussions with Bluewater; organising lessons for next February. In the meantime we have planned our 2014 Walk to School prize event (finally) at Bluewater for Friday December 11th. It is free for all our students. It will be fun and we have exclusive use of the pool. Details and permission form were sent home yesterday. Please call the school if you require more information.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Caralyn (our Child Care Room Leader), Andrew and Matilda on the fantastic news that they will be adding to their family early in 2016. Caralyn plans to work up until the end the year before taking maternity leave.

STAFF CHANGES FOR 2016

Kaz Standish is returning from Family Leave and will be our Junior Class teacher next year. Ms Mac will be remaining for two days each week and teaching in both the Junior and Senior classes. Mr Donahoo will be our Senior Class teacher once again in 2016.

Our business manager, Leanne Harty is retiring at the end of the year and has decided to pursue a career change. Sarah Lane will be our business manager during term 1 whilst we advertise the vacant position.

Caralyn Grgic, as previously stated, will be taking maternity leave in 2016. We are currently advertising for a replacement Child Care Room Leader for 2016. For more details please contact me.

HOLIDAY DAY CARE PROGRAM

Numbers for the January Holiday Day Care Program are very promising. The program begins on January 11th and will run on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We have seven children already booked on Wednesdays which is fantastic news. It’s not too late to make a booking and casual positions are available. Please make booking enquiries by calling Caralyn Grgic on 0412 953 366.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Six students (Kayla, Tim, Claudia, Sophie, William S. and Elise) received Reading Challenge Certificates from Premier Andrews on Monday at assembly. All students are to be commended for participating in 2015, particularly those who successfully reached their reading challenge target.

THANK YOU

Last weekend was another highlight in the Forrest PS & EYC Calendar with both the excursion to Ballarat and Kids Mountain Biking Competition on the Sunday being highly successful events. Thank you to the organ-
This Week
What a superb week — so much to tell!
Most of the students are back to full health!!!! We interviewed Rose Sgro on Wednesday, went to Sovereign Hill on Friday and enjoyed our second Prep transition day on Tuesday.

Water Works!
On Wednesday the students interviewed Rose Sgro, as part of our ‘Water Works’ science unit. The students found out about water usage on the Sgro’s organic vegetable farm and how they conserve and recycle water. Thanks Rose for your time, a very informative presentation.

Sovereign Hill Excursion
Students, parents, grandparents and teachers certainly enjoyed a busy but fun day at Sovereign Hill last Friday. Walking the streets of a by-gone era, and mingling with characters dressed from the past was amazing. There were so many highlights! The smell of sugar, as we approached the lolly shop to watch a demonstration of boiled lollies being made, marked the beginning of a day full of new experiences. The students loved panning for gold, the horse carriage ride around town, investigating the buildings and living quarters, the mines, shopping in ‘old fashioned’ shops, and lastly the school education centre.

The students dressed in costumes from the past and played games from the ‘olden days’ at the school education centre.

On Tuesday the 2016 Preps, and Noah, Nate’s younger brother, who will start school at Forrest next year, were welcomed into the Junior Room. The time flew by as the students got to know each other better by playing games, listening to the story, Laura’s star, making stars and spending time with their buddies creating a mini-book with photos of their school, classmates and buddies.

Final Prep Transition - Day 3
Tuesday December 8th 9.00am to 1.30pm

Transition Day 2 — Meet the Class for 2016

Absent — William Standish – missing you and wishing you a quick recovery

Have a fabulous week. Miss Mac Junior Room Teacher
Garden
On Wednesday we worked on the prototype keyhole garden bed. Thanks very much to Nerrida for bringing in at least 30 bags of horse manure, which ended up around the citrus trees and in the keyhole garden. The children really enjoyed covering the new garden bed with piles of straw loaded from Nerrida’s ute.

Earth Ed
The children loved the Earth Ed excursion. It was all hands on using Lego Mindstorm Robotics kits. Children worked in pairs to construct programmable robots. They then connected them to a computer and programmed the robots to move in weird and interesting ways. At the end of the session children got to show their programming prowess in front of the group. It was a fantastic and engaging learning experience for all. Thanks Kaz for organising this.

JUNIOR ROOM: This week’s student of the week goes to Cassia Jones-Vermeend. Cassia has worked hard to focus and complete her writing tasks this week. It was wonderful to see what she can achieve when she gives her writing a ‘red hot go’. An outstanding effort Cassia!

SENIOR ROOM: This weeks student of the week goes to Charles Seebeck for demonstrating excellent resilience. Charles works through challenging problems and achieves excellent outcomes.
End of the year

Christmas is around the corner and the school year nearly finished with only two and a half weeks left this term. Stanley and Beccy have already gone away for a holiday to the Northern Territory, where Denise is working at the moment, leaving only three children in the group. The last proper kinder day will be on Wednesday 16/12; and on Thursday 17/12 we will have a small Christmas party which will require parents to come as well. Being such a small group we are having a discussion at the moment about maybe doing something different to the other years. I’ll let you know next week.

Gingerbread Man

Last week was all about The Gingerbread Man who ran away. We read the story, made the dough, baked the biscuits, painted the Gingerbread man, and we acted out the story. The children really enjoyed all those things and on Thursday we’ll do some more baking with the Juniors, and probably more dramatizing as well! The Pre-schoolers have had so much practise dramatizing stories this year, that they almost automatically start doing it themselves when a story is exciting enough.

Transition to School Reports

I will give out the Transition to school reports this week. Please read my section, and then fill in your section together with your child. When the reports are done I will pass them on to the children’s Prep Teacher and give parents a copy as well. Please let me know if you have any queries or concerns about anything that I’ve written.

Lena Collopy
Pre-school Teacher

Dates to remember

Fri 4/12  2:15 PM. Committee Meeting.
Thu 17/12  Last Day – End of the Year Celebration.

REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS:

There are some outstanding library books which need to be returned to the school library ASAP.
Children with outstanding books have been told to return the books and been given a slip with the name of the book printed on it. Please ensure these books are returned.

Helping Hands

Lachlan for being so helpful doing other students jobs when they are absent.
Cassia for helping a fellow student clean up spilt water on her table.
For Child Care or Out of School Hours Care bookings please call: Caralyn 0412 953366

Fundraising News

Thanks so much to Robyn Ferguson and Sarah Schuhmann for volunteering on Saturday, chopping and serving fruit to mountain bike competitors in the Forrest Festival. For a couple of hours volunteering, we secured a donation of $250!!!! Your willingness to help is very much appreciated!!!

Enormous thanks too - to all the parents who volunteered on Sunday with the Kids Mountain Bike Races. Parents marshalled, promoted the event, helped with timing, registrations, judging and -even took photos!!!! Lots of parents were there supporting the event too – just great to see so many of you!! The event couldn’t of been as successful without volunteers – Thanks once again. We had a 25% increase in participants this year and had 46 entrants, a good mix of local and non-local riders and also a good mix of ages amongst the competitors. We raised $244, and that combined with the $250, a total of $594 for the weekend of fundraising.

Next Wednesday we will have our last fundraising event of 2015 – a special raffle that will be held on the night of the school presentations. Tickets will be sold on the night and the winning ticket drawn on the night too – bring along some coin and support this effort,

Tickets will be $2 each or 3 for $5.

First Prize – Accommodation for family – Barramunga Cabins
Second Prize – Christmas Chocolate Hamper
Third Prize – Gosling Creek Bottle of Wine
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minuscule
small works exhibition
Saturday Dec 5th 2015 – Sunday Jan 31st 2016

Red Rock Regional Gallery
520 Corangamite Lake Road, Cororooke 3254

Don’t miss this fabulous Community Exhibition of small, unframed works on canvas in our beautiful gallery space.
All works are for sale.

Over 300 entries from students, emerging and professional artists will be on display with prizes awarded in various categories.
Entry to Exhibition by Donation

Gallery open on weekends 11am – 4pm
Closing for Christmas break at 4pm Sunday 13th Dec and re-opening at 11am Saturday 2nd January 2016

FORREST EARLY YEARS CENTRE
Child Care Room Leader — 12 month position

Hours: 25 hrs p.w. (approx.)
Days: Mon—Fri (commencing January 25 2016)

More details/job description please contact:
Darryl Harty
Principal
52346303

Written applications close: 9th December 2015