PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

PRE-EMPTIVE SCHOOL RELOCATION / CLOSURE DAYS
The Education Department and Emergency Management Victoria have been working closely in developing the best policy for students and staff on extreme fire danger rating days. Their key objective is the safety and wellbeing of students and staff at all times. In exceptional circumstances, some government schools may pre-emptively relocate or close when an EXTREME Fire Danger Rating day is forecast. Today I have sent home with your son/daughter a short survey for you to complete which has more details. At Monday’s school council meeting this matter was discussed at length. At next Monday’s Welcome Evening there will be an opportunity to ask any questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me if unsure of any matter.

WELCOME EVENING NEXT MONDAY
We hope you and your family can join us at the Parent Information /Welcome evening next Monday 22nd February beginning at 5.45pm. Our goal is for you to be able to take away some important information to help you in supporting your child/ren with their school life in 2016. The night will begin with everyone meeting in the school’s assembly space (undercover area) before heading off to the respective Junior and Senior classrooms. 5.45—Arrival at Undercover area / Welcome 6.00-6.45— Teacher/parent information session in classroom 6.45-7.30— Welcome BBQ in school grounds - Sausages, Burgers, Bread & Salad provided, BYO drinks and desert (optional).

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING NEWS
At February’s meeting of school council some of the matters discussed included fire risk days, scabies, fundraising plan for 2016, playground safety, school building improvements, new chooks arrival to name just a few. School Council will be holding its Annual Meeting on Monday March 21st at 6.30pm. All welcome.

NEW BUS TIMETABLE
Following a minor hiccup on Monday afternoon, it appears the new bussing program is now running smoothly. Both routes are running close to the scheduled timetable. This will be monitored closely over coming weeks. All bus travellers will be kept informed. Thanks for your ongoing cooperation.

BEING SUNSMART
The school last year moved to wearing broad brimmed hats outside for all students and staff. We are in the process of fazing out the bucket hats. New good quality broad brimmed hats can be purchased for $10 each from the school office.

CLEAN UP SCHOOLS DAY
Our school/centre will be conducting an emu bob on Tuesday March 1st at 2pm to celebrate Clean Up Schools (Australia) Day. Parents, toddlers and grandparents are most welcome to join us for the emu bob.

UNIFORM FOCUS
Lately we have noticed a variety of different coloured shorts/pants worn by students. Our school uniform is black, blue or dark grey shorts/pants are preferred to be worn except in exceptional circumstances.
**JUNIOR ROOM NEWS**

This week the Junior Room students have taken a different line of inquiry with our Who Are We unit of work. We have started investigating our 5 senses (touch, hearing, sight, taste and smell) and how they impact upon our exploration of the world. We decided to find out what happens when we reduce each of the senses when trying to identify an object. So on went the blindfold, the headphones, hands behind the back and Julian even got a peg on his nose. The students quickly realised, amidst a lot of laughter that investigating is a lot easier when you have all 5 senses involved!

The Crayon etchings that depict our place in the universe have been completed with awesome results. The students’ descriptions and the pride in their work is just wonderful. The colourful artworks really add to the atmosphere in the classroom. Fantastic work Junior Room stars!

Reminders:
Thursday Morning: Forrest Kids Go Bush Program- pack your gear!
Friday: Swimming lessons
Foundation student surveys went home yesterday, could they please be returned next week?

Appreciations: Thanks to Enid for the donation of the fish tank. Thanks to parent helpers during the literacy sessions.

Wish List- Collections of plastic coloured milk top lids. The more the better.

Thanks,
Kaz Standish

**LEARNING EFFORT:**  
**CASSIA VERMEEND- JONES**
For her wonderful etching, story and sharing of her crayon etching.

**LEARNING BEHAVIOUR:**  
**ELLEN STANDISH**
For having a go in all areas of her learning and kindness towards classmates.

**Helping Hands**
Alicia for helping a fellow student with their “big” job.
Elijah for helping pack up the Juniors sports equipment after a PE lesson after school.
SENIOR ROOM NEWS

Our new chickens

Last Sunday Sally from the General Store went to Rainer’s and they kindly donated 9 wild chickens to our school. They have already started to produce eggs. We had already spent some time preparing our chicken coop ready for them, to make it their new home. We hope the chickens feel happy and safe in their new home.

Note pad paper boxes

Recently we have made boxes for reusable paper which will be made into note pads for many purposes. Lots of paper is going to waste we would like to reduce the amount being wasted in this school. One of our goals is to be an environmentally sustainable school and this is one of our first steps to achieving that.

By Indigo Ashton (yr 5) Elkin Wittenberg (yr 6)

LEARNING EFFORT: SOPHIE LANE
For demonstrating excellent science skills and using her scientific language to describe the results of her investigations.

LEARNING BEHAVIOUR: NOAH PRIMMER
For concentrating, working hard in the garden and focusing on managing his distractions.

Music Tuition
Individual lessons, held during school hours, are currently being offered at Forrest Primary School for Cello, Singing & Percussion/drums, piano and guitar. Please contact the teacher directly to organise lessons.

Cello, Singing & Percussion/Drums (Wed) — Louise on 0407 418 481
Piano (Mon)— Jo on 0409 008 818 Guitar (Fri) — Tim on 0410 097 796
‘Me & My Family’

Last week we continued focusing on our self and our family. When the Juniors visited on Thursday, I read a picture book about *The Human Body* for the children, and then followed with a discussion about the different organs and what they are used for. The children were very interested, and had a lot of knowledge already. After that the children made pictures of themselves using textas, fabric, glue-sticks and wool.

**Doctor’s Kit**

At the children’s request, the Doctor’s kit came out of the storeroom last week, and all the children had great fun pretending to be Doctors and Patients.

**Bush Program**

The children enjoyed having a special break during the Bush Program on Thursday, to sing Happy Birthday to Stanley, and eat some cake. Thanks Beccy for making the delicious apple cakes.

**Smiles4Miles**

Tanja Brunner from Otway Health will visit us on Thursday 25/2. Tanja promotes the Smiles4Miles Program that Forrest Pre-school participates in. Tanja will talk about healthy eating and dental hygiene. Healthy eating is an ongoing theme at Forrest Early Years Centre. It so important to teach and encourage children to make healthy choices.

Lena Collopy
Pre-school Teacher

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Thu 25/2, 11:00 Smiles4Miles Program with Tanja Brunner.

Fri 18/3, 9:20 Responsible Pet Ownership Program.

Thu 24/3, Last day of Term I.

**WELLBEING WORKER NEWS**

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” - Nelson Mandela

I will just add some quotes to the newsletter throughout the term as well as topical snippets of well being news. Don't forget I am available if any parents which to drop in for a chat, Wednesdays & Thursdays. Thanks, Kerryn
Hello,
The children have settled well for the start of the year. Over the last week we have been talking about our families, spending time creating some lovely pictures, decorating with fine detail, a lot of pride taken in their work.

We have been enjoying spending time in the library on Wednesday after school, following up with an art activity afterwards, this week we made spider webs after children showed interest in the Hungry Spider Book.

The weather has been good to use with the children spending time outside, the older children exploring the world of fairies, reading chants, making potions and researching recipes and rhymes to make. Most of all having fun chasing the fairies around the yard with lots of excitement.

This week we started our after school Tennis program on Monday nights 3.30-4.45. If your child is interested please return forms or ask Sarah for another. The older children enjoyed a hit amongst friends while the juniors learnt some skills of the game, fun was had by all.

If your interested we still have spots available for Childcare and After School Care, please contact Myself or Sarah in office.

Thanks Vicki

You may have read a recent article in the Colac Herald regarding a local 10 month old baby, recently diagnosed with a brain tumour that is untreatable and sadly, terminal. Baby Hamish Hayes is the grandson of Susie Grant, a childcare educator who worked for many years in our Forrest school setting, running a very popular family day care service.

Over the years Susie has cared for and nurtured our children and supported our school parents, providing a fantastic, much needed and much appreciated service, now we have an opportunity to support Susie’s family at their time of need.

What can we do?

Get along to the Helping Hamish Hayes family fun day, held in Colac this Sunday 22nd February.

Donate money to the ‘Helping Hamish Hayes’ fund (see the link via Facebook) or simply drop some coins into the fundraising tin we have organised. The tin will be outside the office for the next couple of weeks and will also be at our next fundraiser, the Giant Odyssey Smoothie Bike event.
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fundraising News

FORREST GIANT ODYSSEY MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDE

ROSTER

Its nearly here!!!. “The Giant Odyssey smoothie bike school fundraiser”. This is one of our major fundraisers for the year. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time to help out.

Final roster below.

Please note, Basic hygiene is your individual responsibility to follow safe hygiene practices when handling the fruit with and smoothies so please pay particular attention to wearing gloves and using tongs. There are limited hand washing facilities at the oval, but hand sanitizer will be readily available. Also, please let me know if you are ill or not feeling well and I will replace you.

Thanks. See you all on Saturday at the event!!!!

Robyn Ferguson: Home phone no: 03-52366282, Mobile: 0439366282 Email: lucrob1@bigpond.com.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Job</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th Feb</td>
<td></td>
<td>Woolworths, Colac</td>
<td>Robyn F</td>
<td>Picking up milk, juice &amp; Fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th Feb</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Meet at Forrest school</td>
<td>Craig D, Sarah L, Robyn F, Rose S, Emma C, Kim C.</td>
<td>Transport, Wash / setup bikes &amp; marquee at footy ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>9am - 12pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Darryl H, Gordon L</td>
<td>Riding Bikes!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>9am - 3pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Andrew S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>9am - 12pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Mary- Ann S</td>
<td>Cutting up fruit / re-stocking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>9am - 3pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Robyn F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>12pm - 3pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Andrew &amp; Shizu B, Kylie C, Peter A</td>
<td>Riding Bikes!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>9am - 11.30am</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Sarah L</td>
<td>Taking orders &amp; money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>11.30am - 3pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Sarah S</td>
<td>Taking orders &amp; money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20th Feb</td>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>Forrest Footy ground</td>
<td>Craig D, Robyn F, Gordon L</td>
<td>Pack up &amp; drop back equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Producers Currently Available:
- Cherry Tomatoes,
- Herbs,
- Zucchini

Coming soon: Eggs

Donations welcome, pop in and grab your produce today!
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE
Dear Mr/Mrs/Ms ________________________________
As parent/guardian of _____________________________
I wish to advise that the absence/s on:

________________________________________________

Was/is due to: (please circle)

Doctor Appt  Illness  Family Holiday  Late arrival

Other: __________________________________________

Signed: _______________________________  Date: ____________

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE
Dear Mr/Mrs/Ms ________________________________
As parent/guardian of _____________________________
I wish to advise that the absence/s on:

________________________________________________

Was/is due to: (please circle)

Doctor Appt  Illness  Family Holiday  Late arrival

Other: __________________________________________

Signed: _______________________________  Date: ____________

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL ABSENCE NOTE
Dear Mr/Mrs/Ms ________________________________
As parent/guardian of _____________________________
I wish to advise that the absence/s on:

________________________________________________

Was/is due to: (please circle)

Doctor Appt  Illness  Family Holiday  Late arrival

Other: __________________________________________

Signed: _______________________________  Date: ____________

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------