Principal: Mr Darryl Harty

Family Name:

FORREST LEARNING CENTRE NEWS
FORRESTPS.VIC.EDU.AU

JULY 23RD 2014

Principal’s News

Term 3 Active After School Program begins next Monday. James Sprunt will be our AASC footy coach, who completed his training this week. The sport will be footy but will include modified ball handling skills. It is free and lots of fun! Find more details later in this newsletter.

Next Monday, you will receive a parent survey to complete. Each year all parents are asked to answer a brief questionnaire about our school. The survey is designed to take no more than 20 minutes to complete. Our school council analyses the results of the survey. A lucky draw prize will take place for those surveys returned. Please return your completed survey to school and place it in the SURVEY box located outside the school office on/before Friday 1st August.

The school’s production the Wild Colonial Boy play is taking shape under the enthusiastic direction of Jason Freddi. The play will be a major priority for the school this term and will culminate in performances planned for the last week of term. Please mark in your diary asap, the important performance dates found in the UPCOMING EVENTS section of this newsletter.

School Council will hold its next (first for Term 3) Meeting on Monday August 18th beginning at 6.30pm in the Flexible Learning Centre. Pre School Management Committee will hold a meeting this Friday July 25th beginning at 2pm in the Early Learning Centre.

The Teaching Writing workshop held last Friday was attended by four staff members from Forrest Primary. In total, there were around 80 educators who participated in Stephen Graham’s workshop. Stephen engaged all participants readily, and presented highly successful, useful strategies to the Years Prep—12 teachers in an entertaining and insightful way. He covered all eight text types in his presentation—narratives, recounts, explanations, procedures, reports, expositions, responses and discussions. Both Craig and Kristen found the day informative and valuable. This Pupil Free Day was both practical and constructive, in assisting in the education of our students’ writing in the future.

Congratulations is extended to all our students who demonstrated fantastic resilience last Thursday, at school. The weather was EXTREMELY cold but our students “soldiered” through without complaint. Local weather “experts’ informed me that Thursday’s weather conditions may NOT be the last we experience for winter. Well done to everyone!

Hoping you are enjoying the welcomed Winter Sunshine we currently are experiencing!

Darryl Harty

Primary School
Pre-school
Early Learning Centre
Out of School Hours Care

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY
24th—Choir Practice with Louise B.
25th—Pre School Management Meeting 2pm
28th—Active After Schools Begins—Football
31st Play Planning—Parent Discussion with Jason

AUGUST
17th—23rd Science Week
18th—School Council Meeting

SEPTEMBER
15th—School Council Meeting
16th—Wild Colonial Boy Matinee
17th—Wild Colonial Boy Evening Show at 6.30pm
21st—Last day of TERM 3

OCTOBER
6th—First Day of TERM 4
JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

The students have been busy learning and as they say the time has been flying by. Sorry about the lack of photos – I will make a better effort this week to take photos as the students are really enthused by their learning and I know you would like to see them in action.

Numeracy

The Preps are extending their learning about numbers to 30, counting, adding on and number names. Lots of ‘hands on’ work – building block towers to match a number, matching number names to the numeral, choosing a number and getting in the right order. Year 1 and Year 2 have been reviewing distance and area – while their number work continues.

Literacy

Writing

The course ‘Explicitly Teaching Writing’ which we attended in Apollo Bay on Friday was fantastic. I have already started introducing the relevant elements for a P-2 class into my writing blocks. Our Year 1/2 focus is planning for writing recounts. When the students take the time to organise their thoughts into a plan the actual writing process is much easier.

Letter formation continues to be a focus for Prep and Year 1 students. They are being assisted by ‘seahorse’ paper to correctly identify the position of the letter – a letter extending to the ‘head’ of the seahorse, contained to the ‘body’ or finishing at the ‘tail’. The Year 1/2 are writing excellent recounts. Next week we move onto descriptions in preparation for our Poetry unit.

Reading and Spelling

We continue to work on our reading strategies – lips ready, sounding out, and breaking words into chunks. Please help your child use these strategies at home. All books taken home to read should be a ‘good fit’ – meaning they can read them with relative ease. While I try to ensure that the students are picking a few new books each week they often they stick with familiar titles. Please feel free to help them select appropriate books to ensure you aren’t hearing the same ones being read from week to week.

It is extremely important that all students, particularly the Preps, read a book aloud and their Magic words every night. While I hear them read each week nightly practice is essential in order for them to become confident readers and steadily progress. These few minutes will make a huge difference to their learning.

Special mention – Henry Seebeck has completed his Magic 100 words. Excellent work Henry!

Sound Waves

This week the Preps are learning about the sounds ‘e’, ‘h’ and ‘k’. The Year 1 and Year 2 students are working on Unit 18, a double unit of graphemes which represent the sound ‘n nn’ and ‘ng’.

Forrest Kids Go Bush

Our regular program continues this Friday. Jackets, overalls, gumboots and a change of socks are essential.

Miss Mac.
Junior Room Teacher

SUPER SCIENCE FACT

Leopard seals sing in their sleep! These seals, found in the Antarctic, chirp and whistle while they snooze.
SENIOR ROOM NEWS

There are a few things to report on this week:

Learning Behaviours — Student conferencing starts this week — everyone has been thinking about their personal learning goals.

School Play — Everyone is excited. Kids have started learning their lines and we have had two readings. It is going to be challenging, as the play contains new language (19th century) and very different phrasing. We will have another reading on Wednesday with Jason. This will be an opportunity to perhaps change some lines and refine the script.

Spelling — Soundwaves was introduced this week. Students are actually really enjoying the program. It is encouraging to note that all students have challenged themselves to get a minimum of two spelling units completed each week. The program focuses on the sounds of language and identifies specific "graphemes" to represent these sounds. Through the children focussing on the sounds, they learn to choose the correct graphemes to obtain a higher degree of spelling accuracy.

Writing — Teachers and Mr Harty attended a fantastic workshop on Friday by Stephen Graham on ‘Teaching Explicit Writing.’ It was one of the best PD’s I have attended, very practical and insightful. One of the focusses of the PD was on how to effectively teach the ‘literacies’ of writing Information Reports. This was perfect timing as we are focussing on information reports during term 3. On Tuesday I used the explicit instruction that I learnt from the PD with great success in our classroom. By first focussing on the literacies of information reports, rather than the content, students are able to produce higher quality levels of writing.

Science — Students have one more week before they finish off their unit of work ‘Change Detectives.’ Students are in the ‘Elaborate’ phase of learning. They have been changing variables in experiments and reporting on outcomes. It is clear that students are learning the process of scientific enquiry, picking up important language features, processes and knowledge.

Maths — This week we conducted a chance experiment with dice. Students created tallies, tables and graphs.

HOMEWORK — it is essential that all students are undertaking personal reading at home. It is extremely important that all students learn the times tables — if not learnt by the end of year 4, it makes it very difficult for students to gain success in many maths concepts. Children are finishing off Soundwaves spelling activities at home and learning their lines for the Play.

Mr Craig Donahoo.

Senior Room Teacher

JUNIOR ROOM:

This week’s student of the week is Joe Broomfield. Joe is an excellent role model to other students. He concentrates on his work, tries to do his best and encourages other students to do the same.

SENIOR ROOM:

This week’s Student of the Week is Kayla Forssman for focussing on her learning goals and being a good role model.
Welcome to Term III.

It was great to see the children again after the holidays. They all seemed pretty keen to come back to pre-school, and to see their friends. It didn’t take long until they were right back into Hospital Play, using all of the different instruments. The only concern last week seemed to be that no one wanted to be the patient. I volunteered a couple of times and got thoroughly checked by a number of doctors...one checked the teeth, one checked the heart, and one checked the reflexes on my knees. I was told to stay in the hospital overnight for observation.

Welcome Teresa

A warm welcome to Teresa Price (Jordi’s Mum). Teresa is the new Educator in the Child Care Program and OSHC, everyday 2pm - 6pm.

Welcome Darryl and Leanne Harty

A warm welcome too, to our new Acting Principal, Darryl Harty, and to Leanne Harty who has returned to her position in the school office.

Cold weather

As Forrest gets very cold and wet in winter, feel free to bring slippers for your child to wear inside. Also make sure that your child has appropriate clothing for outdoor play. We usually go outside even if it’s raining, unless it’s absolutely pouring. Gumboots and a beanie are great this time of the year, and the overalls too. The children like to wear the overalls because they know they can play in the water without getting wet when they wear them.

Soup Making

Last Friday, when the school children had a curriculum day, Caralyn worked with us. We had a very enjoyable day, making vegetable soup, painting cardboard, and a long play in the big playground. The children were great at cutting up the vegetables for the soup, using real knives and peelers. The only person that cut themselves was me!! Never mind, the soup was delicious. Half the group loved it…the other half that didn’t, didn’t even try it!

Lena Collopy
Pre-school Teacher

DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 25/7, 2 pm. Committee Meeting
Wed 6/8, Responsible Pet Ownership Program.
Fri 29/8, Colac Dental Health visit.
**CHILDCARE AND AWESOME AFTERS (OSHC)**

**Active After Schools – Footy Reminder**

Starts: Monday July 28th
- Registration Forms returned on/before Monday
- Fruit snack provided
- Runners/footy boots – preferred footwear.
- Change of clothes suitable for footy/physical activity – e.g. footy jumper
- Coach – James Sprunt

For more details contact Teresa Price on 52 366 393 AASC Coordinator

For OSHC/ afternoon bookings please call: Teresa 0419 536340

For MORNING Childcare bookings: Caralyn 0412 953366

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<tr>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00– 10:45</td>
<td>Outside Activities *</td>
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<td>Outside Activities*</td>
<td>Pre-School</td>
<td>Pre-School (3 and 4 year olds)</td>
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<td>10:45-11:15</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
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<td>Pre-School</td>
<td>FORREST KIDS GO BUSH!</td>
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<td>11:15– 12:30</td>
<td>Inside Games and Activities</td>
<td>Inside Song and Dance Activities</td>
<td>Inside Free Play</td>
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<td>12:30-1:00</td>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
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<td>1:00– 2:00</td>
<td>QUIET TIME / CRAFT</td>
<td>QUIET TIME / Floor Activities</td>
<td>Inside Free Time</td>
<td>Yoga, sing-a-long songs, story-time</td>
<td>Arts and crafts: child centred craft activities</td>
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<td>2:00– 3:30</td>
<td>Inside play: toys, trucks, drawing, painting</td>
<td>Colouring pages and decorating art projects</td>
<td>Inside play: puzzles, drawing, home corner,</td>
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<td>3:30-4:00</td>
<td>Healthy SNACK</td>
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<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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<td>5:00-6:00</td>
<td>Weekend storytelling</td>
<td>Outside play</td>
<td>Sing-a-long songs and dance</td>
<td>Outside Play</td>
<td>Relaxation: reading and quiet games</td>
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* Outside Activities will be held providing weather is suitable

**Missing**

Jordie’s hoodie, quite new, size 6. It has his name on the label. He wore it to school last Wednesday but did not come home with it. Could all parents please check their children hoodies.
SCIENCE ROOM

The Junior Room students have made a fantastic start on their Earth and Space Science Unit. This unit of work is called The Weather in My World. The students will be challenged in their thinking about the earth, Sun and the wind as we work our way through the 5 phases of Inquiry. Thanks for bringing in the lids and coat hangers and to Ben Kirk for sending down a few extra lids!!

Senior Room

The senior room students have made some fantastic accomplishments in helping plan an investigation looking at the effect of the temperature of water on the rate of reaction of a fizzy tablet. The students are focused on only changing one variable at a time. The students then graphed the results using averages. Thanks to Mr Donahoo for preparing the class beautifully for the graphing component.
Forrest Youth Group

Dance Party

Sat 26 July
Forrest Hall

Youngsters to 10 years
5.30-7.30pm
Adult pick up at 7.30

11-16 years
7.30-10pm

Gold coin donation
Entry

Dress up for fun

Pizza, snacks and fruit punch on sale

No pass-outs ★ Adult supervision
Parents: please pick your kids up on time

11-16 YOs bring your tunes to the hall
Friday night 5.30 to add to the mix and
help make our first youth event ROCK!

Ph 5236 6591 or 0422 585 227 for info
Hi Community,

An opportunity has come up for the Forrest and District Neighbourhood House to gain an extra 10 hours coordination funding. This will give us a total of 20 hours, which translates to 40 activity hours per week for our community... WOOHOO!

To access funding we are required to become separately incorporated (the FDNH is currently auspiced by Otway Health) and we will need to do this as soon as possible. Funds to increase hours for Neighbourhood Houses are rare as hens teeth so if we do not take this opportunity there may not be another for a very long time.

We need bums on seats so meet at the Forrest Hall this Thursday 24th July at 4pm and show your support for the House, bring along $2, become a member and help the Neighbourhood House grow!

Nominations for the committee are also open with 5 positions available.

Current committee members will be required to renominate.

Come along and join in the fun,

Gillian Brew - Co-ordinator
Forrest and District Neighbourhood House
Office Hours: Mon 10am-5pm, Thu 10am-5pm
Phone: 03 5236 6591
Email: gbrew@swarh.vic.gov.au