Principal: Mr Darryl Harty

6TH MAY 2015

Principal’s News

IT Upgrade
All students now have access to their very own brand new IT device to use at school. Already this week, the response from students has been pleasing across many varied learning experiences using these new devices. A very big thank you to Craig and Damien for the excellent job formatting and preparing all 40 devices over the last 4 weeks, part of which was outside normal school hours. We appreciated your extra commitment in getting this huge task completed. Later in term 2, a limited number of ‘unwanted’ 15” Notebooks in good working order, will be offered for sale. Please be on the look out for Expressions of Interest very soon in a future newsletter.

Attendance Update
In 2014, on average each child was absent from school 19.33 days for the year. It is a priority of the school’s to improve on these figures. Currently on average each child has been absent 3.12 days and we have just passed the 30% mark. At this rate, we will have improved student attendance for every child significantly i.e. by up to 10 days on average, which would be great. Of course we have the WINTER BLUES ahead of us and the challenges this can bring. We ask that you keep supporting the importance of regular school attendance therefore assisting in your child getting the best education possible.

Deakin Uni Research Study
On Tuesday, ten selected students participated in a study conducted by Deakin University. The study titled “Preventing childhood obesity within the Great South Coast” aims to evaluate long term changes in healthy weight and associated behaviours among school children in Years 2, 4, and 6 in our community. The school will receive a report later on the study’s findings. The information from this study may be used in the future at the community, state and federal levels on approaches to promote healthy weight among school children.

Year 6 Leadership Conference
Our Year 6 students had a very positive experience attending the GRIP Leadership Conference in Geelong last week. They joined with students from 12 other local schools and readily participated in a variety of fun leadership activities. Activities included making the most of leadership opportunities, looking for opportunities to lead and developing their own leadership plan. The students conducted a Leadership Workshop for the Senior Students today which was very well received by their colleagues.

Scabies Alert
Thank you for reacting to the initial scabies problem identified a few weeks back. Expert advice recommends that it is timely now to check again for any return offenders of this highly contagious problem.

Sporting Schools Fun
Numbers for both Gymnastics (Yoga) (Tuesdays) and Orienteering (Dance) (Fridays) have been pleasing. Parent pick up is at 4.45pm for both sessions.

Mothers Day Wishes
Wishing all our wonderful Mums and Grandmas an enjoyable Mothers Day this coming Sunday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY
8th — Bold Colours Book Characters Day
12,13,14—NPLAN-Years 3 & 5 students
17-23rd — Education Week
18th — Cross Country at Deans Marsh
18th — School Council Meeting @ 6.30
19th — Open Morning 9—11am
22nd— Melbourne City Clinic at Forrest

JUNE
2nd — Jim’s Special Visit to Forrest
7th — Forrest SoupFest
8th — Queen’s Birthday Holiday
10th — School Photos
15th —School Council Meeting @ 6.30
22-24 — Melb Camp Grs 3—6
25th — Arts Performance @ COPACC
26th —Last Day of term 2. 2.30 finish

JULY
13th — First Day of term 3
JUNIOR ROOM NEWS

This Week

We have chicks!

Last Thursday eggs started cracking and before we knew it 10 fluffy little chicks were chirping away. You could actually hear them chirping inside the eggs as they were pecking their way out. Some are striped and others are yellow, which ones are boys or a girl, time is yet to tell. During FKGB the children sat in a circle and all had a chance to hold them. Within about 10 minutes the chicks were falling asleep and returned to their ‘home’. The chicks will need to be cared for over the weekends for at least 6 weeks – please let me know whether you are able to take them. They need to be kept indoors as the breeding box requires a power point to keep them warm. At this stage all the children want to look after them and so, if all are allowed, it might be a case of pulling a name out of a hat to keep things fair.

Thank you to Standish and Sprunt families for caring for them last weekend.

Jobs People in our Community Do

We are looking forward to Thursday with great excitement. The kinder children will join with the Junior room students to listen to our first parent presenter – Sarah Schumann. Sarah will offer an insight into what it means to be a nurse. The students have brainstormed all they know about nurses using ‘Who, What, Where, When, Why and How’ as a starting point. The older students will review these questions again after Sarah’s visit to show what they have learnt.

Forrest Kids Go Bush

Although children usually turn up to school dressed in their FKGB clothes and change into their school uniform afterwards, this Friday is going to be a little different. It is BCBC (Bright Colours or Book Character) dress-up day. A procession of students will be held at 9.00am after which I will help them change into their FKGB clothes. Please help them to remember their overalls, jacket and (preferably) gumboots. Getting dirty, making mud, digging, climbing and crawling into homemade cubbies is something that is celebrated during FKGB. Without protective clothing – or at least a change of clothes, children can’t participate. Being dirty or wet for the rest of the day is uncomfortable for your child and not great for learning.

Lost school windcheaters

Several children have lost/misplaced their school windcheaters. Could parents please check whether any of these have accidently made their way home with their child?

Congratulations & Thank You

Well done to the following students for successfully spelling their Magic words. We also had many students proudly receive Reading Eggs and Mathletics certificates – a fantastic achievement. Thanks to all my helpers who helped out on Tuesday, especially Hugh Menzies who volunteered a whole day to help in the junior room.

Mothers’ Day

The students have been busy thinking about their Mum and the most wonderful things they love about them. I hope all mothers are spoilt on Sunday by their thoughtful children!

Miss Mac
Junior room teacher

Weird

I usually don’t report on things of a personal nature but.. last night I noticed that our trampoline, an old and fully enclosed heavy thing – the sort that 2 parents and 2 children struggled to drag and reposition next to the house, was missing, just the ladder remained. Sitting within 15cm of the house, surrounded by a rock wall, next to concrete pots and within 10m of our neighbours wire fence, nothing appeared to be damaged and it wasn’t anywhere to be seen. Chairs and table, bbq, pot plants, rubbish bins all still remained in their positions. The effort required to steal the thing would be outstanding – and quite frankly a relief as it is at the end of its life. Apparently it has managed to clear all these obstacles and is somewhere down in the neighbours’ paddock. I haven’t sighted it yet as it must be over several hundred metres away in a dell. A mini tornado that chose only the trampoline? Curious!
SENIOR ROOM NEWS

On Wednesday the 29th of April the Grade 6’s and Mr Harty travelled to Geelong Town Hall to participate in the GRIP Student Leadership Conference. The GRIP team taught us about leadership skills. When we arrived we got seated, then Ronan introduced the GRIP crew and read out the programme. They introduced the first topic which was a game called paper, scissors and rock. The paper stands for Create a Plan, scissors stands for Take Action and rock stands for Stay Strong. Next we played another game called Connect Eight. There were eight questions to be answered from a booklet which included questions like, “can you juggle 3 balls at a time or can you make a scary face?”, and then we had to locate a student within the room who could answer the question. We identified what leaders should do; Stand up when there is an opportunity, Stand up for what is right, Stand up for others and Stand up for yourself. These were the activities that the Grade 6’s enjoyed the most.

By Kayla Forssman

JUNIOR ROOM:  This week’s student of the week goes to Jaxon Kurzmann. Jaxon is to be congratulated for beginning his work quickly and the wonderful way he led his maths group, making sure everyone had a turn. Well done Jaxon!

SENIOR ROOM:  Whole Senior Class—For fantastic communication using scientific language.

This coming Friday (8th May) is BOLD COLOURS BOOK CHARACTER DAY, organised by the students, for the students!!

Come dressed in a bold colour or as a bold character or both if you choose.
SCIENCE ROOM NEWS

News from the Science Room

Today the Senior Room continued the Explore phase of their Science Inquiry Unit, What’s the Matter? The students did an absolutely fantastic job as they completed the Runny Races activity. The students discussed how to set up an investigation of the viscosity of liquids and worked in teams to explore the viscosity of materials.

The Junior Room completed the Evaluation phase of their Schoolyard Safari unit. What a fabulous time they had using props to represent various small creatures they have been exploring. We used props like a shawl wrapped around Henry’s body to represent an earthworm’s saddle, a rabbit’s ear head band to represent mandible (jaws) of an ant and a black cape to represent the wings of a moth. The students have then made a page for a book entitled “What Am I?” to demonstrate their growing knowledge about small creatures and their habitats. The students brainstormed and sorted out words they could use in categories of: How many legs? What do I eat? How do I eat? Where is my habitat? How do I move? How do I protect myself? Great job Juniors!!

Helping Hands

Julian for readily helping to put up the chairs and down during the week.
Britt for helping to tie up my shoelaces for me.

SUPER SCIENCE FACT

By raising your legs slowly and laying on your back, you can’t sink in quicksand.
First of all I have the good news that the Federal Government has promised to fund preschools for 15 hours/week for at least another two years. This is partly thanks to the campaign that was undertaken by the Australian Education Union (AEU) last year. On behalf of AEU, I would like to thank everyone who signed the petition, or who sent a letter to the Federal Government.

The Live Eggs arrived last week and wasn’t long before the little chicks started to hatch. We went over to the Junior Room and observed the eggs on Wednesday, and little chicks hatching on Thursday. The children were very interested. On Friday, Kristin and I decided to take the chicks out to the Bush Program. All of the children sat in a circle on a tarp, and everyone who wanted to, had a hold of the soft little chicks. Some chicks even fell asleep in the warm sunshine in the children’s laps.

Tanja Brunner from Otway Health came for a visit on Friday. She talked to the children about healthy food and the importance of brushing teeth. The children were very good at differentiating healthy food from sometimes food, as we had already played a food game on Thursday. Tanja also brought a plate of vegetables (carrots, celery, broccoli, cauliflower, beans and sweet peas) all cut up so the children could dip them in yoghurt. Most of them tried some and liked it. I recommend that you don’t send any sweet cakes or biscuits to pre-school; instead maybe another sandwich, and more freshly cut up vegetables or fruit. Plain yoghurt can be sweetened with honey instead of the already sweetened fruit yoghurts. For most of the children, it’s very hard to make the right choices if they have sweet treats as well.

The weather is getting colder and wetter but we still go outside for play. Please make sure your child has the right clothing for outdoor play and a change of clothes in their backpack. If the overalls are left at kinder, the children can use them if it’s very wet. A warm beanie can be good too.

This week we will focus on bean bag activities and Mother’s Day.

Thanks again to our handyman, Colin, for all the great work in the Pre-school. The new shelf and the notice boards look great.

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY to all Mums on Sunday.

Lena Collopy
Pre-school Teacher
Caralyn and Teresa wish all Mums a very Happy Mothers Day for Sunday!

For OSHC/ afternoon bookings please call: Teresa
0419 536340

For MORNING Childcare bookings: Caralyn
0412 953366

<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* Pre-School</td>
<td>Pre-School (3 and 4 year olds)</td>
<td>Pre-School (3 and 4 year olds)</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>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15– 12:30</td>
<td>Inside Games and Activities</td>
<td>Inside Song and Dance Activities</td>
<td>Inside Free Play</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>
<td>Snack and Chat</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00– 2:00</td>
<td>QUIET TIME/ CRAFT</td>
<td>QUIET TIME/ Floor Activities</td>
<td>Inside Free Time</td>
<td>Inside Free Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00– 3:30</td>
<td>Inside play: toys, trucks, drawing, painting</td>
<td>Coloring pages and decorating art projects</td>
<td>Inside play: puzzles, drawing, home corner, book corner</td>
<td>Yoga, sing-a-long songs, story-time</td>
<td>Arts and crafts: child centred craft activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30-4:00</td>
<td>Healthy SNACK</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 dance</td>
<td>Outside Play</td>
<td>Relaxation: reading and quiet games</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Outside Activities will be held providing weather is suitable
**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Fundraising News**

**Thanks** for all your ingredient donations so far!!!!

Anyone that has not yet donated items for the slice stall at the Forrest Soupfest, please drop your donations off to the school office—we are still collecting

- Tins of Condensed Milk
- Arrowroot Biscuits
- Self Raising Flour

The roster for the Forrest Soupfest is still a work in progress, here is how it is looking:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volunteer</th>
<th>Car Parking/ Marshalling</th>
<th>Slice Stall</th>
<th>Coffee/Devonshire Tea</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ant Coulter</td>
<td>10 - 12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil Kurzman</td>
<td>10 - 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Marshall</td>
<td>12 - 2</td>
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<td>Darryl Harty</td>
<td>12-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig Donahoo</td>
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<td>10-12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gordon Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-12</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Schuhmann</td>
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<td>10-12</td>
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<td>Beccy Foster</td>
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<td>12-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denise Mitchell</td>
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<td>12-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shizu Broomfield</td>
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<td>12-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Coulter</td>
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<td>2-4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugh Menzies</td>
<td></td>
<td>12-2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Felicity Menzies</td>
<td></td>
<td>12-2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Looking for volunteers!!!</td>
<td>2 x 2pm-4pm</td>
<td>2 x 10am-12pm</td>
<td>1 x 10am—12pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 x 12pm—2pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you are able to fill any of the spots left—please let me know ASAP

Cheers

Sarah Lane  5236-6172  0421 103 042
OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pitch Perfect 2**

OCR FM presents a Mothers Day screening

May 10th at 1:30pm
Tickets $15 @ Colac Cinemas
Join OCR FM for afternoon tea after the screening

For more information go to OCR FM’s Facebook page

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**May is National Family Reading Month!**

LET’S RAISE READERS!
SOME GOOD READING HABITS FOR YOUR HOME:

- Let your child choose what they would like to read. If they choose books that are too easy or too hard, let them know it is okay to change their choice.

- Be a reading role model. Let your child see you reading for enjoyment. You can also read together before bedtime.

- Make a space for reading together. Create a quiet, comfortable space for reading with your child. This can be a special chair or a cozy corner.

- Use books to expand on experience. Talk about the books you read. Discuss the story and the characters. Ask questions and encourage your child to respond.

- Reading beyond books. Encourage your child to read beyond books. This can include magazines, newspapers, or online articles.

Have you got a book nook? A cozy, quiet space for your child to read. You can add a comfortable chair or a small table.

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**Dorothy Nicoll ‘Pluppers to Flares’ presents an Historical Fashion Collection**

Fashion from the past 100 years
Colac RSL

**Wednesday 6th of May**

All proceeds to Colac RSL and Colac Long Road Appeal

2pm Matinee session:
Light afternoon tea and limited parade $10pp

or

7pm Evening session: two course meal and full fashion show. Maximum 8 to a table, $35pp

Bookings through Colac RSL on 52 312 942 or email admin@colacerl.com.au
For more information contact Kathy on 52 348 376 or 0407 348 376

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The Lions Club of Forrest & District invites you to the 10th annual

**FORREST SOUPFEST**

**HEARTWARMING WINTER FESTIVAL IN THE OTWAYS**

**SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2015 10 AM - 5 PM**

Come along and enjoy tasty homemade Soups, BBQ, Woodfired Pizza, Devonshire Tea and Coffee and other handmade local delights!

**YOU CAN ENTER COMPETITIONS FOR THE BEST:**
- Homemade soups
- Conserves
- Sauces
- Pickles & Relishes
- Homebrew Beer & Wines
- Largest Vegetables (any kind!)

**THERE WILL ALSO BE:**
- Market Stalls, Live Music & Entertainment, Small Animal Farm and much more!

**COOKS AND GARDENERS ENTER & WIN!**

For more information and competition entry forms call 03 52366322 or email forrestsoupfest@gmail.com