

In Learning We Grow

IMPORTANT DATES!



Wed	5 Mar	Staff Meeting 3.15pm
Thurs	6 Mar	Junior Assembly RM 11 Uniform Shop 8.15am-9.15am
Wed	12 Mar	NAPLAN YR 3/5
Thurs	13 Mar	NAPLAN YR 3/5 Uniform Shop 8.15am-9.15am
Fri	14 Mar	NAPLAN YR 3/5
Mon-Fri	17—21 Mar	NAPLAN YR 3/5

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Greetings to parents, students, staff and community members, welcome to this edition of the FCPS Newsletter. I trust that the beginning of the school year has been as smooth for you as it has for us! I also hope that you spent some quality family time this long weekend enjoying the mild weather as we head towards Autumn.

Safety House: The Safety House Program WA is a local community program that

- Provides a safe place for children
- Provides children with the skills and confidence to feel safe
- Provides a network of safe places for children within the community.



The Safety House Association WA was set up in October 1983 and is an incorporated Association with support and cooperation from the Department of Education and the WA Police. Thanks to the P&C and Abby Albert, we have reinvigorated our Safety House Program across our school community. Through Abby's leadership we currently have 8 Safety Houses with the distinctive Ima logo displayed on their letterbox. This year, we would really love to get another couple of safety houses signed up, especially on or close by to the following streets that are regularly used by our students walking to and from school: Bluegum, Timbercrest, Murdoch Dr, Towncentre and Kurrajong.

A Safety Householder must be a caring adult/s who are generally in, around or near their home during school travel times (8-9am and 3-4pm Monday to Friday). But yes, you can still pick up and drop off your own kids/grand kids during this time and no, you don't have to be there every day. Even if it's just 3-4 days per week that is fine. The caring adults must also have a current Working with Children's Card, to ensure they are

checked out and deemed safe. If you don't have one of these, we can easily help you apply for one and it only costs \$11 for 3 years. If you would like to become a Safety House for our school, or if you just have some extra questions, please contact the front office for more information!

All classrooms are provided with a map outlining where the Safety Houses are and how we use a safety house. Teachers regularly reinforce the safety house message and update the map as required. A map of our current safety houses is attached to this newsletter. Should you wish to know more about the Safety House program you can find it on their website www.safetyhousewa.org.au Thank you to members of the community who have volunteered their residence as a Safety House, providing our students with a safe place to stop should they be concerned.

Harmony Week: Harmony Day is celebrated annually on March 21st in Australia. Harmony Day began in 1999, coinciding with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Each year, it is marked by people coming together and participating in local activities. During Week 8 we celebrate National Harmony Week, culminating in our Harmony Day Assembly on Thursday 20 March commencing at 2.00 pm. On Harmony Day students can wear their National Costume or come dressed in orange, as a symbol of Harmony Day. **This is not a Free Dress Day and only National Costume or orange should be worn. All other students in school uniform as usual.** Please see further in the newsletter regarding the Canteen for Harmony Day on 20 March. Parents are welcome to come and have lunch with their children (signing in at your child's classroom) from 1.05 – 1.45 pm. Thank you to Mrs Rodricks for coordinating our Harmony Day activities, with Ms Britten and Ms Auld teaching the whole school song and Mrs Kimwatan and her helpers in the canteen. The assembly will be held on the grass quadrangle adjacent to the undercover area from 2.00 pm – 2.50 pm. We educate students from many cultures, students with differing abilities, linguistic backgrounds and from various personal circumstances and family combinations.

Leaders Day: Last Monday I spent the day getting to know our 18 school leaders, 10 Student Councillors and 8 Faction Captains, as they participated in a variety of Team Building activities at Bickley Recreation Camp. They participated in Crate Climb, Raft Building and other team orientated tasks.



THE PROPERTY POD *It's your move...*



Nicola Lee
Principal/Licensee

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I would like to congratulate them on working so well together as a team, and learning about their strengths and weaknesses as a group. I am sure that the Student Councillors and Faction Captains will work hard this year to ensure that their leadership tasks are carried out to a high standard. Thanks to Miss Sandhu who coordinated the day of activities and who works with the School Councillors throughout the year, providing them with many opportunities to develop their leadership skills.

School Board: The School Board met for the first time last Wednesday 26 February. The Board is formed in accordance with the Education Act with the fundamental purpose of enabling parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of students and will enhance the education provided by the school.

4a. FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

The functions of the Board will be as permitted by the Act and the Regulations.

The functions of the Board are:

- (a) to make recommendations on the following —
 - (i) establishing, and reviewing from time to time, the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
 - (ii) the planning of financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions;
 - (iii) evaluating the school's performance in achieving them; and
 - (iv) formulating codes of conduct for students at the school.
- (b) To promote the school in the community.
- (c) To determine, in consultation with students, their parents and staff of the school, a dress code for students when they are attending or representing the school.
- (d) To provide advice to the Principal on:
 - (i) any general policy concerning the use in school activities of prayers, songs and materials based on religious, spiritual or moral values
 - (ii) the implementation of special religious education.
- (e) To approve:
 - (i) any charge or contribution.
 - (ii) the costs to be paid for participation in an extra cost optional component of the school's educational programme.
 - (iii) the items that are to be supplied to a student for the student's personal use in the school's educational programme.
 - (iv) any agreement or arrangement for advertising or sponsorship entered into by the principal

With the approval of the Minister or Director General, as the Minister's delegate, to take part in the selection of, but not the appointment of, the school principal or any other member of the teaching staff under section 129(2) of the *School Education Act*.

4b. The Board cannot:

- i. intervene in the control or management of the school;
- ii. intervene in the educational instruction of students;
- iii. exercise authority over teaching staff or other persons employed at the school; and
- iv. intervene in the management or operation of a school fund.

I would like to thank the parent representatives – New Chair Kelly Ibbitson, Dr Joshua McCann, Verginia Serdev Patterson, Aaron Hayes and Paul Swanson together with the staff – Jane Rankine, Tenille Nowell, Jessica Sandhu and Donna Caniglia (as ex officio) for the important work they are involved in throughout the year in ensuring that we meet all of our academic, attendance and behaviour targets.

Teacher / Parent Issues or Complaints: Forest Crescent looks forward to hearing opinions of how the school is operating, however we also appreciate being able to take the time to assist you with your issue or concern. The Parent Information Booklet 2025 which is published online outlines our processes **"How to Resolve Problems or Concerns at School"**

Everyday matters: Parents may make direct contact with teaching staff for "everyday" matters, preferably before school, after school or during "Duties Other than Teaching Times (DOTT)". (Remember that teaching staff are usually quite busy preparing for the day first thing in the morning and may not be available to talk over issues more than just to say hello!)

Concerned parents: Teaching staff may refer concerned parents to school management personnel (ie) principal and deputy principals if necessary.

Serious concerns: Parents with serious concerns to discuss with teaching staff are requested to phone the principal or deputy principals on 9232 3550 to arrange a mutually agreeable meeting time. Our school, like most government schools, recommends the problem-solving procedures published in a "PARENT AND CITIZEN" magazine to parents as an effective way of sorting our school-based concerns. The notes below illustrate the steps recommended for meeting the appropriate sequence of people starting with the class teacher - moving on to the Principal, Regional Executive Director, Director General - should problem-solving at lower levels prove to be unsatisfactory.

Step 1: Get a good grasp of the problem

CHECK your child's story out with your child. If it does not sound like "teacher like" talk or behaviour, check out your child's story more closely before approaching the teacher.

Step 2: Arrange an interview with the class teacher

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT for a time to meet, which suits both you and the teacher.

Step 3: Discuss what's bothering you.

The teacher's co-operation will be most readily available when your

- facts are correct
- you are prepared to discuss the concern.

Step 4: Follow up if necessary

How to follow up on a meeting with your child's classroom teacher depends very much on what was discussed and agreed to at the meeting. But be patient. Change won't happen overnight. Keep in regular contact with the class teacher. Most meetings with classroom teachers result in satisfactory outcomes, particularly when you follow the steps outlined above. You may, however, want to address your problem or concern to someone other than the classroom teacher. This may be the case when:

- You have already approached the classroom teacher but no satisfactory resolution could be arrived at, or
- You believe that a higher authority must be consulted in the first instance, or
- Your problem or concern is about something other than what happens specifically in the classroom (eg an aspect of school policy) or
- Your problem or concern is about a member of the school's non teaching staff.

Honest and open communication is a key to developing good relationships, and a positive school culture. I look forward to working with you to ensure that our students receive the best possible teaching and learning opportunities and any queries or concerns are followed up in a timely and professional manner.

Students At Educational Risk: Forest Crescent Primary is an inclusive school and is committed to ensuring that all students develop knowledge, skills, values and confidence to contribute positively to society. Staff members have an obligation to identify and cater for students at educational risk by developing and implementing individualized learning plans with the aim of maximizing educational progress and achievement. Students at Educational Risk are those students who are at risk of not achieving expected learning outcomes. At Forest Crescent, this includes children who are not meeting the age appropriate curriculum standards or who are underachieving. They may be:

- Of high intelligence or have an area of talent
- Diagnosed/imputed with a disability or learning difficulty
- Under the care of Child Protection and Family Support
- Indigenous to Australia – Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Learning Standard Australian English as an additional language
- Disadvantaged
- Suffering trauma, anxiety or other mental health issue

We have a multi layered approach to catering for SAER students. Case Conferences are a formal meeting between either the SAER Deputy Principal (Rachael Spencer) or the Learning Support Coordinator (Kerry Wybenga), the classroom teacher, education assistants, therapists and the school psychologist (when required). For these interviews we will be using an internet based booking system called Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). It will save time for parents, staff and students. Using this system you will be able to book the interview times that suit you best from any internet-connected computer or by down loading the PTO app for your smart phone. All parents involved in case conference will receive communications to advise when bookings are opened and meetings will be held.

Parent / Teacher Conferences are arranged individually by either the teacher or parent. These are less formal, but still monitor progress towards identified goals. At anytime you are welcome to meet in a less formal meeting with the classroom teacher.

P&C: Our P&C will be holding its AGM on Wednesday 19 March, commencing at 7.00pm in the staffroom and all parents are welcome. **Parents and Citizens' (P&C) associations** work in productive partnership with their school principal and the community to promote the interests of the school, and facilitate its development and further improvement, to achieve the best possible outcomes for students. The Forest Crescent P&C gives amazing support to our staff and students, ensuring that curriculum areas, the school grounds and general equipment is of the highest standard. Current officer bearers of the P&C may not be nominating to continue their role so it is important that we get as many members as possible to attend the AGM. I look forward to working with all P&C members this year.

NAPLAN Testing: Students in Years 3 and 5 have really settled into their study in preparation for the upcoming national assessment in Literacy and Numeracy to be completed from Wednesday 12 March to Monday 24 March (week 7/8 Term 1). NAPLAN tests always gain a lot of media attention and this year will no exception! At FCPS we will support students to be as well prepared as possible to perform their best during the testing period by viewing the NAPLAN program as part of our normal teaching and learning program. This year all students will be sitting NAPLAN Online (except Year 3 writing will still be written) so students will be completing an online demonstration test during their library time to ensure that they are familiar with the testing environment.

An information leaflet has been sent home to all students in Years 3 and 5 who will be sitting the tests. Should you require any further information regarding NAPLAN (especially withdrawals) please see your classroom teacher, Mrs Spencer or Mr Combes.

DRESS CODE: Forest Crescent has a Dress Code Policy endorsed by the School Board. A school's dress code can play an important role in promoting a positive image of the school and creating a sense of identity. There are many reasons to introduce a code of dress for students (eg student safety can be improved because they can be identified more readily and generally, the cost of uniform items is less than alternative clothing) however, it is up to individual School Boards to determine what is appropriate for that school's circumstances. This school has a proud reputation when it comes to the wearing of school uniform and our School Board acknowledges the importance of having a School Dress Code. This code makes clear the intent of the School Board that students attending Forest Crescent Primary School wear the correct school uniform for reasons of student health and safety. I thank all parents and students who ensure that we wear the correct uniform, including not wearing jewellery to school.

The current school uniform was decided upon by the P&C and endorsed by the School Board

Uniforms

BOYS

Light blue polo shirt with emblem*
Burgundy shorts or (optional) cargo burgundy shorts*
Burgundy zip jacket*
Burgundy track pants*
Burgundy cargo pants*
Suitable footwear (enclosed shoes, sneakers or sandals).
Sunsafe Hat (Wide Brimmed or Legionnaires)*

GIRLS

Burgundy, blue & white check dress, A-line style*
Burgundy skort*
Burgundy knee length pleated skirt *
Light blue polo shirt with emblem*
Burgundy zip jacket *
Burgundy track pants*
Suitable footwear (enclosed shoes, sneakers or sandals).
Sunsafe Hat (Wide Brimmed or Legionnaires)*

Denim is not to be worn at school

Sport

Boys

Faction coloured polo-shirt *
Burgundy shorts *
White socks, suitable footwear
Tracksuit (winter) *
Sunsafe Hat (Wide Brimmed Legionnaires)*

Girls

Faction coloured polo-shirt *
Burgundy sports skirt/skort *
White socks, suitable footwear
Tracksuit (winter)*
Sunsafe Hat (Wide Brimmed or Legionnaires)*

Items sold through the School's P & C Uniform Shop

NB: Hair is to be tied back if shoulder length or longer (Boys and Girls)

GOOD STANDING POLICY: Good Standing provides a system that assists in ensuring that our students maintain a satisfactory level of attendance, academic participation and behaviour. The Good Standing Policy is widely communicated and is endorsed by the School Board. I am pleased to acknowledge that very rarely do I as Principal have to enforce the Good Standing Policy as a result of poor student behaviour.

Good Standing compliments the FCPS Behaviour Management Policy and reinforces the standard of behaviour expected of our students in order to maintain their good standing status. Maintaining good standing is an incentive for students as it enables them to participate in good standing activities, which will be fun and engaging events. As discussed with students, it is intended that all students will at all times remain "in good standing".

Maintaining Good Standing requires a student to:

- Behave in a way that is appropriate and inclusive of staff and student rights (as indicated in the Behaviour Management Policy)
- Maintain satisfactory attendance and punctuality
- Adhere to FCPS dress code (including the use of sun safe hats)
- Adhere to the school rules (as indicated in the Behaviour Management Policy)
- Complete class work and assessments as requested by their teacher

Ultimately, Good Standing aims to encourage all students to take responsibility for their actions and to improve his or her general performance. It also allows students who maintain good standing to be recognised in a positive way.

Students who move out of Good Standing due to their behaviour will have their status reviewed every 5 weeks. Where behaviour has improved and no further consequences have been enforced, Good Standing will be reinstated. Good Standing is also reinstated at the beginning of each term.

<p>Status – In Good Standing Students in good standing are able to attend good standing events and are allowed classroom privileges.</p> 
<p>Status – Danger Zone Students in the danger zone will still be allowed to attend good standing events but will not be given any classroom privileges.</p> 
<p>Status – No Good Standing Students with no good standing will not be allowed to attend good standing events nor will they be given any classroom privileges.</p> 

I would like to thank everyone in the Forest Crescent School Community for such a wonderful start to the year. It really has been very smooth! I look forward to catching up over the next few weeks.



Join the Junior Cougar Pack

Canning Vale Junior Football Club


Auskick: PP to Year 2 

Junior: Year 3 to Year 6 

WE WELCOME ALL NEW AND RETURNING PLAYERS (BOYS & GIRLS)


www.cvjfc.com.au
<https://www.facebook.com/canningvalejfc/>
https://www.instagram.com/canningvale_jfc/
 secretary@cvjfc.com.au

HARMONY DAY



Canteen has opened on Flexischools for Harmony Day lunches.
 The Canteen will NOT have regular ordering available on Thursday 20 March ONLY PRE ORDERS.
 Regular menu items will be available aswell as sushi.
 Parents if you choose to order for yourself please order under your child's name.
ORDERS NEED TO BE IN BY SATURDAY EVENING 15/3/2025

Wheel or Walk it Fridays



So far we have had a reasonable turnout of students getting their star cards stamped if they ride, scooter or walk to school.

Together in our meeting earlier this term with the Student Leaders, we set a goal of achieving PLATINUM status or higher this year, so we will be celebrating our successes throughout the year on the Your Move website.

<https://yourmove.org.au/group-profile/Forest-Crescent-Primary-School>

Our Hands Up Survey at on Monday 17th March indicated a decrease in walking and cycling to school. We hope that as the weather cools through Autumn, that we will see more students walking, scootering or riding to school.

Speaking of cycling, Friday 21st March is National Ride to School Day. We will be giving our double stamps and a sticker to those who ride. There will also be a couple more competition for that day which will be announced next week. We would like to see as many students ride to school that day as possible.

