



Newsletter 17, 31st October 2019



Welcome to the new edition of the

Foster Primary School Newsletter

As we constantly look to improve and develop our procedures here at Foster Primary School, the newsletter and our way to communicate with our school community has been in need of a revamp for a while. Therefore, our new method of communicating will be via a 2 page newsletter (that will be sent home with the eldest in the family for the first 2 editions only). With all of our news, photos, events and other important classroom and school information on the school website. These website pages are under construction for now and will go live on 14th November. All important and need to know information will be communicated via Compass, Facebook and a note home in school bags. In an attempt to reach as many families as possible, via the different means of communication in today's climate of social media and the internet, we think this is the best option. Of course your feedback is always welcome.

There are a number of reasons for this change.

1. The old newsletter was too big, up to 20 pages and many pixels of data. It took a lot of time to put together, a lot of paper, ink and energy to print and distribute to the families that requested a hard copy.
2. It had become so big in fact that many people just didn't take the time to sit and read it all, often missing very important information.
3. We encourage everyone to be informed and check Compass, Facebook, school bags and the school website as a matter of routine regularly.

Excellence in Teaching and Learning

The term has hit the ground running with staff putting in extra hours to ensure our students are given as many opportunities as possible to extend themselves and be involved in different extra curricula activities.

The Grade 3/4 camp is of particular note. I visited the campers on Tuesday night who were all in high spirits and thoroughly enjoying a hard earned meal. Students were keen to talk about their day of activities and the upcoming pyjama disco! A big thank you must be given to the teachers; Ms Power, Ms Jones and Ms Young for giving up their time to attend the camp. An even bigger thank you must be given to our parents; Daniel Merino, Brenda Accardi, Jess Johnston and Dean Best. We would not be able to run events such as this without this kind of support.

While students are enjoying an extended weekend, our staff will be at school working their way through Professional Development sessions, looking at DET policies and 2020 planning meetings. These types of days allow for schools to prepare and plan for improved individual student outcomes and whole school initiatives that provide learning opportunities for our students.

Positive Climate for Learning

Mr Carver has been working hard on our School Concert. There have been many

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Principal:

Mrs Lorraine Gurnett

School no. 6221

Hours of supervision:

8.30am—3.30pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Friday 20th December
last day of Term 4

Term 1, 2020

Wednesday January
29th—Friday 27th
March

Term 2, 2020

Monday 14th April—
Friday 26th June

Term 3, 2020

Monday 13th July—
Friday 18th September

Term 4, 2020

Monday 5th October—
Friday 18th December

Assembly is

Wednesdays at 2.45pm

School Vision: Everyone Can Learn to Learn.

School Values: Be a Learner, Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Caring.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2019

Wednesday 30th October—
Wednesday 27th November
Prep Learning Together
Program

1st Grade 5/6 Cricket at
Wonthaggi

4th Pupil Free Day

5th Melbourne Cup Day public
holiday

7th Grade 2 Sleepover

8th Chess Club Sausage Sizzle
fundraiser

15th Foster RSL Centenary
Excursion & Cockatoo Primary
School Visit

December 2019

5th Volunteers Morning Tea

6th School Concert matinee &
evening performances

10th Statewide Transition Day

11th—13th Grade Prep—2 Water
Safety Program at Foster
Outdoor Pool

16th Teeth On Wheels

17th Grade 6 Graduation
Dinner

19th Grade 3-6 Pool Party

20th special assembly, last day
of Term 4

January 2020

29th Term 1 begins

February 2020

6, 7, 10, 11, 12 Grade 3-6 Water
Safety Program

14th Gr 3-6 Swimming Carnival

20th School Photos

lunchtime rehearsals and a lot of extra work behind the scenes to ensure it is successful and entertaining. I attended a rehearsal yesterday lunchtime and was able to witness the great work and effort students are putting into their roles.

Our Prep Learning Together transition Program continues with our new Preps excited about attending and interacting with staff.

Community Engagement in Learning

Students in our upper grades (3-6) will be attending a RSL Centenary display on the 15th November. There will be a wide range of artefacts and equipment on display for students to look at. They will also get to hear stories and explanations from the guides, who the RSL have kindly provided, to help our students get a full understanding of what they are being shown.

Lisa Duvoisin visited this week to see our upper grades to let them know about the different services and resources the West Gippsland Library Service offers. She will visit our junior grades later this term.

The Junior School Building Grand Opening was unfortunately cancelled due to the MP being called away on urgent business. We have been told that the event will happen in 2020 now.

Caring for our Community

We would like to draw parents attention to the 5 Trusted Adults strategy. This involves students being able to name five trusted adults who they can talk to if they are having challenges. These people could be family, friends, school staff, coaches or other members of the community. This strategy has been shown to decrease risk, and increases the chance of children reaching out when they need help.

To ensure our community stays safe and is aware of services that can help during difficult times we would like to highlight to parents the below resources:

Lifeline on 13 11 14 or <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>
Conversations Matter: “How to talk to young people about suicide” <https://bit.ly/36juVi1>

“When Communities Are Affected by Suicide” <https://bit.ly/2JEnska>

KidsHelpline Their parent web page is <https://kidshelpline.com.au/parents> and the phone number is 1800 55 1800

If you feel like you would like further information or your child to reach out for assistance please contact: Sarah Hogan - Student Welfare Officer, Melissa Phillips - Acting Principal or Class room teachers.

TEACHERS ON LEAVE

Mrs Gurnett will be away for Term 4. Mrs Phillips will be Acting Principal during this time.

Miss Duggan away for approximately 8 weeks in Term 4. Mrs Pyke will be taking Grade 3D.

WEBPAGE LINKS

Community News:
[http://www.fosterps.vic.edu.au/
community-links/](http://www.fosterps.vic.edu.au/community-links/)

Parent Information:
[http://www.fosterps.vic.edu.au/
general-information/](http://www.fosterps.vic.edu.au/general-information/)

Newsletters:
[http://www.fosterps.vic.edu.au/
newsletters/](http://www.fosterps.vic.edu.au/newsletters/)

To contact the school or your child's teacher please email via Compass or direct to the school foster.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or call the office to make an appointment Phone 56822370.

Other communication methods:

Facebook, Compass and notes home in school bags.