DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 2 - 2015

Week 4
11 May  Life Education Van visits commence today until 27 May
12 May  Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN language and writing
13 May  Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN reading
14 May  Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN maths

Week 5
19 May  University of NSW Computer skills Y3-6
22 May  Hunter PSSA Touch Football trials

Week 6
27 May  Life Education Van
28 May  Year 3 Wetlands Excursion
29 May  Zone Soccer Gala Day

Week 7
2 Jun  School Athletics Carnival "field events"
       University of NSW Science Y2-6
4 Jun  School Athletics Carnival "track events"

Principal’s Report
Principal’s / Deputy Principals’ Report

ANZAC Day
Our school ANZAC service was held on Thursday 23 April. Our school leaders confidently lead the school through the history of the ANZACs, with a focus on the centenary of ANZAC Day. We were honoured to have several returned servicemen at our assembly. Some of them stayed after the assembly to answer questions and share their experiences with our Stage 3 students. The ANZAC Day dawn service and march on 25 April were held at Tuncurry. Forster PS was well represented by students and staff at both celebrations. Our school captains, Ruby and Angus had the honour of laying a wreath at both services, and were invited to cast a wreath on the ocean. Thank you to the marine rescue and the local RSL sub-branch for including our students in this memorable occasion.

NAPLAN Testing
National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy testing will take place in week 4. Every Year 3 and Year 5 student will be assessed using national tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and
numeracy. The results help determine if students are reaching key educational milestones. More information is available at: www.nap.edu.au

Results will be made available to parents / guardians later in the year.

Life Education
The Life Education program will commence on Monday 11 May and will conclude on Wednesday 27 May. Club Forster has generously supported this program for a number of years now, keeping the cost per student much lower. The cost to parents this year is $5.00 per student.

We are extremely grateful to Club Forster for their ongoing commitment to Forster PS and Life Education. Their financial support significantly reduces the cost of this program for parents. Life Education supports us in teaching children what they need to know to make smart choices and develop healthy habits that last a lifetime.

Early arrivers
Over recent weeks several students have been arriving at school very early. While we understand that parents may have work commitments, please be aware there is no supervision in the playground until 8:30am. If your child needs to come to school very early because of family commitments, you may like to consider enrolment in the Out of School Hours (OOSH) located on site.

Annual School Report
The 2014 Annual School Report is now available on the school website for your reading. If you would like a hard copy of this report please request one from the front office.

Principal’s / Deputy Principals’ Report
Rick Clissold  Principal
Narelle Kessey  Deputy Principal
David Graham  Deputy Principal (relieving)

Support Unit

Celebration of our New Bus
Last Friday we all celebrated our new bus and had the opportunity to thank our generous sponsors for helping us raise enough funds to make its purchase possible.

We would again like to say a big THANK YOU to those who contributed - The Variety Club, Forster Public School P & C, JR Richards, Club Forster and Forster Tuncurry Rotary Club.

We had a wonderful day celebrating what is possible when generous organisations work together to meet a need. We were reminded of all the ways our school life is enhanced in being able to access sporting events, cultural activities, camps and various community events and destinations with the use of our buses.

Official cutting of the ribbon which followed our bus presentation

Cross Country
Congratulations Bailey, Izac, Seth and Paul who have made it to the next level of competition after competing at zone level cross country. We wish you all the best for your next run!

Karen Austin
Assistant Principal Support

Early Stage 1

Welcome back to all of our gorgeous children and our families. We were very excited to get all of our ‘little people’ back happy, rested and rearing to go.

Tissues
As we are now moving into the cold and flu season we’d be so grateful if parents could send in a box of tissues to give to their child’s class teacher for the class. In winter we can never have too many tissues!
Absence Notes and Punctuality
A gentle reminder that if children are absent they must bring in a note explaining their absence as this is a legal requirement. This can be also be done through our Skoolbag App. Also, it is vital that parents ensure that their children arrive at school on time every day. Significant literacy learning takes place during the morning sessions and children that miss this, miss a lot of learning and can start to be left behind.

Reading
We are so proud of the progress our children are making in their reading. What they have achieved in one term is remarkable. Continue to read to your children every day and ask them questions about the text. Get them to read their home readers with you and practise their sounds and sight words every week night. 5 to 10 minutes at home each night can have a huge impact on children's reading and learning progress.

Reading and Mathematics Helpers
All the Kindergarten teachers would LOVE some more helpers for reading and mathematics groups. If you or a grandparent, aunty, uncle or friend would like to come in for an hour or so to help we would be so grateful. Speak to your child's class teacher. It is an incredibly rewarding experience for the helpers and the children benefit significantly from it.

K23 Mathematics Groups
K23 have been having lots of fun in Mathematics groups and learning whilst doing so. They have been concentrating on 'Friends of 10', patterns, addition using strategies such as concrete materials and counting on from the largest number.

Miley practising writing her numbers

Miley practising writing her numbers

Ava and Hendrix doing 'Lady Bug' addition using dice and counters

Emily, Alyssa and Kya using Mathematics Apps on their IPADS

Steve doing 'Lady Bug' addition using counters and dice

Jackson playing an addition game
K22 Reading Groups
Children in K22 have been getting into peer groups to read their familiar texts to one another. The children help and support one another whilst this is happening.

Happy Mothers day to all our beautiful mummies out there, I hope you get completely spoilt by your family and have a wonderful day.

We look forward to seeing you all towards the end of the term for Parent Teacher Interviews.

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go”. Dr Seuss

Fran Dupen
Assistant Principal

Stage 1
Welcome back to a new school term. I hope you had a lovely holiday and spent some quality and enjoyable time with your children. Term 2 is always a busy term for both students and teachers. NAIDOC week, Mother's Day stall, Jump Rope for Heart, as well as continual learning, assessments and report writing. With our fabulous and supportive staff we still manage to have a lot of fun.

Year 1 Sport
Year 1 have enjoyed their term one sport rotations on the fundamental movement skills. The students are now focusing on developing the skipping skills for our Jump Rope for Heart fun day.
Disco
Wednesday night was a wonderful Disco and all seemed to have a great time. It was lovely to see all of the smiling faces and groovy dancing. I think I even saw a few parents with their toes tapping. The sports theme was fun with many children dressing up as their favourite sports hero or showing off their own sporting team.

Lynelle Patterson (Rel)
Assistant Principal

Stage 2

Wetlands Excursion
This year, Year 3 and Year 4 classes will be travelling to the Wetlands Environmental Education Centre at Sandgate. The program promotes the integration of environmental education with all Key Learning Areas. Year 4 travelled to the Wetlands on 7 May 2015 and Year 3 will travel later in the month on 28 May 2015. It is a most worthwhile educational experience and Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed their visit.
Cricket Gala Day
Our cricket Gala Afternoon for Year 3 and Year 4 will be held on Friday 5th June. A reminder to send in your $6 and permission note, so your child can participate in this fun afternoon.

Anne Evans
Assistant Principal

Stage 3
Welcome back to Term 2. We have another wonderful and busy term ahead of us. Stage 3 students are incredibly excited about camp and we are all looking forward to the opportunity to spending time with the children in a different environment. New bonds and friendships will be formed amongst the children.

A big thank you to the Wearne family for donating some fantastic books to our school for the children to enjoy. We really appreciate your generosity.

Grip Leadership Conference
On Monday 11 May I will accompany all of the Year 6 school leaders to the Grip Leadership Conference at Club Forster. They will learn what good leadership qualities are and to model these positive qualities to those around them. They will also develop the practical skills of balancing study, school commitments and social life.

Australian Mathematics Trust - Mathematics Challenge
A number of our Year 5 and 6 students have been targeted as being talented in the area of Mathematics. They will be provided the opportunity to work on a 3 week Mathematics Challenge run by the Australian Mathematics Trust from Canberra University. The children will need to utilise their mathematical problem solving skills in order to solve challenging and high order mathematical problems.

Sports Disco
The school disco was held on Wednesday 6 May and was a great success. The children particularly enjoyed the ‘dance off’ and the ‘sing off’ between the boys and girls. Year 6 leaders did a wonderful job at helping out at the disco. Lots of money was raised and a great time was had by all the children that attended.

Save our Great Barrier Reef
The Great Barrier Reef is a unique beauty and is one of the seven wonders of the natural world. It is blessed with the breathtaking beauty of the world’s largest coral reef. The reef contains an abundance of marine life and comprises of over 3000 individual reef systems. Australia’s Great Barrier Reef is rapidly losing its coral, to the point that UNESCO may soon place the natural wonder on its "in danger" list. Climate change is one culprit, but so is the country’s booming extraction industry. Environmentalists warn that time is running out for the reef.

It was very inspiring to discover that Tyler from Year 6 had developed a passion for our environment and in particular to save our Great Barrier Reef. His enthusiasm and desire to make a change initiated him to write a letter to the Prime Minister of Australia.

To Tony Abbott,
My name is Tyler, and I am 11 years old. I feel that allowing big mining companies dumping waste into the Great Barrier Reef is very wrong. I think this because the many precious animals and plants have already been damaged and hurt in the past by our bad behaviour. These beautiful creatures contribute to the future health of our beautiful earth. It is one of the 7 natural wonders of the world and is a very magnificent place. I want to take my kids and grandkids to visit in the future. So please please don’t allow this to happen.

Look forward to hearing from you, and what changes you intend to make.

Thank you.
Tyler Sweetman

Mr Tony Abbott replied to the letter and it is only actions like this that will make the world a better place. Thank you for your contribution Tyler and may others have the courage to stand up for what is right. As Robert F. Kennedy once said, “The purpose of life is to contribute in some way to making things better.”
Every day we get to witness our students grow, improve and develop in some way and it is wonderful to be a part of that journey.

Katrina Pettet
Assistant Principal

Bounce Back!

‘Courage is not the absence of fear. It is the ability to act in the presence of fear.’
Bruce Lee

This term has seen our Bounce Back program begin with students exploring the topic of ‘courage’. Students have been learning that courage means feeling frightened about something but doing it anyway and finding a way to face your fear and deal with it. We have been learning that being brave doesn’t mean that you have no fear. It’s about facing your fear and not letting it beat you. This would be a really interesting topic to talk to your children about as we all need courage to face different challenges in our daily lives.

4/12 and Ms Newman exploring the theme of courage through the book ‘The Deep’ by Tim Winton

Mrs Lacey & Miss Chapple
Bounce Back Team

Sport

Zone Cross Country Carnival
The Zone Cross Country Carnival was held in Wingham on Friday 24 April. Forster Public School was represented by 43 children on the day. It was a warm day and the children ran the course well. Congratulations to all the children who attended and tried their personal best.

The Senior Team ready to race

The Junior Team and Support Unit Children before the race

Charlie, Nick, Angus, Charlotte, Seth, Paul and Izac were successful in making their way to the Hunter Cross Country to be held in Newcastle on the 8 May. We wish you all every success. Bailey qualified straight to State.

Thank you to the parents who came along to cheer their children. We were fortunate enough to have our 2 buses take the children to Wingham. Those that travelled in the new bus enjoyed the luxury of Air Conditioning on the way home after a hot and sweaty day.

Charlotte ran 5th
Congratulations to Xavier and Charlie for their selection in the Northern NSW Football team. What an achievement!

Coming up - The Athletics Carnival.
The Athletics Carnival will be broken up into 2 days. The Field Events will be held on Tuesday 2 June. Children will participate in Shot Put, Long Jump, High Jump and the 800m. The second component of the carnival will take place on Thursday 4 June, with Track events – traditional 100m & 200m.

Come along and support your children. Canteen facilities will be available on the day.

Class Sport
Our whole school participates in Sport led by our teachers each week in class time. Each teacher will focus on specific skills 'Fundamental Movement Skills' required to play a game during this time.

Your child's Sport day is as follows:
Kindergarten - Wednesday
Year 1 & 2 - Thursday
Year 3 & 4 - Friday
Year 5 & 6 - Tuesday.

This term our focus is the Athletics Carnival. The teachers are teaching running, jumping and throwing skills.

• Year 2 are exposing the children to the Athletics Carnival events - long jump, high jump, shot put, running in lanes and playing carnival games such as tunnel ball and tug of war.
• Years 3 & 4 will be participating in Milo Cricket to assist in these skills.
• Years 5 & 6 will be continuing to go to Forster Bowling Club and learn how to bowl.
• Year 6 also began Golf lessons courtesy of Forster Golf Club.

We thank our local community organisations that support our children's sporting interests.

Paula Drew
Sport Organiser

Library
Readers get ready!! The Premier's Reading Challenge is on again, so drop into our library and find some fabulous books to read. Books that count towards the Challenge have a special red sticker on the spine. Miss Eggins and Mrs Hauritz can find any of the books you need to complete your challenge.

Student records must be completed by 21 August, and these can be done online or keep a record and Miss Eggins can submit it for you. Just to refresh your memory, Kinder to year 2 must read 30 books, with 25 of these from the Premier's Reading Challenge List. Year 3 to Year 6 must read 20 books, with 15 of these from the Premier's Reading Challenge List. It may seem like 3-6 have it easier than K-2, but that's only because 3-6 have chapter books to read. At the end of the Challenge, certificates will be issued. So get reading, and remember 20 minutes per night is ideal for reading with kids!!

Do you know what happens to a book before it gets to the library shelves?
How often have you thought about the process that a single library book goes through before it is available for borrowing? Well, here's a run-down of what the busy library ladies have to do to get a book on the shelf for the students to enjoy:
* First, any pricing stickers are removed and the cover is wiped over with disinfectant or eucalyptus oil to remove any residue.

* A contact strip is added inside the front and back covers to make the book stronger.

* The Call Number (how we find the book) is recorded on the first page of the book. Other information can be added here such as who donated the book or how much the book cost.

* The book is stamped with our school stamp. One large stamp on the first page of the book, and 3 to 5 smaller stamps on pages throughout the book.

* The book is then put into the computer system. This gives us another set of numbers to write in the centre of the large stamp (called the accession number). We also need to make sure we can find the book by title, author, publisher and subject. This information is stored in the computer.

* A sticker with the Call Number on it is attached to the book either on the spine or at the front near the spine. If it is a Junior Fiction book, the first letter of the author’s surname is stuck to the front cover as well.

* Finally, the book is covered with clear contact to protect the cover and to keep the stickers from getting ruined.

Once all of these things are finished, the book is then able to go on to the shelf for our wonderful students to borrow! What a journey our books go through!!!

Happy Reading!

Miss Eggins
Librarian

Kitchen Garden

The children are back into the cooking and gardening with enthusiasm after the break. In the garden the children have been planting the winter crops of carrots which have been loving all the rain!

We are in need of some fertilizer for our garden so anyone that could donate horse or cow poo that would be great. Also anyone that could donate grass clippings for our compost would also be appreciated

The Year 5 & 6 children have been cooking up a storm with the bumper crops of pumpkins, chokos, tamarillos, basil, celery, lettuce and eggplants that Years 3 & 4 have been busy growing and harvesting for the kitchen.

This first week back in the Kitchen the children have been producing their own pasta! They love the tactile task of mixing and kneading the pasta dough. Then the fun job comes of rolling and cutting the pasta with the pasta machines. One of the other groups produced a scrumptious Basil Pesto which we stirred through the lovely fresh cooked pasta, the other made a lovely fresh Salad of the Imagination with Roast Pumpkin and honey balsamic dressing. To top it off the last group made as sweet treat of Buttermilk Pumpkin Hotcakes with maple syrup.

The continuing expansion of the children’s tastes astounds both staff and parents. After spending time in the program children are eagerly trying new tastes that they previously would have never have even attempted!

6/4 hard at work. Kintarli, Millie, Ella, Ruby, Jasmine making pasta and Xander and Rudy making pesto

A big belated thankyou must go out to Mick from Phoenix Coffee Shop Tuncurry who again volunteered his time and his machine to come to help us raise funds and make Organic Barista
Coffee at the recent stall we had on election day. Please support his business in the old Bi Lo Arcade Tuncurry A big thank you also to the staff who made biscuits and cakes!

Cindy Sampson and Trina Smith
Garden & Kitchen Specialists

**Community News**

HAVE FUN, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND LEARN ABOUT ANOTHER CULTURE!

Volunteer to host an international high school student arriving into Australia in July '15 and you'll be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for their 3, 5, or 10 month programs from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Spain and Colombia. They will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money, and comprehensive insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

You choose the nationality, the gender, the duration and the interests of the student that you feel is the best match for your family. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au), or call your local coordinator, Dianne on 0429406126 to request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!