DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 3 - 2015

Week 7
24 Aug Book Week
26 Aug Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition for Years 5 & 6
28 Aug Book Week dress up day and parade

Week 8
4 Sept Gold Presentation Assembly
3 Sept Yr 6 Parent Information Night - Tobwabba

Week 9
8 Sept Koori Transition Day - Forster Campus
9 Sept Kindergarten 2016 Orientation

Principal’s / Deputy Principals’ Report

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016
Forward planning is now underway. If you have a child who will start school next year, or you know someone who does, please obtain an enrolment form from the school office as soon as possible. Kindergarten students need to be 5 years of age on or before the 31st July 2016 to be eligible to enrol in Kindergarten in 2016.

You will need to present the following documentation:
- A completed enrolment form
- A birth certificate or current passport
- Proof of residency (council rates notice etc.)
- Immunisation certificate

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment if you require further support.

Tell Them from Me - Parent Survey 2015
Forster Public School has been participating in the Tell Them from Me surveys for two years. Each year the survey has been expanded and for the first time parents and carers are asked to participate.

The survey is online and the data collected from students, teachers and parents, is compared to national data. When the data is collected the school is able to better understand key issues to improve aspects of learning for all.

The data survey is confidential and does not identify individuals. The school receives the data in graphic form and we are able to see how we are performing in comparison to national Australian norms.

The link for accessing the survey on your computer is below. We hope you are able to complete the survey as the information will be very useful to improve our school.

Parent Survey - Information to complete the Tell Them From Me Survey


The link should open directly to the ‘Begin Survey’ page of the parent survey, and no login details should be required.
If the survey opens to a login page, please copy and paste the link into your internet browser. This will ensure the survey launches directly to page one of the survey.

The survey closes at the end of this term - Friday 18th September 2015.
Sale of KitchenAid Artisan Mixer (Empire Red)
The school will be selling, via a silent auction single bid process, an unopened KitchenAid Artisan Mixer in the colour Empire Red. A reserve price has been set for the mixer.

Members of the community are offered an opportunity to submit a bid (one per person), in writing to the Principal by 3:00pm Friday 28 August 2015. The highest bid, providing it is over the set reserve, will secure the mixer. Contact Rick Clissold for further information. Good luck to all bidders.

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

Support Unit

Canberra Excursion
Some of our Year 5 and 6 students participated in the Canberra excursion last week. It was certainly a week packed with fun and educational experience. The photos below show some of the students having fun at just a couple of the places they visited.

Regional AWD Carnival
This Friday, 26 students from our Support Unit will travel to Woodberry, near Newcastle, to compete in the Regional Athletes with Disabilities Carnival. We are very grateful for the time and expertise given by Nathan Brown, our local, certified Australian Athletics Coach. Nathan has been coaching our students every Tuesday and we wish them all a great day of competition and fun on Friday.

Karen Austin
Assistant Principal Support
Early Stage 1

Woolworths Earn To Learn Program
For the past few years Forster Public School have taken part in the Woolworths Earn to Learn Program. We have received new K - 6 Music and Science equipment as part of this program, which has benefited our children significantly in their learning. We are taking part in this program again this year. There is a box in the front office. We’d be grateful if you could collect the award stickers each time you shop at Woolworths and drop them into our Earn To Learn box.

Mathematics
Our Kindergarten students are making wonderful progress in Mathematics. Many are counting forwards and backwards to and from 30 and 100. They are identifying numbers before and after a given number, they are solving addition and subtraction problems using concrete materials and pictures and they are using high order thinking skills whilst engaging in guided mathematical problem solving. Many of our children are now ready for what we call ‘counting on’ and ‘counting backwards’ to solve addition and subtraction problems. This means they are moving from concrete understanding to more abstract understanding. You can support your children with this by getting them to engage in fun counting forward and counting back activities. I.e. 10/ 20/ 30 Little Monkeys, 10/ 20/ 30 green bottles etc.

Counting on requires the children to store the larger number in their memory when they are adding and then count on by the smaller number and counting back requires the children to count back from the large number when subtracting. You can also support your children in this process by asking them some simple addition and subtraction problems and modelling this process. Using fingers when counting on and back is a GREAT start. We are proud of the progress our little mathematicians are making. They are off to a fabulous start.

Science Fun
K23 have been having some wonderful fun in Science with Mr Johnson. They have been learning through discovery. The problem solving, discoveries and incredible conversations that go on between the children during their Science lessons is remarkable. And they have so much FUN.
Brierley discovered the lever all by himself. He set out to discover how he could move a heavier object easily. He made and tested a seesaw to move his object.

"In its simplest form, a seesaw is a lever: a long, rigid arm (like a board or a pole) that hinges on a pivot point called a fulcrum. Strictly speaking, a lever is actually a machine -- a device that transmits energy in order to do work -- and by work, we mean the act of exerting a force on an object over a distance. Seemingly miraculously, a lever does the work for you, allowing you to lift objects you’d never be able to budge by yourself. This explains why the term "lever" comes from the Latin word for "lift" and why Archimedes famously commented, "Give me a place to stand and rest my lever on, and I can move the Earth."

Wow PHYSICS in Kindergarten.

Emma also discovering the power of attraction

Kindergarten Orientation
Kindergarten Orientation for 2016 Kindergarten students and parents will be on Wednesday 9 September. We will be asking our current Kindergarten parents to contribute towards a morning tea for our new parents on the day. A note will be coming home about this soon.

Reading Fluency
The children’s ability to read texts automatically and effortlessly and with expression is a very important bridge to their understanding and comprehension. Children develop fluency by being given the opportunity to read familiar texts many times. As children go up through the reading levels and their texts become more difficult, do not hesitate to keep home readers for a second or third night, so that the children can read and re-read the text.

The same applies to wonderful authentic stories they are reading at home. Give them the opportunity to re-read known stories and texts. Model reading with wonderful expression and encourage them to read with expression. Tell them that when we read we want to bring the story and characters in it to life so that the audience really wants to listen. Sight word recognition also plays an important part in developing fluency, so keep practising those sight words.

Joint the Forster Public Library
A number of children in Kindergarten have joined the Forster Public Library and make regular visits to borrow books. They love their visits and talking about the books they borrow. I recommend all families do it. It can become such a special regular shared experience for families and helps develop that love of reading and books that we want every child to have.

Enjoy the next few weeks.

Francoise Dupen
Assistant Principal
"Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven."
— Henry Ward Beecher, reverend and social activist

Writers Corner
Some writing from our beautiful Kindergarten students.

Little Piggy and Dinosaur
By Tanzin K/21
One summer day Piggy went to the disco on the beach. I met Dinosaur and Piggy. I had lots of fun with Piggy and Dinosaur. We all danced together. After that we all built beautiful sandcastles. We decorated it with shells. It was fun. They felt creative at the beach. They wished they could be friends forever, building sandcastles every day.
Pigs
By Jacob K/21
One summer they went to a disco. He saw another pig. They were friends forever. They skated together and they went to each other's houses. Together they played on the trampoline until midnight. They went to the movies.

One Summers Day
By Shontae K/21
One summer's day I saw a pig that had wings and he can talk. So we started to be friends. At midnight we went to the disco and after that we went back home. Then we were friends forever.

Goldilocks and the Three Bears
Literary Recount by Kaylee K/24
Goldilocks went to the three bears' house and tried the beds and tried the porridge and tried the chairs and went to sleep. But when the three bears got home they were very angry.

Big Sun Coming
By Chloe K/23
On Sunday there was still no sun. The freezing bunny rabbits and little cats crept inside so they could get near the heater.

Sofia's Garden
By Sofia K23
I like my garden because it looks beautiful. I like the flowers because they are bright and gorgeous.

Fran Dupen
Assistant Principal

Stage 1

Stage One have had a fabulous journey in changing their teaching practices with their L3 training in reading. It has been wonderful to hear teachers, parents and best of all students so excited about the student's great improvements in reading. The L3 training is now focusing on writing and reciprocal teaching. Each child has an individual writing goal and is working towards achieving it.

This is working very well as the children are working at their level and are in charge of their own successes. Please remember to give your child many opportunities to write at home daily, some ideas for this could be: shopping lists, party invites, stories, poems, letters to relatives, emails, comics, books, descriptions of drawings, drawings with labels or instructions to a procedure. The possibilities are endless and it will make a difference in your child's writing.

School Swimming Scheme for Year 2
The School Swimming Scheme for Year 2 students will be held early in Term 4.

Billabong Zoo Excursion
This term Year 2 will be going to Port Macquarie for their excursion to the Billabong Zoo. Here the students will deepen their knowledge of the adaptations of animals in different wet and dry environments. This has been the unit of work they have been studying this term in HSIE. Notes will be sent home very soon and prompt payment will be appreciated.

Lynelle Patterson (Rel)
Assistant Principal

Stage 2

School Hats and Equipment
A reminder that it is a requirement that ALL children wear school hats at school each day. Also children are expected to come to school each day equipped with necessary stationery, for example: pens, pencils, rulers, rubbers, coloured pencils etc. A lot of valuable learning time is wasted and lessons can be disrupted when children have to spend time looking for equipment.

Premier's Spelling Bee-Stage 2 representatives
Many children across Stage 2 have been taking part in their class Spelling Bees in order to determine their class representative for our Stage Finals. Stage 2 representatives will be Ella 4/14 and Camden 4/12. These students will represent our school at the Regional Finals. We have a lot of very clever spellers in Grades 3 and 4 and it is great that they have had the opportunity to show-case their spelling knowledge. Congratulations must also go to Curtis in 3/11 who made it as one of the final 3 competitors and will be our reserve participant for the next level.
Curtis, Ella and Camden who were Stage 2 final three competitors

Science Experiments

Harry and Chase experimenting with friction using different surfaces

Ginger helping Lily use a spring to measure the amount of friction

Year 4 students have been busy engaging in science experiments. This week saw them experimenting with 'Friction.' They learnt that Friction is a force which resists movement when you pull an object over a surface and that the friction can change depending on the type of surface the object is being pulled over.

Anne Evans
Assistant Principal

Stage 3

Higher Achieving Students Day
A number of students from Year 6 participated in a Higher Achieving Students day, organised by Forster Campus. The students participated in a number of activities which were challenging and stimulating. They had the opportunity to mix with Year 7 and Year 9 HAS students to give them a potential mentor for next year.

They worked in teams and participated in four activities covering a variety of subject areas. The activities included: Bearings/Compass Activity, Art Project conducted in a dark room, Team Building Games and a Medieval Scavenger Hunt using the computer. After lunch they came together for a tower building activity.

All the students were fully engaged in the activities and were beautifully behaved throughout the entire day. Well done kids!

Students participating in a team building activity

Students working together to achieve a common goal
Canberra Camp Week
Teachers and students in Year 5 and Year 6 were extremely excited as they headed off to Canberra. They participated in fun and educational activities ranging from programs covering civics and citizenship, history and heritage, art, science, the environment and culture. They experienced a range of engaging educational techniques along with interactive displays, hands-on activities and role plays.

Some students wrote about their experiences:

**Canberra Excursion**
Canberra is Australia’s capital, inland from Australia's east coast. Surrounded by forest, farmland and nature reserves, it earns its nickname, the "Bush Capital". Canberra, meaning "meeting place" in the local native tongue Nyunnawal. It was named on 12th of March 1913 and was declared the capital of Australia on the 1st of January 1911.

By Charlie, Angus and Noah

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**The Australian War Memorial**
Canberra
The War Memorial has so many interesting facts and objects about past wars such as World War 1 and World War 2. It has a long wall with names of people who were killed in the wars, engraved in it with poppies put next to them. There are two of these walls with a towering building. Inside was a memorial for the unknown soldier, killed in the war and no one knows who he is. In the centre of the two walls there is a lane with water and a fire at the end. This is where people pay respect to the ANZACS.

By Tyler

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**Australian Parliament House**
Parliament House is an enormous building where Government creates laws. There are two houses, the House of Representatives and the Senate. The House of Representatives is green and the Senate is red. These colours were copied by other countries such as England. Both of these houses have the seats shaped like a horse shoe. At the entrance of the building is a scanner to make sure you don’t have any weapons or anything like that. On the top of Parliament House is a big flag pole and on top is a huge flag that is approximately the size of a double decker bus! This place is amazing!

By Tyler

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Students developed a deeper understanding of how we're governed, how laws are made, electoral processes and rights, Australian identity, history and heritage and our Australian Identity, fostering a sense of national pride.
William and Sophia in role play preparing to pass a Bill in parliament

The students were able to meet our local Federal Member of Parliament, Hon. Bob Baldwin who represents us in the House of Representatives.

They also met our Senate representative, Senator Deborah O’Neill who sent her best wishes to all the students and commented on their beautiful behaviour.

Off to the snow!
The sight of the snow was magnificent. It was soft and thick. We went up the chairlift to the top of Mount Ainslie. We all threw snowballs at each other. Even the teachers joined in. Mrs Pettet and Mrs Drew slid down the hill at a high speed. They had lots of fun. It was sad to get back on the chairlift knowing that we would have to leave. It was a great experience and it was a lot of fun.
By Amalia

Cruising in the chairlift

Boys chilling out at the snow

It was amazing. A white blanket of snow covered the tall mountains as far as the eye could see. Everyone threw snowballs at each other and it was lots of fun when we went up the chairlift. We were at the top of Mount Ainslie. All the children and even some of the teachers were sliding down the hill.
Snow Report by Cassidy
Girls snuggling together on top of the mountain

Rhiannon was deeply saddened at the War Memorial as she places a poppy in memory of a fallen soldier

The War Memorial

On Wednesday we went to the War Memorial. Being at the War Memorial was amazing and meant a lot to me. Being in the rooms full of Nazi planes sent shivers down my spine. Looking around at the people with their eyes watering and tears trickling down their cheeks. Walking along those walls with thousands of names engraved in them and poppy’s placed in between the cement cracks. Seeing people walk past me leaning on each other struggling not to cry. It makes you think of how strong they had to be and how much trust, respect and love they had for their army. Knowing that men went to war not knowing whether they would return. Many people were lost-brothers, sons, dads, uncles and grandfathers of children all killed defending their country.

By Rhiannon

Council Chambers Visit

Year 5 and Year 6 students also engaged in activities to discover more about our government. Some children participated in an excursion to the Council Chambers to learn about how our local council operates.

On Tuesday 11th of August the rest of the students from Year 5 & 6 and the support unit who didn’t go to Canberra, visited our Local Council. We all met the Mayor Jane McWilliams. We got to experience a real meeting with all the elected council representatives. The best visit that we had was to the respite unit. We got everyone up and played Ping Pong. It was a very fun day for everyone. We also visited Great Lakes Library, our Local Council and many more. Everyone had a fun and great experience at the local council and I wish I could do it again.

By Annabelle

The staff at the Local Council was so impressed with the student’s behaviour and engagement at the chambers the passed on their best wishes;

On behalf of Great Lakes Council, thank you for visiting us last Tuesday 11 August. We enjoyed hosting your students and hope they had as much fun as we did!

Please pass on our best wishes to your students for their future studies.

Well done to all these students. We are very proud of you and the way you represent our school.

Visit from Honourable Stephen Bromhead

The Honourable Stephen Bromhead spoke to Year 5 and 6 students about the three tiers of government and in particular the NSW Parliament. They had a lot of fun talking about government and they even encouraged him to sing along to a song called, “Hanging Five” with back up dancers.

Loganne, Ruby, Stephen Bromhead, Angus & Charlie
Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition
Students from Grades 5 and 6 will be taking part in the Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition on Wednesday 26th August. This school has absorbed the cost of this competition to allow every student the opportunity to participate and enjoy the challenge.

Katrina Pettet
Assistant Principal

Bounce Back!

For the past few weeks our students have continued to explore the topic of relationships. Stage 2 focussed on ‘friendships’ through the text ‘Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley’ by Aaron Blabey which led to discussions about the similarities and differences that we have with our friends. It is a beautiful story worth sharing with you kids!

Next week our students will begin the unit ‘No Bullying’. Through this topic students will discuss what bullying is, why some children bully others and what we can do about bullying. We look forward to exploring this important unit together.

Mrs Lacey & Miss Chapple
Bounce Back Team

Sport

Taree Horse Sports Day
Jazz from 3/9 competed at the Taree Horse Sports Day on 17 July on Saskia’s big horse ‘Smurf’. (We sadly had to put Jazz’s horse down a few months ago). Smurfy stepped up to the challenge and really looked after her on Friday.

They had a great day and her results were
2nd 9 year old hack
3rd 9 year old Pleasure Hack
1st pair of riders with Laura Smith from Tinonee Public School
3rd 9 year old Rider
6th Barrel Race
3rd bends
5th Scudda Ho
2nd Ball Race.

Sportsathon 2015
On Friday 18 September (the last day of term) we will be holding Forster Public School’s annual Sportsathon. A fun-filled, active day where students take part in a range of sports and recreational activities in order to raise money for sports and play equipment for the school.

This is the major fund-raising event on the school calendar for 2015, and we hope that all students and their families will get involved. In the next week, students will receive a permission slip for parents or carers to sign and a pledge/sponsorship
form which must be returned to school NO LATER THAN MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER.

Last year we raised around $10,000.00, thanks to the efforts of the students in gaining willing sponsorship from generous supporters. Students who raise the most money in their class groups are awarded a goodie bag which contain items such as gift vouchers, clothing, jewellery, stationery, movie tickets and free passes to a range of local recreational venues. All students who submit the form go in the draw to win a major prize.

If each student in the school can raise pledges amounting to just $10.00 we will raise more than $7000.00. Perhaps we can do even better than last year.

Paula Drew
Sport Organiser

Library

Book Week is here! To celebrate all things awesome about books, we are having a whole-school dress up day on Friday, 28th August. Come dressed as your favourite book character. There will be a parade for kinder to year 2 at 11:30 under the infants COLA, all welcome!

On a less happy note, please bring in any overdue library books. We are finding more and more students are forgetting their books, and students are not able to borrow more books unless they have returned the ones they have. There are special surprises for whole-classes that have no overdue books, so please get them in!

Happy Reading,
Miss Eggins and Mrs Murray (relieving librarian)
Librarian

Community News
**BASKETBALL**

Basketball clinic:
- Mondays: 8-12 year olds
- Wednesdays: 13-16 year olds
- Thursdays: 13-16 year olds
- All days: 3:45-5:00 PM

**TRYSSTARS**

**KIDS TRIATHLON**

- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Learn new skills

Trystar Program Details
- Shoalhaven Heads
  - Forster Triathlon Club
- Program Start Date: 3rd October 2015
- Program End Date: 15th October
- Location: Building Forster 3:30-5:00 PM
- 5 x 90 min sessions
- To sign up or find out more information, visit www.trystars.com.au

**Booral Public School**

**150 Years Celebration Invitation**

**Saturday, 10th October 2015**

- 8.00am - 2.00pm: Community markets will operate
- Historical display
- 150th Anniversary Assembly
- 6.00pm: Dinner (2 course meal) and entertainment at Stroud Country Club

BBQ lunch, coffee, tea and refreshments will be available for purchase. School band and choir will provide entertainment throughout the day.

2330 The Buckets Road Booral NSW 2425
Phone: (02) 949 200 Email: booral.p.schoold@det.nsw.edu.au

For enquiries email: holynamefe@tca@gmail.com

**HOLY NAME SCHOOL**

**FETE**

**TICKET TO FUN**

- SUNDAY 29 AUGUST 2015
- 9AM TO 3PM
- 88 LACHAPEL ST, ROOGEROO
- TICKET

Face painting, popcorn, jumping castle, train rides, white elephant, toys, books, clothes, chocolate wheel, sensational raffle prizes, guessing competitions, side show alley, plants, crazy hair and much more!

- Featuring a kids disco with DJ Pimbo from 10am
- Plenty of fabulous food, stalls & prizes
- Come & see "Sicilien Barnyard"

**Good for Kids good for life**

**5 TIPS FOR SCREEN TIME AT HOME**

- Are you having trouble getting your child off technology or watching television?
- Try some of these ideas to reduce the amount of screen time your child has each day:
  - Go screen free for weekdays
  - Try technology free Tuesdays
  - Try imagination Wednesdays
  - Restrict times when your child has access such as “no screen time before dinner”
  - Provide seven ½ hour vouchers on a Friday afternoon to last for the week. When your child watches the television or has other screen time e.g., computer, video games etc., they hand a voucher back. This limits the child to 3.5 hours of screen time during the week.

Source: Health Australia New England, Local Health District
Expression of Interest

School Learning Support Officer (Sign Interpreter)

Forster Public School

Expressions of interest are called for a temporary position as School Learning Support Officer (Sign Interpreter). This is a part time (approximately 23 hours per week) temporary position for the remainder of the 2015 school year dependent upon continuing enrolment of funded students. The funded students have been provided access to spoken English via Auslan.

Prospective applicants with the necessary skills and experience are invited to submit a two page expression of interest addressing the position criteria by 4:00pm on Wednesday 2 September, 2015. Late applications will not be accepted.

Forster Public School (enrolment 757, including 13% Aboriginal students, 5 support unit classes) has an experienced and collaborative staff that value teamwork. Staff are committed to delivering quality teaching in a nurturing environment to meet the diverse needs of students. The school community are supportive and proud of the school’s sporting achievements. The integration of technology is a feature of the school. All classrooms have interactive whiteboards installed.

Position Information

Duties focus primarily on assisting teachers to provide sign interpreter services in classrooms and for school activities; maintaining and developing sign language skills of students, teachers, families and the wider community. Duties may also include the operation of audio visual aids and duplicating, issue of learning materials and minor clerical duties.

Position Criteria

- Awareness of the needs of students with hearing disabilities.
- Ability to work with students with hearing disabilities.
- Effective communication skills.

Applicants must be prepared to undertake mandatory professional learning. Applicants should provide the names and contact details of two referees, including their current principal if applicable.

No engagements, including short term temporary and casual engagements can commence until the school can confirm the applicant has met the relevant Working with Children Check requirement and National Criminal Records Check (as referred to in section 3.2 and section 6 of the Working with Children Check Procedures).

Applications, including the cover page, should be emailed to:

Rick Clissold
Principal
Forster Public School
Tel: 6555 5766
Email: rick.clissold@det.nsw.edu.au