



Refer to last page for school and community contact information

Fri 10 Feb	Assembly 9.15am Year 6 Senior Hall
Mon 13-Fri 17 Feb	'Getting to Know You' interviews
Tue 14 Feb	New families morning tea 9.15-10am Staffroom
Thurs 16 Feb	Volunteers meeting 9.15-9.45am Library
Thurs 16 Feb	Welcome BBQ 6pm Senior asphalt

MISSION STATEMENT

Forrest Primary School helps all of our students reach their full potential in a safe, loving, inspiring and challenging learning environment.

We strive to develop confident, compassionate, responsible children who are lifelong learners and can make the world a better place.

Our community is culturally diverse and we value and celebrate the perspectives, knowledge, skills and abilities all bring to our school.

HIGH IMPORTANCE: VERY HOT WEATHER FRIDAY 10 – TOMORROW!!

Tomorrow, Friday 10th February 40 degrees is predicted for Canberra.

Our 'very hot weather' arrangements are as follows:



The day will be treated like a 'wet weather day' with all children staying inside at lunch and recess.

Most rooms are air conditioned. Solutions for exceptions are as follows:

The Year 6's will spend the day in the senior hall.

4T has an air-con that is not working so they will spend the day in the Teachers' Resource Room.

5D will be split between the other Year 5 classrooms.

Mr Fairfield Smith will conduct his lessons in the junior hall.

Please make sure your child has a water bottle. All children will have access to water.

BYOD- Please note that, although we have discussed BYOD, the programme has not gone ahead as yet as there are still some challenges to be overcome re safe storage of devices.

Chris Pilgrim

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Parent Information night and Interviews

A big thank you to the parents who came along to our information night on Tuesday. It was lovely to see so many families and I am sure you now have a thorough understanding of your child's academic programme for the year. A reminder to sign up for a 'Getting to know you' interview in Weeks 3 and 4. These interviews are run as a three way conference and will allow academic, social and emotional goals to be collaboratively established with your child and the class teacher.

P&C Welcome BBQ

Next Thursday, 16 February the P&C will be hosting a welcome BBQ for the Forrest community. This is a great opportunity to meet new families and connect with your child/ren's teacher. Starting at 6pm, the P&C will be providing food and drinks. We look forward to seeing you there.

School Board

Nominations are now open for a parent representative on the School Board. This is a two year position, supporting the strategic direction and governance of the school. Nominations forms can be collected from the front office. If you have any questions please contact Jane Harrold on 6205 5644.

Numeracy News

In March, Chris Pilgrim, Hayley Singh, Belinda Gough and Emma Sandford will be attending the Principals as Numeracy Leaders (PANL) workshop. Forrest Primary were one of 40 schools in the Canberra region to successfully apply for the year long programme. The programme is designed to skill school leaders in numeracy instruction to target students with learning difficulties in the early years. This in turn, aims to reduce learning difficulties in later years. Forrest Primary plans to create partnerships with other IB schools participating in the programme to share ideas and strategies.

Evacuation Procedures

In the next few weeks, in accordance with Education Directorate's requirements, we will hold an evacuation drill. This ensures all staff and students are aware of the school's procedures around evacuating safely and efficiently. Teachers will discuss the evacuation procedures with students prior to the drill.

Labelling children's items

Please ensure your child's clothes, lunchbox, hat and drink bottle are labelled clearly with his/her name and class. Each year we have thousands of dollars of lost property not collected. If children's items are labelled lost property can be returned to the owner.

Thank you

Hayley Singh and Belinda Gough on behalf of the Executive Team

NOTES DUE

8 year olds and above Swimming
Carnival due 15 Mar

Christian Education in Schools
due 25 Feb

Year 5 2017 Camp due 23 Feb

Year 6 2017 Camp due 17 Feb

Year 6 Commemorative shirt due
23 Feb

**PLEASE SEE 'NOTES ARCHIVE'
UNDER THE 'OUR SCHOOL' TAB
ON OUR WEBSITE TO PRINT
EXTRA COPIES**

Preschool News

The Inquirers and Investigators at Deakin Preschool are all settling in well. The Investigators will attend their third day on Wednesday February 8 and the Inquirers have completed four full days this week, week 2.

Emiliana's dad Eagle, from the Inquirer's group came in on Tuesday February 7 and shared aspects of his family's culture. He showed the Inquirers pictures of Schools and villages in the Karen state and showed us a typical handmade schoolbag used by the children in the Karen state.

We have new sand in the sandpit which has led to many children creating and exploring there.

The children have been engaged in discussions about healthy choices and caring for the natural environment. The Investigators have shown a strong interest in caring for our cherry tree and have spent long periods watering it. We are also in the process of creating our essential agreement. The children continue to contribute ideas.

Yasmine O'Brien
Preschool Teacher



P&C COMMUNITY BBQ

Please join us for first social occasion of the year on Thursday
16 February 2017.

Meet families from your children's year groups, our
wonderful staff, P&C and our Principal.

Complimentary BBQ (including vegetarian, halal & gluten
free sausages), fruit, water and cordial will be available.

Children's entertainment will be provided.

Commencing at 6pm on the senior asphalt.

In the event of bad weather, the BBQ will still be held in the
senior hall.

Forrest Primary Information Night – Board Chair Address

Good evening and welcome to both new and returning families. Just three important messages from myself, and on behalf of the Board tonight.

- **I would encourage you to participate in the school and your child's learning, it really makes a difference.**

If I subtract 10 hours for sleep, there are 14 hours of hours to learn daily. Six of them here at school and eight of them at home, and elsewhere - including for some children our fantastic Afters service. The experts say 'parent engagement' in learning is the most significant factor for student outcomes, between 60-80%.

There are lots of ways to connect and engage with your child's learning. Participating at school is just one. In our busy lives it is easy not to recognise the difference we make in our children's learning and achievements. Take time to celebrate what we contribute and make time for as much of it as you can.

- **I would like to continue to encourage voluntarily contributions.**

The school budget has to cover many things like grounds maintenance, tanbark, cleaning, paper, ICT.

Imagine for a moment what its costs to clean a school, then times it by 3 or 4 to get the actual value.

My point being that - the voluntary contributions are the school's dedicated funds to providing classroom resources and investing in renewing learning materials. This funding is incredibly important.

I would like to thank you for continuing to make these voluntary contributions.

- **I would like to acknowledge some of the great attributes of school and its community.**

There are lots and lots of moving parts in running the school, and I'm not referring to the students in corridors. Many parts come to together effortlessly and seamlessly, for others it takes some extra effort to fit them together.

It definitely takes communication, good will, commitment and advocacy. It's a partnership.

I've seen much of all of that at Forrest from families, the School Executive, the P&C Association, and our fantastic teachers. And also from students. This is what makes our community so fabulous.

Finally, I just want to add - The board members are available to hear from you, your views and ideas. Don't hesitate to get in contact.

This year the Board will have dedicated meetings, to move beyond operational and financial matters, to discuss broader areas of opportunity and curriculum. Your thoughts and ideas are really important in this partnership with the school and the Board.

Thank you.

Robyn Calder
Board Chair, Forrest Primary
7 February 2017

Volunteering at Forrest Primary School

Any Parent or Carer or community member interested in volunteering at the school is welcome to come to a Volunteers meeting in the Library next Thursday 16 February 9:15-9:45. The principal and a representative from the P and C will be present to explain the variety of volunteer jobs available. We will also discuss the requirements for the Working with Vulnerable Children's card.

The *Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011* (the WWVP Act) commenced on 8 November 2012. It aims to reduce the risk of harm or neglect to vulnerable people in the ACT.

The WWVP Act requires those who work or volunteer with vulnerable people to have a background check and be registered. It is free for volunteers and required if volunteers are working with children.

Library News

It is great to see parents and carers with their children enjoying the library before and after school. We are excited to let you know at next Thursday's Welcome BBQ we will also have our Library Deck and Door opening. It will coincide with Library Lovers week and you are invited to come and visit the library and make a bookmark with your child or enjoy reading a book. Also check out the ACT Libraries website for activities at your local public library.

All classes will have visited the library to borrow books during their library lesson this week and Year 3-6 students are also welcome to borrow at a lunch time or before or after school with their parents or carers.

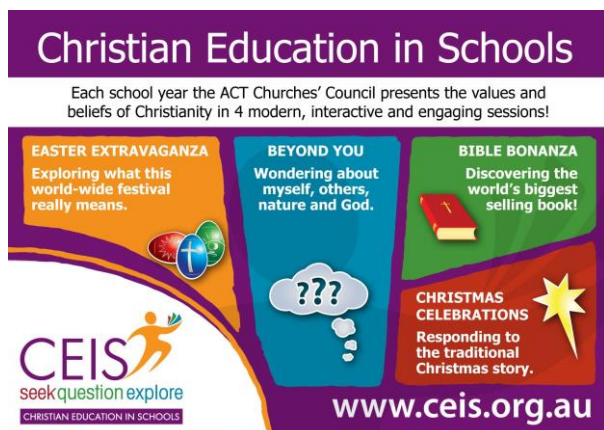
We welcome our Library Assistants - Anne Neilen who works 1 day a week and Erika Alling who works as a Learning Support Assistant in classrooms but is available in the library before and after school.

Happy Reading!

Louise McMullen
Teacher Librarian

Christian Education in Schools

Our school has received requests by parents for their children to receive Christian Education (CE) as part of our school curriculum, based on provisions in the Education Act 2004. The Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) project of the ACT Churches' Council provides a coordinated service to fulfil such requests. This service includes four modern and interactive CE sessions, varied each year, prepared professionally and delivered by trained and endorsed volunteers. The one-hour sessions are designed for groups of students to discuss and explore the four topics outlined below. Parent permission is essential for children to attend CEIS. A permission note will be sent home today and extra copies are available on our website.



Christian Education in Schools

Each school year the ACT Churches' Council presents the values and beliefs of Christianity in 4 modern, interactive and engaging sessions!

- EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA**
Exploring what this world-wide festival really means.
- BEYOND YOU**
Wondering about myself, others, nature and God.
- BIBLE BONANZA**
Discovering the world's biggest selling book!
- CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**
Responding to the traditional Christmas story.

CEIS
seekquestionexplore
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

www.ceis.org.au



Your child can receive Christian Education at school only if you specifically request it for them.

In fact education in any faith is only possible when parents actively say 'YES' (ACT Education Act 2004).

Saying YES means one hour per term and a chance for your child to make up their own mind about Christianity.

Say YES to ensure that your child receives access to Christian education

Say YES online at: www.ceis.org.au/yes

CEIS works in partnership with the ACT Education and Training Directorate who have approved the distribution of these postcards.

Ph: 6230 5155
Email: coord@ceis.org.au
82 Limestone Ave, Ainslie ACT 2602

[f](https://www.facebook.com/ceis.org.au) [t](https://twitter.com/ceis.org.au) www.ceis.org.au



BOOK CLUB for 2017

Each term there is an opportunity to buy books from the book club or a book fair. In Term 3 the school holds a book fair. All book purchases give the school rewards which are used to order books for the library or teacher resources.

We are trialling a new book club this year, during the middle of the term. The brochures will be delivered next week. They can still be ordered online or by dropping your order form and payment to the front office.

Jenny Bramley
Book Club Coordinator for Forrest Primary School

Any problems/questions: email me at forrestbookclub@gmail.com

Our School Canteen needs your help!

Forrest P&C provide a wonderful **Canteen service** at our school but we are desperately lacking volunteers to help Fleur our Canteen Manager. We are in urgent need of helpers, so if you can spare one hour or two on any days (except Mondays) whether it be ; once a week, once a month or once a term – any time would be appreciated . Without volunteers the operation of our canteen is under threat. Please consider volunteering – the children love seeing their families helping. Please contact Fleur on 62951425 or canteen@forrestpandc.com.au if you can help.

Traffic Volunteers Needed

For many years Forrest Primary School has implemented a very efficient traffic pick-up system for those parents/carers wishing to drive through and pick up their children after school.

Each afternoon, at both the junior and senior end, one parent, one teacher and the Building Service Officer (Patrick) assists children into their cars and keeps the traffic running smoothly in order to avoid the long queues which can develop on Hobart Ave at 3pm.

To keep this system running smoothly we need parent volunteers to assist. The duty only takes 20 mins, arriving at 2.55pm and staying until approximately 3.15pm. Once you have donned the hi-vis vest you simply ensure the safety of all of the children by assisting them into the top 3 cars in the queue.

If you are new to the school and would like to assist but are unsure as to the procedure, I would be more than happy provide a 'walk through' on a day that is mutually convenient.

This is a small but essential task that Forrest parents have been engaged in for many years and is an important aspect of parent involvement in the Forrest School community. Not only does this voluntary role support staff, it also provides an opportunity for our engagement in the relationships between staff, parents and the wider community that makes our school culture strong (and your child(ren) are likely to be thrilled at your participation in their school!).

If you can help, please call/text me, Ali Bos (0404 385 177) and let me know on what day you could assist, specifying whether it is the junior or the senior end you would prefer. If you offered your services for this role last year and are happy to continue, could you please shoot me a short text to confirm this.

With thanks, Ali (Traffic Volunteers Coordinator and parent)

Forrest After School

Activities (FASA),

which are proudly run by the Forrest P&C, are lacking enrolments. In fact, some may not run this term:

Vacancies exist for the following Activities:

- * Multi-Sports Yrs 2-6 -Mon 3-4pm **Free trial on Monday 13th Feb from 3.15 to 4.15pm. All ages welcome!!
- * Multi-Sports K-1 Tues 3-4pm
- * French Intermediate K-6 - Tues 3-4pm
- * Chess K-6 Tues 3-4pm
- * French Beginning - Wed 3-4pm
- * Tennis K-yr2 - Thurs 3-4pm
- * Speech and Drama K-yr6 - Thurs 3-4pm

If you are thinking of enrolling your child in any after school activity please fill in the attached form and email it to

info@fooshc.org.au or drop it off to Afters Office or Afters Letterbox at the front office ASAP.

Help your child become bilingual (Gungahlin Library)

by Libraries ACT

Sat. 25 February 2017 10:30 am – 11:30 am AEDT

This program is suitable for parents and carers in English-only households who want their child to learn another language.

Wondering how to help your child learn a new language?

Get advice from linguistics experts and discover the many bilingual resources available at your local library.

Presented in partnership with the [ACT Bilingual Education Alliance](#).

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/help-your-child-become-bilingual-gungahlin-library-tickets-29426198552?aff=ehomecard>

Dear Parents and Carers,



Forrest Primary School and our Parents and Citizens (P&C) would like to invite new families to an informal morning tea to welcome you to our community.

When: Tuesday, 14 February. 9:15 - 10am

Where: Staffroom

We look forward to seeing you there!

Chris Pilgrim (Principal)

Belinda Gough (Executive Teacher)

Ruth Hyde (P&C representative)



Free Trial of Multi-sports next Monday 13th February 2017 on the school Oval at 3:15 to 4:15. All Ages Welcome!!



Forrest Residents Group

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY THE 13TH OF FEBRUARY

6:30PM - 7:45PM

THE CANBERRA BOWLING CLUB,
HOBART AVENUE, FORREST.

The agenda for this meeting includes;

- Report on general business since the 30th of August meeting,
- Presentation and acceptance of the proposed Charter,
- Collection of monies and formalisation of membership,
- Discussion of issues of importance to Forrest Residents,
- Election of Office Bearers.

Copies of the agenda, charter and membership form are available on the evening or on our website at www.forrestresidents.org

Nominations for Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer and three Committee Member positions are open either in advance by email or on the night.

Phone: 0425 669 855 | Mail: P.O. Box 3799 Manuka, A.C.T., 2603 | Email: mail@forrestresidents.org.au



Important dates to remember

PLEASE BE MINDFUL THAT CHANGES MAY OCCUR TO THESE DATES THROUGHOUT THE TERM.

Calendar Events can also be found on the school website www.forrestps.act.edu.au

Term 1 2017

Date	Item
Fri 10 Feb	Assembly 9.15am Year 6
Mon 13-Fri 17 Feb	'Getting to Know You' interviews
Tue 14 Feb	New families morning tea 9.15-10am Staffroom
Thurs 16 Feb	Volunteers meeting 9.15-9.45am Library
Thurs 16 Feb	Welcome BBQ 6pm Senior asphalt
Mon 20-Fri 24 Feb	'Getting to Know You' interviews
Thurs 23 Feb	Swimming Carnival AIS
Fri 24 Feb	Assembly 9.15am Year 2

School & Community Contact Information

Principal:	Chris Pilgrim	General Enquiries:	6205 5644
Acting Deputy Principal:	Hayley Singh	Enrolment Enquiries:	6205 5632
Business Manager:	Ann Hayres	Email:	forrestps@ed.act.edu.au
Board Chair:	Robyn Calder	Webpage:	www.forrestps.act.edu.au
P&C President:	Tui Davidson	Deakin Preschool:	6205 6288
P&C Email:	president@forrestpandc.com.au	Forrest Out Of School Hours Care:	6295 8985
P&C Website:	www.forrestpandc.com.au		