

# FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Week 4 Term 3 2020

## 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.

Dear Forrest Community,

Welcome to a jam packed newsletter featuring all the exciting endeavours we are undertaking at Forrest Primary School, from Footsteps to Literacy to Science Week. So grab your coffee or tea and settle in to enjoy the Forrest Primary journey.

## Footsteps

This term has started with the unmissable cries of joy from our students and teachers as they participate in the Footsteps Dance Programme. This programme is a key component to the Arts and PE curriculum and also supports students to become confident risk takers.

Thank you to the families who have already returned Footsteps notes and payments. Unfortunately, we have a shortfall of \$3750. If we continue to make this loss, we will be unable to run the programme in 2021. If you need financial support to cover the cost of the programme, please contact our Business Manager - [Claire.Gasteen@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Claire.Gasteen@ed.act.edu.au)



## Hats On

Just a reminder that it is now Hats On for all Canberra primary schools. As a Sun Smart School, students are required to wear Sun Smart hats when they are outside. If students forget their hats, they must play in a shaded area. Teachers regularly take students outside for fitness and sporting activities, as well as other lessons, which means students need to have a hat each day. Please ensure Sun Smart hats are labelled. Hats can be purchased from our school uniform shop.

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 5—Science Week

## JUST A REMINDER!

When your child is **absent** from school, please inform the front office via email: [forrestps@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:forrestps@ed.act.edu.au)

If your child is **late** to school (even by five minutes), they need to come to the front office for a late arrival pass.

If you need to collect your child **early** from school, please inform the front office where possible.

When paying cash please send the exact money as we do not hold change in the front office.

## Satisfaction Survey

This week you should have received your School Satisfaction Survey via an email from EDU Surveys & Evaluation <EDU@qualtrics-survey.com. Thank you to the community members that have already completed the survey. If you have not yet completed the survey, we would really appreciate your participation as your input will help us improve our school, for your child and future students. The survey results will also be used in public interest research projects and longitudinal studies aimed at improving the quality of services in the ACT. The survey will take about 5-10 minutes to complete and will be open until 31 August 2020. It is available in 15 different languages!



## School Maintenance and Improvements

Ever wondered what maintenance and school improvements we have made to our 62 year old building? Firstly let me start by saying, we are always looking at ways to improve and we value your feedback. This year we have made the following improvements to Forrest Primary school:

- Our Hallways in both the Junior and Senior Corridors have been upgraded with a fresh coat of paint, new carpet and display boards that highlight the great learning happening inside the classrooms.
- New furniture for our classrooms to ensure our students have the best opportunity to learn in comfort.
- The front of the school has been upgraded with new inviting landscaping.
- The Kindergarten wing (KA, KB and 1PD) received a new roof, so no more unwanted leaks.
- The STEM room (with Mr Heap) has had some furniture upgrades so that our students are inspired to learn.
- The establishment of the Indigenous Garden is a wonderful addition to the landscape of Forrest Primary School as it provides students with an opportunity to connect with the land, it also provides a learning space for all.
- Two new demountable buildings have been installed to accommodate our growing population.

**Aren't we lucky our school doesn't look like this!**



**But instead looks like this....**



## Break Time Clubs

Last week saw the reinstatement of lunch time clubs for students. Clubs are a great way for students to engage in an activity they enjoy or try something new and meet new friends. Please look at the club roster (see image) with your child to see if there is an activity that captures their interest!

Nicole Richardson

On behalf of the Executive Team



## CANTEEN ORDERS

A reminder that canteen orders are delivered in the Second Break at 1.25pm so please remember to pack a snack for your child for the morning break at 10.55am.

## P & C MEETING

Date – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August

Time – 7.30pm

Location – via Zoom - [https://zoom.us/j/93071724682?](https://zoom.us/j/93071724682?pwd=eUJyTnJSZTlhQktkcHhLMzgwR09xQT09)

[pwd=eUJyTnJSZTlhQktkcHhLMzgwR09xQT09](https://zoom.us/j/93071724682?pwd=eUJyTnJSZTlhQktkcHhLMzgwR09xQT09)

## The Year That Was...

### 2020 MEMORABILIA BOOK

This year, Forrest Primary School will be creating a memorabilia book to acknowledge all the challenges and experiences we have endured in 2020. All students will have the opportunity to create a piece of work for the book, which will then be professionally published and sold at the end of the year.

To support us in creating this wonderful historical document that will be treasured for years to come, we are asking for volunteers to assist us in the editing, publishing, graphic design and sale of this book. If you are able to assist in anyway, please contact Nicole Richardson at [nicole.richardson@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:nicole.richardson@ed.act.edu.au)

# STUDENT WORK

This week Year 1 have been reviewing the Forrest Primary School Mission Statement. In this activity, students were asked to identify key words from the Mission Statement and draw an image on how they live the Mission



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Can you match the following key words the Year 1's highlighted to the picture?  
Safe, Loving, Challenging, Confident, Compassionate, Lifelong Learner, Knowledgeable, Responsible  
And Culturally Diverse.

# RTI PROGRAMME

## ***One of the ways we support your child at Forrest Primary School is through the RTI Programme?***

At Forrest Primary School, Nicole Richardson is the RTI coordinator while Carmel DeGraaff provides targeted intervention and monitors the progress of students.

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a multi-tier approach which identifies the learning needs of students. It is a systematic way of measuring student progress and is designed to improve student understanding and skill development across all strands of literacy. Individual progress and improvement are closely monitored so that adjustments, based on individual responses to learning opportunities, can be made to each child's instruction.

Targeted intervention sessions occur in addition to regular classroom instruction. RTI is a Tier 2 approach and consists of small group instruction which focuses on areas of need.

RTI provides support to students who will benefit from revising and consolidating the success criteria necessary for further development. The structure of RTI sessions include:

- Explicit instruction. Explicit teaching directs student attention toward specific learning in a structured environment. It is focused on producing specific learning outcomes and encourages students to set personal success criteria at all stages.
- Modelling consists of the teacher demonstrating a task for students and describing exactly what is being done as it is being done. The teacher uses examples of what to do and what not to do. This facilitates student understanding of the learning intentions.
- Guided practice or directed practice allows students with the proper support to succeed in achieving the desired learning intention. It also helps students to gain the confidence and motivation necessary to continue their learning. Guided practice is advantageous during group work activities as it allows the teacher the opportunity to check that all students have understood the learning intention.
- Independent practice. This step is continued in the classroom and allows students to apply what they have understood from the modelling and guided practice steps. It provides students with an opportunity to test their understanding to obtain the highest level of mastery possible. The goal is to consolidate student learning and identify students who may need additional support.



RTI (Response To Intervention)  
**3 Tiers of Support**

If you have any questions about RTI please don't hesitate to contact Nicole or Carmel.

# SCIENCE WEEK

## national science week



National Science Week is next week!

Forrest Primary is celebrating by participating in a range of activities at school, and you can participate at home too! Follow the link to see a full timetable of online and live events happening around Canberra throughout the week.

<http://www.scienceweek.net.au>

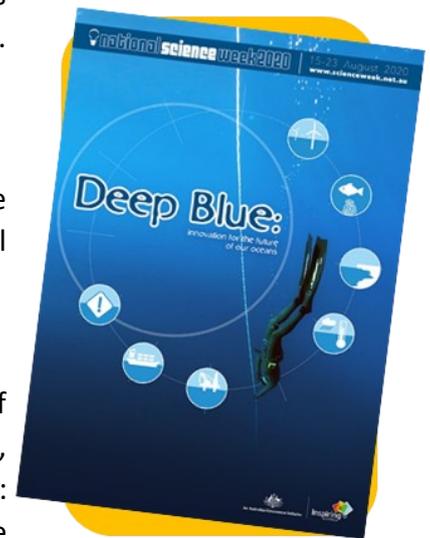
In a few weeks' time, you will be able to spot our most visible science week activity, as a giant to-scale blue whale appears on the school oval! Look out for that as part of the Canberra Satellite Selfie.

Throughout the week each class will participate in a range of science-based lessons that align both with their classroom Units of Inquiry, as well as the National Science Week theme: 'Deep Blue: Innovation for the Future of our Oceans'. To help facilitate these lessons, we are still on the hunt for the following resources:

- Recycled cardboard, milk bottles, newspaper etc.
- Clear plastic PET bottles

We very much appreciate any donations of the above items that would normally be going in the recycling bin anyway!

Don't forget, there is still time to participate in the Science Week STEM challenge! We have already received some fantastic entries, including floating robotic vacuum cleaners, deep sea submarine explorers and more! Make sure you email a photo or video explaining your model design to [Daniel.Heap@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Daniel.Heap@ed.act.edu.au) before Friday next week to be in the running for a prize! You can find the full details in your Seesaw messages.



# LIBRARY NEWS



It's not too late to join the **MS Readathon** which started on 1 August and finishes 31 August. Families register directly online at: <https://www.msreadathon.org.au/kids> under the school name to raise money for Multiple Sclerosis research and support. This is a voluntary fundraising activity.

We still have a number of overdue library books particularly from junior students. We would be very grateful if you could please encourage your child to look in their special reading spot as other children are keen to borrow them too. Thank you parents, carers and children who have already sent in library books.

A big thank you to our home parent helpers, especially Josie Chamla who has been busy covering books and creating box labels for our most popular junior and senior titles.

The children are excited about the new World Book children's series purchased through your generous parent donations. The series include: Dinosaurs by Design, Backyard Animals, History's Mysteries, Mighty Bots, Gearhead Garage.

The Year 3 Action Group are surveying the students to see what other library book titles the children would like purchased for recreational reading.

Happy Reading!

Louise McMullen  
Teacher Librarian



# SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

## Tips for parents and carers to support the development of child's reading at home

### Time

- Every child loves special time with the significant adults in their lives, so make a regular time in your family routine to talk, read and write with your child.
- Make this time cosy and privilege the bond and relationship that develop between the book, the child and the adult.
- Consider how you will sit with your child. Is it side-by-side so the child can see the illustrations? If it is a shared picture book, the book should be shared and held between the adult and the child.

### Vocabulary

- Building your child's oral language and vocabulary is a cornerstone to their success as a literate young person equipped to manage the complex language landscape operating in their world today and tomorrow.
- Read books with rich literary language and talk about the words, have fun with the language and linger over the wonderful words writers have chosen. These are an 'author's gifts' and worth collecting with your child.

### Choice

- Let your child follow their interests and passions through books, magazines, comics, websites, writing and reading.
- Talk with your school's teacher librarian and get suggestions of books your child might enjoy.
- Join your public library; ensure a book is always a part of a birthday or Christmas present for your child. Allow your child to select and give books to others as presents.
- Consider 'managed choice' of what they read too. Just as we provide a balanced diet of food for our children, so too should we provide a balanced diet of reading, exposing children to different genres, authors and fiction and non-fiction.

### PLAY

- Puppets, drama, poetry and games are all ways to ignite a child's interest in reading and to build their vocabulary and deepen their understanding of characters and stories. All members of the family can act out a story and you can make your own puppets too!

### Space

- Provide a bookshelf or a special box or basket for your child's collection of books and a writing desk/space with stationery. Allow children to decorate and organise this space to make it special.

### Model

- Parents and carers are the most significant adults in a child's life. Model reading and writing and curiosity about language at every opportunity.
- Read aloud to your child well into their teens. Having a novel that is especially selected for shared parent/child reading can keep you connected to your teenager and be an ideal way to discuss themes and sophisticated vocabulary. They might not tell their friends you read to them, but they will love it!

# VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION



**ACT**  
Government  
Education



Forrest Primary School  
9 Hobart Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603  
Phone: 02 6142 1470  
Email: [forrestps@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:forrestps@ed.act.edu.au)



## Dear Parents and Carers - *Friendly Reminder - 2020 Voluntary Contributions*

We hope this note finds you and your family well as 2020 continues to be a challenging time for all as we return to school and our respective workplaces with the ongoing uncertainty around Covid-19. As parents, we know how busy life can be and how easy it is to overlook things which is why we are sending out this reminder to ask you to please make a voluntary financial contribution for 2020.

This year, your financial support is needed more than ever as Covid-19 has impacted on the P&C and our dedicated fundraising committee's ability to host fundraising social events. The funds received from contributions form an important part of the school's annual budget and are used to provide additional resources that directly benefit all our children including:

- New home readers, library books and guided reading packs. Additional teaching, arts and music resources
- IT resources such as interactive whiteboards, iPads and laptops for student use. Equipment for PE and sports.

The Board recognises that the financial circumstances of our families is different, so every effort is made to keep the annual contributions low. In fact, the voluntary contributions and Library Trust Fund contributions for Forrest Primary have not increased for many years and remain at \$120 per child and the library fund \$100 per family per annum. Of course, if your financial situation allows, you may choose to pay more than this amount. We have introduced a 'New' Building Trust Fund contribution this year which is also \$100 per family per annum.

Contributions can consist of one, two or all the following:

- **Voluntary Contribution** \$120 – which provides for additional teaching and learning resources across the school
- **Library Trust Fund** \$100 – which provides for books, furniture and other resources for the library and can be claimed as a tax deductible donation
- **Building Trust Fund** \$100 – this is a new category which can also be claimed as a tax deductible donation. It is not (as the name implies) for the upkeep of the building but for those bigger initiatives such as playground upgrades, play/sports equipment, landscaping. We are hoping families with businesses might take up this option.

### ***It is simple to make your voluntary contribution with the following payment options available:***

- Quickweb - Via the Forrest Primary School website, <http://www.forrestps.act.edu.au/>, click on the 'Payment' link found at the top of the page, then click on Quickweb link.
- Direct Deposit-Westpac BSB 032777 Account Number:001287 *Please identify your payment by including the 'Student Key name' and what the payment is eg. Your child's name is John Smith the 'Student Key' would be 'Smithj VC,LTF,BTF'. Your child's name is Yo Bui the 'Student Key' would be 'Buiyo VC,LTF,BTF'*
- Cash \$ – Paid at the front office
- Cheque - Made payable to *Forrest Primary School*

We appreciate the generous financial contributions that we receive from some of our families and would encourage you to make your contributions as soon as possible if you have not already done so. Rest assured we are very budget conscience in our spending of all donations, always seeking the best deal possible from our suppliers and looking for ways in which we make our dollars go further. Following payment, the school will issue financial statements to families including details of payments and voluntary contributions. Remember that your library and/or building fund donations are tax deductible. We thank you for your ongoing financial support of Forrest Primary which helps to enhance the wonderful learning experience of all our children.

Kind regards Parent Representatives and Forrest Primary School Board—Cath, Cameron and Simone, May 2020

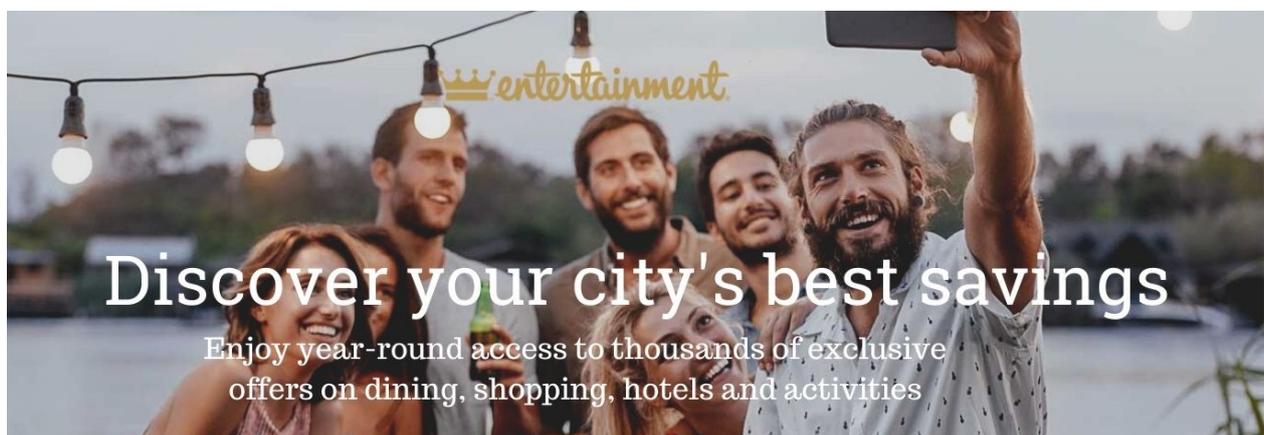
# FUNDRAISING



The COVID-19 restrictions have unfortunately impacted on our fundraising efforts but you can still *make a difference from a distance* by purchasing a **digital Entertainment Membership!**

And what better time to do it than now, as current memberships are expiring and there are so many amazing benefits on offer for you and your family to enjoy! The Memberships are also a great way to support our local dining establishments who have been struggling to keep their doors open.

Visit <https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/25z707>



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Forrest Primary School**

**& Deakin Preschool**

Catherine White

0409 070 009

cathian77@hotmail.com

FUNDRAISING WITH  


**FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## CANBERRA WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

**FREE telephone counselling sessions Monday to Friday 9am-5pm**

Sessions via Zoom or Skype  
Limited availability for FREE face-to-face counselling sessions

Sadly our groups and training are temporarily suspended

**Contact us for a FREE confidential chat**



**6287 3833**



**parentline@parentlineact.org.au**



# CONTACTS

<b>Front Office:</b>	6142 1470
<b>Enrolments:</b>	6142 1476
<b>Deakin Preschool:</b>	6142 2853
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<b>Website:</b>	www.forrestps.act.edu.au
<b>Principal:</b>	Chris Pilgrim, christine.pilgrim@ed.act.edu.au
<b>Deputy Principals:</b>	Hayley Munsie, hayley.munsie@ed.act.edu.au Renee Berry, renee.berry@ed.act.edu.au
<b>Business Manager:</b>	Claire Gasteen, claire.gasteen@ed.act.edu.au
<b>Board Chair:</b>	Simone Alabaster, simmic@tpg.com.au
<b>P&amp;C President:</b>	Jarrod Fitzgerald, president@forrestpandc.com.au
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<b>Forrest Out Of School Hours Care:</b>	6295 8985, info@fooshc.org.au
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