

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Week 6 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 the halfway point of Term 3! Normally, at this time of the year it starts to warm up and we experience beautiful blue, sunny days. Instead, last weekend we had a strange phenomenon, with snow blanketing parts of Canberra! Alongside that very exciting weekend, this week was full of events, from ICAS to Science Week to the commencement of the Forrest Primary Talent Show Auditions and the Year 3 inhouse Zoo visit! Teachers worked hard to continue their work in gathering evidence against the PYP Standards and Practices in preparation for the PYP Evaluation next term.



Science Week

Last week, Forrest Primary School joined many schools, universities and organisations and communities from around Australia to celebrate National Science Week. Each class participated in several science-based lessons in both their classrooms as well as in their specialist times. Students participated in a range of experiences, ranging from creating new, undiscovered marine creatures and exploring the depths of the Galapagos Islands in virtual reality, to experimenting with what would happen to sea creatures if the acidity levels in the ocean change and inventing new ways to mop up oil spills in our oceans. Hopefully each student gained new insights into the wonders of the Deep Blue.

Congratulations on everyone who submitted something for the STEM challenge and we will be announcing our winners very soon. Although the weather tried its hardest to hamper the Satellite Selfie, we eventually got a clear sky and hopefully a good photo of the beautiful blue whale! Thank you to all families who contributed tarpaulins and materials. If you have not yet received your tarpaulin back, please contact Mr Heap.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Talent Show auditions continue in Week 7

Book Week Parade
Friday 16 October

JUST A REMINDER!

When your child is **absent** from school, please inform the front office via email:

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.

Teacher PYP Self-Study

Over the last 5 staff meetings teachers have been gathering evidence against the PYP Standards and Practices, finding examples to show the PYP Evaluation team during 28-30 October.

The PYP Standards and Practices are a set of guidelines that facilitate academic rigour, student engagement and deep learning in our school. For example, teachers may share photos of student writing samples, lesson plans or student self-reflections. We are now in a process of rating our achievement against these Practices in teams, using a scale of *emerging, developing, demonstrating, excelling*. This has resulted in very rich discussions about what we are doing well, what we can improve on and how we could bump up our performance to the next level. These reflections, along with the feedback from the evaluation team, students and parent feedback will be used to write our new school Action Plan for 2021.

ICAS

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools or ICAS is a suite of competitions designed specifically for primary and secondary students. ICAS Assessments recognise academic excellence in Science, Digital Technology, Maths, English and Spelling. Students are assessed on their ability to apply classroom learning to new contexts using higher order thinking and problem solving. Over the past two weeks we have had over 100 children sit the various ICAS assessments. Congratulations on such a wonderful effort.



Stranger Safety Message

This is reminder to help our children understand the importance of stranger safety and the need to report any unusual incidents or approaches to staff immediately. If you become aware of an incident, or notice anyone acting suspiciously around a school or child, contact police immediately on 131 444 or in the case of an emergency call 000. If you witness incidents or if you have any information that could assist Police, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Information can be provided anonymously.

Please support us to keep our children safe by having conversations about moving safely around the community and what to do if they ever feel unsafe. You may wish to visit the AFP website section on Child Safety for tips. In addition, the Safety4Kids is a non-government website that has useful information and links. The Constable Kenny website also has a number of tips for parents.

The school and the Education Directorate will continue to work with ACT Policing on this issue. Contact: schooloperations@act.gov.au Ph: 6205 3313

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Renee Berry

On behalf of the Executive Team



THANK YOU

Ms Pilgrim thanks all the people who sent flowers, cards, letters, chocolates and gifts for her big 70th birthday!

LOST PROPERTY

A reminder that the lost property buckets are located just inside the front doors of the school. Please CLEARLY LABEL all items so that they can be returned to students. Unlabelled lost property will be donated to charity at the end of each month.

ONLINE TALENT SHOW

Auditions for the Forrest Primary School Online Talent Show will continue in Week 7. Miss Cobden will remind students of the time and place of the auditions. The date of the Online Talent Show will be advised soon!

BOARD NEWS

A Thank You from our Board Chair, Simone Alabaster

The school board would like to extend a big thank you to all the families that have paid their voluntary contributions and also library and building fund contributions this year. The level of contributions increased after lockdown ended and the children returned to school. The school greatly appreciates the contributions as they all help to purchase resources (such as literacy and numeracy materials, the corridor upgrades and the library upgrade) that the school could not otherwise afford and these enhance the students' learning experience.

The board would also like to acknowledge the wonderful job done by all the teachers, executive team and other staff during lockdown and on the return to school under the new COVID regime. Home schooling was a new experience for everyone and as a school community we all worked well to keep students learning and keep in contact with their peers and teachers whilst at home or at a hub school. We would also like to let the parents and carers know that we think you all did a great job managing home schooling, working from home and life in lockdown.

Simone Alabaster

Board Chair



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.

FPS CELEBRATES SCIENCE WEEK



FORREST PRIMARY EVENTS

2020 Student Memorabilia Book Fundraiser

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

To acknowledge this historic and unforgettable year, we are in the midst of constructing a limited edition 2020 **Student Memorabilia Keepsake Book** for you and your family to purchase and treasure for years to come.

All students are making a creative piece that focuses on something they found memorable and unique about 2020 - whether it be hailstorms, bushfires with endless smoky days or, the COVID-19 virus that has impacted almost every aspect of our daily lives. The Keepsake Book will capture all of this through the eyes of our students and will be a wonderful memento of this challenging year. It will also be our major fundraiser for the year as we recognise the importance of adhering to social distancing requirements to help keep everyone safe.

BEFORE THE PRINT RUN, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you have any photos of your student/s in any of 2020's unique circumstances? We would love to include some of your photos of your child home-learning etc. in this book!

To send photos and/or let us know you plan to order a book please forrestpsevents@gmail.com and include your student/s name and class number in the subject line.

Please note:

We cannot accept more than 3 photos/child or guarantee all will be used due to space constraints and picture requirements. Emailing photos indicates your permission to use those photos in the memorabilia book.

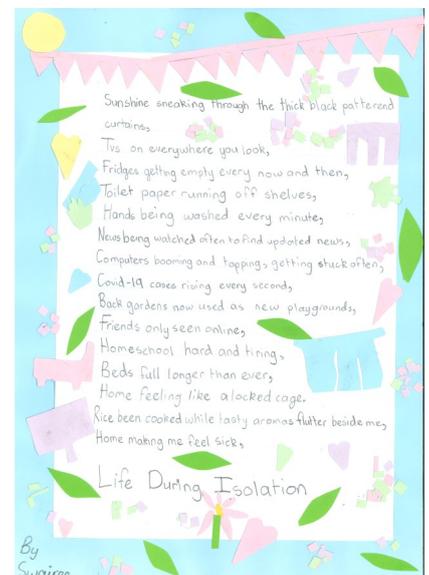
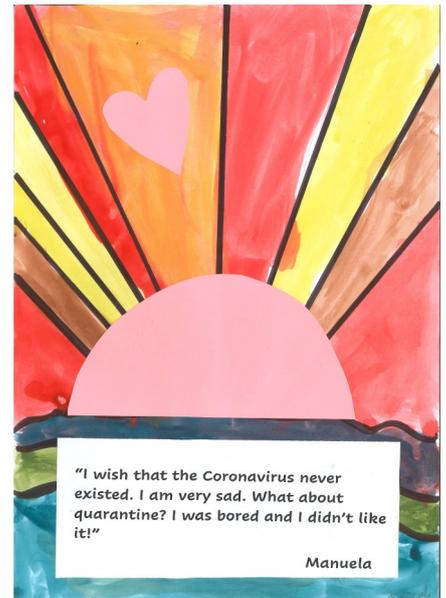
Would you be interested in volunteering to help with the editing, publishing, graphic design and sale of this wonderful historical document? If so, please contact Nicole Richardson at nicole.richardson@ed.act.edu.au.

To place an order please see the note sent home with your child today or visit the school Website under notes sent home. Orders close on 26 September 2020

This will be limited edition release, so please support our fundraiser by placing your order today!

Warm regards,

The 2020 Student Memorabilia Book Committee



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Tips for parents and carers to support the development of their child's writing through the primary years

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.
- Children get better at writing by writing. They need sustained periods of time to engage in the writing process. This is true for inside the classroom and at home. Having time to revisit a piece of writing is important so encouraging them to write and revisit their writing, sharing it with you will support their development in writing. Purpose, Audience and Response.
- When children have a real purpose to write and an audience to write for, their engagement and motivation to write increases. Talk to your child about who they are writing this piece for and once they know that, it supports them to know what needs to be written. ☑ Consider relatives and friends for whom a regular email can be exchanged.
- Have your child write invitations, letters or perhaps a family collection of jokes to share at family gatherings.
- All writers need a response to their writing so encourage family members to write back to your child or thank them for their message or list.

Choice

- Choice promotes engagement. Let your child follow their interests and passions through books, magazines, comics, websites and what they want to write and how they want to write.
- Encourage your young child to write lists, messages, cards, signs, letters and emails.
- It is helpful to expose children to different text genres, authors and fiction and non-fiction as these can provide the models for writing when they need to write in that genre.

Vocabulary

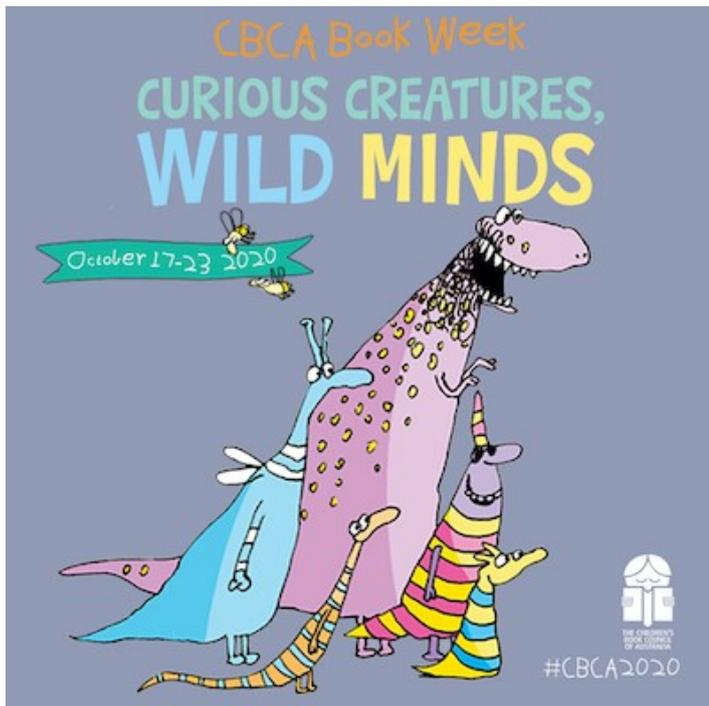
- Building your child's oral language and vocabulary is a cornerstone to their success as a literate young person equipped to manage the complex language landscape operating in their world today and tomorrow.
- Read books with rich literary language and talk about the words, have fun with the language and linger over the wonderful words, phrases or sentences writers have chosen. These are an 'author's gift' and worth collecting with your child.
- Perhaps your child could have a Writer's Notebook at home where they collect these 'author's gifts'.

Play

- Puppets, drama, drawing, poetry and games are all ways to ignite a child's interest in wanting to write 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! All this playful use of language supports children to express themselves orally which in turn supports them to express themselves in writing.
- Enjoy word play with your children as they experiment with words and sentences.

In the next Newsletter we will continue with tips on helping support your child to develop a love of writing.

LIBRARY NEWS



Book Week is Week 1, Term 4

Dress up as your favourite book character on **Friday 16 October**. The theme is Curious Creatures, Wild Minds

More details to follow!

Louise McMullen
Teacher Librarian



Do you want to save money, be environmentally friendly, find entertainment, learn something new, or lower your stress levels? You can do all this and more by being a library member, and it's free!

You can [join the library online](#), or in person, then visit a library branch, or use all the great digital resources.

Did you know?

Your library membership lets you download, stream and use the library at home with our digital resources. [Find them all here](#).

- It's never too early for children to get their own library membership. It helps them develop an understanding of ownership and responsibility, experience independence, and build their confidence.
- The library doesn't charge fines for overdue items. If your library items are overdue, return them, or renew!

Already a library member, but haven't updated your details?

If you haven't updated your details since our new computer system was introduced last year, you can update them online.

Go to the library catalogue and [log in](#).

- You'll be prompted to update your details and accept the membership terms and conditions and privacy statement.
- If you don't have a PIN/password, but do have an email address linked to your account, you can choose the option to reset using your name and email address.

If you need help getting started or logging into your account, phone the Libraries ACT Digital Helpline on 6207 7265.

Authorised by Vanessa Little, Executive Branch Manager, Libraries ACT, Transport Canberra and City Services

FORREST PRIMARY EVENTS

Would you like to be a part of a committee that plans and runs events to bring our community together?

For more information, contact Nicole (Nicole.Richardson@ed.act.edu.au) or Perdi (perdi_m@hotmail.com)

FORREST PRIMARY EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING



MONDAY 31
AUGUST 2020

AT 7PM VIA
GOOGLE MEET

GOOGLE MEET LINK:
[MEET.GOOGLE.COM/FUV-
YJXZ-RSJ](https://meet.google.com/FUV-YJXZ-RSJ)

The events committee is a joint initiative developed by the P&C and the Staff of Forrest Primary School

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS



ACT
Government
Education



Forrest Primary School
9 Hobart Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603
Phone: 02 6142 1470
Email: forrestps@ed.act.edu.au
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 Quick web 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—Simone, Cath and Cameron, May 2020

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The ACT Government has announced a targeted Kindergarten Health Check program starting this term and going until the end of term 4, 2020 focusing on hearing and vision.

To access this program, being run by Canberra Health Services, you need to have a child in kindergarten this year and have concerns about their hearing or vision.

To make an appointment call 5124 997. Kindergarten Health Clinics are being held at Canberra Health Services City Health Centre on Moore Street.

You can also access free Medicare-funded eye checks at an optometrist or attend the Children's Hearing Service (call 5124 9977) for a free hearing check.



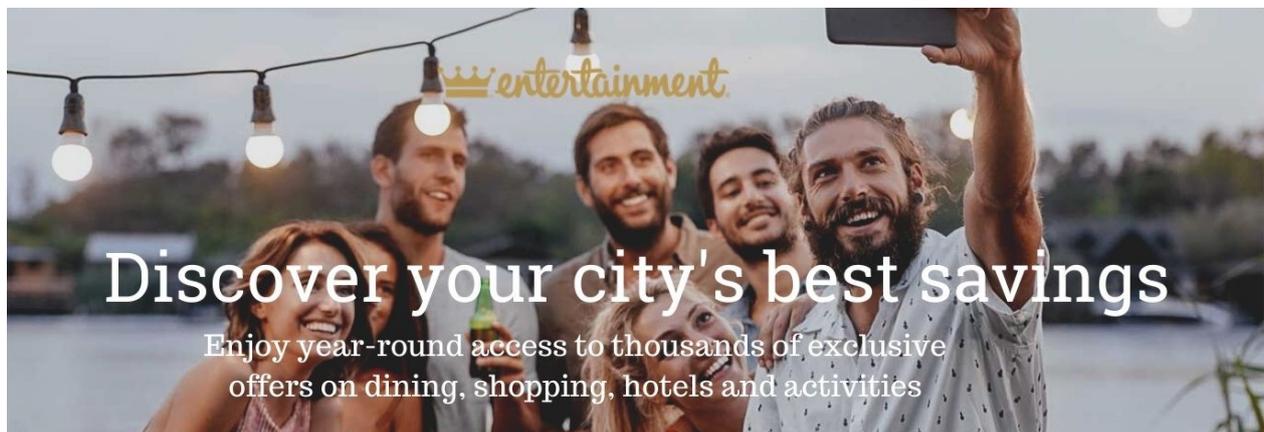
FUNDRAISING



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

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