

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Week 4 Term 2 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.

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PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Welcome back to Forrest! This week has gone very smoothly with almost 100% of Preschool—Year 2 students back at school. We have also welcomed back our Safe and Supervised Site students and others who have joined us. Next week we welcome back the Year 3—4 students. The teachers are excited and ready! Year 3—4 students, your teachers will be waiting to receive you at the pick-up areas. You will then enter the school building with a staff member, go to the playground and come inside at 9:00 to wash your hands before entering your classroom.



A message from our School Crossing Supervisor, 'Lyn the Lollipop Lady'

Just a reminder that the staff start receiving students at 8:45, when they are on duty.

Please do not leave your children before 8:45, as it is cold and they will be unsupervised, which is challenging for both children and the staff. Please book a place in Before School Care if you need to drop your child off early.

Parents, thank you for your understanding about not coming into the school building. Please continue to call or email the front office when you need something, as we have found this system to be working well! Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Monday 25 May

Year 3—4 students return to school

Tuesday 2 June

Year 5—6 students return to school

Once your child is due back at school, remember to let us know if they will be absent! Please send an email to forrestps@ed.act.edu.au or call 6142 1470

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Issue 4 is out!
To order, please visit <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>
Orders close on **Friday 19 June.**

Traffic Etiquette and Safety

The one challenging issue we currently face is that people are in a big hurry when dropping off children.

The speed limit in the Forrest Primary School carpark is **10km/hr**.

A few traffic reminders:

At the Junior end, when you are **entering** the carpark: **the RIGHT hand lane gives way to the LEFT hand lane**

At the Senior end, when you are **leaving** the carpark: **the LEFT hand lane gives way to the RIGHT hand lane**

(The Give Way sign is written on the bitumen).



PLEASE ADHERE TO THE 10km/hr SPEED LIMIT AND THE GIVE WAY SIGNS

They are there to protect everyone.

Unlike other schools, we are very fortunate to have this system in place, but it only works when everyone does the right thing. At the moment, it's an accident just waiting to happen; so please allow yourself a few extra minutes each day and set an example of safety and care for others and, most importantly, for our children! A big thank you to all of the drivers who are doing the right thing and thinking of others. We appreciate you!

Reorganisation of the School Day

This term, when all students are back at school, we will introduce a new school organisation model. Apart from the staffing benefits as we try to meet the challenges of the new Enterprise Agreement, this model will give students more time to take care of personal needs, such as washing their hands.

From Tuesday 2 June, the day will be broken into four sessions of 55 minutes and one session of 60 minutes, with two equal breaks (Break 1 and Break 2) of 40 minutes each. Students will still eat in the classroom with their teacher.

In our model, Kindergarten—Year 2 classes will now access each specialist in three out of four terms per year. This will rotate, so your child's class may receive Japanese in Terms 1—3, STEM in Terms 2—4 etc. Library as a specialist subject will now be offered in Preschool—Year 2, with classroom teachers providing access to the library for Years 3—6.

Thank you to the Executive Team, Candice Kingston, Kylie Dorsett, Nicole Richardson, Hayley Munsie, Jemma O'Brien and Renee Berry, for the time and thought they invested into what is now an excellent and workable plan.

SMROs—A Fabulous Initiative!

From next week onwards, for at least three months, a School Maintenance and Repairs Officer (SMRO) will be assisting Patrick, our Building Services Officer, to improve the school site and look after the grounds. The Education Directorate will employ 90 SMROs for up to six months to assist some of those who are currently unemployed due to the COVID-19 crisis. These employees will be dedicated to the physical improvement of schools.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to having more and more of our students return to school over the next fortnight!

Chris Pilgrim

on behalf of the Executive Team

SAFETY NOTICE

Toadstools have been appearing near the school crossing. They are removed as soon as we are aware of them, but please talk to your children about the danger of touching, picking or eating unknown fungi.



LIBRARY

National Simultaneous Storytime

Forrest Primary School will be celebrating the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) on **Wednesday 27 May** with a special Principal's reading of *Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas* by Lucinda Gifford.

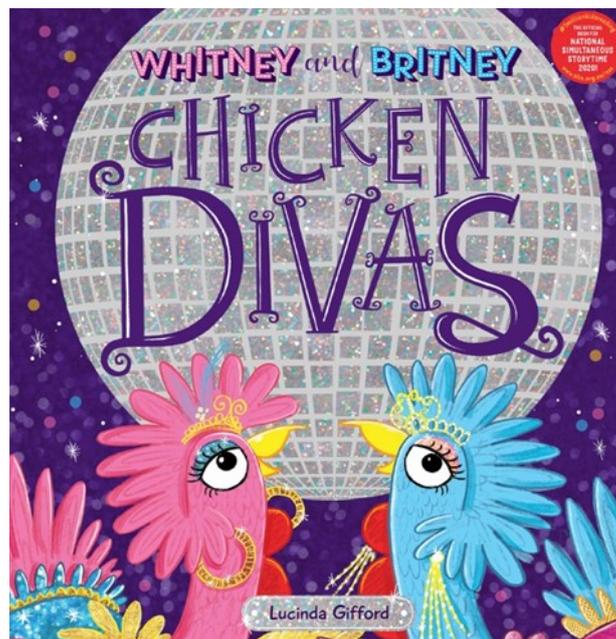
This event is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Each year, a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its 20th successful year, it is a vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6.

As a parent or carer, you can register for the event for free on the ALIA website below to gain access to the online reading of the book, especially if your child/ren are still learning remotely. There are also suggested activities, e.g. a chicken diva headdress, handprint art or mask, and a colouring-in page.

<https://www.alia.org.au/nss>

By facilitating NSS we aim to:

- ◆ promote the value of reading and literacy
- ◆ promote the value and fun of books
- ◆ promote an Australian author, illustrator and publisher
- ◆ promote NSS activities in public libraries and communities around the country
- ◆ provide opportunities to involve parents, grandparents, the media and others to participate in and enjoy the occasion



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

The theme of National Reconciliation Week this year is **'In this Together'**.

As we can't host our usual Reconciliation Week Assembly, Culture Club students and families and other interested students are contributing to a slide show to be presented to classes on **Tuesday 2 June**, when all students will be back at school. Ms Pilgrim will also read a story, 'Welcome to Country' by Auntie Joy Murphy, and classes will participate in a follow-up activity from the slide show. Preparatory work for Year 3—6 students learning remotely will include listening to the story online, watching Auntie Joy's Welcome to Country ceremony video, reflecting on the theme, learning our school Acknowledgement of Country, and making suggestions for our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) renewal.

Chris Pilgrim and Jeremy Hadrill, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison Officers, are seeking input from interested staff, parents, carers and community members who might like to be part of the **RAP Working Group**.

If you are interested, please contact Jeremy at jeremy.hadrill@ed.act.edu.au.



FROM THE AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LAUREATE

A little poem to enjoy!

Written by Ursula Dubosarsky, Australian Children's Laureate 2020-2021



There was a cough and then another
The little cat ran to her mother.

"What can we do?" "Well, wash your paws,"
Her mother said, "And all your claws.

"We'll stay inside and shut the door.
You'll laugh and hide and read and draw

"And think of all the games you'll play!
You'll sleep and eat and then one day...

"You'll see the door is open wide –
The sun will shine, you'll run outside –

"Just look at how I've grown!" you'll say,
"Since all the time I've been away!"

So wash your paws and don't feel blue
The little cat knows what to do

And wait until the morning when
Our big old world is right again.

URSULA DUBOSARSKY
AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LAUREATE
2020-2021



UNIFORM SHOP



BACK TO SCHOOL!

NEED A WINTER UNIFORM?

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN MONDAYS 3.00 - 5.30 PM
2ND HAND MON&FRI OUTSIDE THE JUNIOR SCHOOL
ONLINE AT FLEXISCHOOLS

Uniform Shop open Mondays 3:00—5:30
Second-hand uniforms available all day Mondays & Fridays
Outside the junior end of the school

Easy, contact-free ordering available via Flexischools: <http://www.flexischools.com.au>

Orders will be delivered to your child's classroom if they have returned to school.

If you would like to collect your order prior to your child returning to school, please visit the FOOSHC desk set up outside the junior end of the school.

Please contact Marina, Uniform Shop Manager, at uniforms@forrestpandc.com.au with any enquiries or requests for fittings.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Enrolling in Preschool in 2021



ACT
Government

Education

If your child turns four on or before 30 April 2020, they were able to start preschool in Term 1, 2020. **If your child turns four after 30 April 2020, they can start preschool in 2021**

All four year old ACT children are guaranteed a place in a public preschool. However, you are not guaranteed a place at the preschool site of your preference, due to capacity constraints at some sites. All preschools offer a high-quality early childhood education.

Enrolments for 2021 open from 6am on Tuesday 28 April. Apply before 5 June 2020 to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. Apply online at education.act.gov.au



2021 school enrolments now open



ACT
Government

Education

- 1. Go to education.act.gov.au** for information on your local school and to enrol online.
- 2. Apply before 5 June 2020** to receive an offer from 27 July 2020. This means there is ample time to submit your application to be included in the initial round of offers.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Canberra has the highest rate of volunteering in the nation! Our volunteers have a positive impact on the community and they play a vital role in our economy, clocking up tens of thousands of hours each year.

I would like to thank all of our volunteers for their continued commitment to shaping and improving our community. If you know a volunteer working to support the ACT Government or the community more broadly, I encourage you to acknowledge them and thank them for their vital contribution.

Kathy Leigh
Head of Service

KINDERGARTEN HEALTH CHECK

Due to the redeployment of Registered Nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic response and the closure of schools, the **2020 physical component of the Kindergarten Health Check has been cancelled.**

The Academic Unit of General Practice questionnaire data, completed by parents at the beginning of the 2020 school year, has been collected as usual. The results of the questionnaire will be sent to the GP if consent has been given to do so. If you have concerns regarding the physical check, please see your child's GP for assessment. For more information, please contact the School Health Team on 5124 1585.

NBN'S EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PACKAGE

To help Australians respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, **nbn** is assisting phone and internet providers to support low-income family households with school-aged children who do not currently have an active **nbn** connection at home.

The assistance period runs from
1 April 2020—30 September 2020.

For further information, please visit
www.nbnco.com.au/response

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:	Ann Hayres, ann.hayres@ed.act.edu.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
Canteen:	canteen@forrestpandc.com.au