

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Week 6 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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EXECUTIVE ADDRESS

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Semester 1 Reports

Due to the unprecedented circumstances faced by schools across Australia this year, a national agreement has been reached to modify school reporting for Semester 1. In the ACT, we will reduce the level of Semester 1 reporting for students from Kindergarten to Year 10. We recognise that providing families with information about their child's progress and learning is crucial and will be especially valuable after the start to the year we have all experienced. Semester 1 school reports for 2020 will still include information about each student's level of progress against specific achievement standards for the learning areas that were covered in Semester 1. Teachers will still make a judgement about the level of engagement each student has demonstrated with their learning and, where appropriate, work habits. Personal and Social Capability will still be included. Reports in Semester 1 will not include overall grades for learning areas/subjects or a comparative A-E grade summary. Additionally, reports will not include attendance information for Semester 1. If you would like further information about your child's progress, please contact your child's class/subject teacher. For any other queries or concerns, please contact the Education Directorate using the contact form at https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/forms/etd_liaison_feedback or call 6205 5429.

Voluntary Contributions

Thank you to those who have already paid voluntary contributions for 2020. With this money we can fund essential resources throughout the school, including library books, art supplies and teacher training. We rely on this important revenue stream for our school to continue to deliver a quality education for our students. If you are able to contribute, it is a great way to show our teachers you appreciate them.

WELCOME BACK TO ALL OUR STUDENTS!

JUST A REMINDER!

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

forrestps@ed.act.edu.au

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.**

Footsteps Dance Programme

It's Footsteps time again! We love seeing our students improve their dance skills and confidence through the Footsteps programme. For some students, sharing their dance at Shivoo is the highlight of their school year. Thank you to those parents who have already paid for the programme. Unfortunately, last year Footsteps at Forrest ran at a \$5000 loss due to a lack of financial contributions. If you are able to financially contribute to this year's programme, please consider doing so—any and all contributions are greatly appreciated. If you need financial assistance, please contact the front office at forrestps@ed.act.edu.au.

New Cleaner & SMRO

In line with ACT Education Directorate guidelines around COVID, we have been joined by Yeshi, who is employed to continually clean throughout the school day, focusing on high touch surfaces such as doorknobs, desks, toilet doors and railings. We also welcome Rada as our School Maintenance and Repairs Officer (SMRO) for the next three months to assist Ann, our Business Manager, and Patrick, our Building Services Officer (BSO). You might see her around the school maintaining the buildings and gardens.

Physical Distancing

Thank you for your response to the new COVID restrictions which mean no additional adults can enter the school building. Thank you, parents, for now contacting teachers by email or phone to discuss issues, and for supporting their children to enter the school independently.

Demountable Building

Forrest is receiving a new demountable building! Work has already begun on the new classrooms, which will be placed next to the current demountable on the oval. It will hopefully be operational for 3HS and 3P by the beginning of Term 3.

Traffic—Thank You!

As more parents are now using the traffic system, we have relied on your good sense to slow down and merge correctly—thank you for your consideration. With the addition of staff helping students to get in and out of cars, the system is working smoothly and preventing banking onto State Circle. We appreciate our teachers giving up their time to support the school, as we think this system is providing support for parents and ensuring the safety for our students.

Week 10 BBQ

Due to COVID restrictions, we have had to postpone our usual community events. However, we can still celebrate our wonderful school with our students! To reconnect as a school community we will hold a BBQ for all students in Week 10 at lunchtime. The Year 6 leaders will be able to flex their leadership muscles to support teachers to run the event. More information, including food, drink and payment methods, will be provided soon.

Kylie Dorsett
on behalf of the Executive Team

P&C News

Due to current restrictions, the normal P&C General Meeting, which is usually held on Wednesday of Week 5, did not go ahead. To accommodate the current situation, we have rescheduled this meeting for **Thursday 18 June at 7:00pm via virtual channels**.

We are currently working out the platform which we will utilise for the meeting and will publish the meeting link on the **Forrest P&C website** under the P&C menu at the top of the home page: <https://forrestpandc.com.au/>

As always, if anyone wishes to raise any issues or has questions, please feel free to contact **Jarrod Fitzgerald** at president@forrestpandc.com.au

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

National Reconciliation Week this year was from 27 May—3 June.

Forrest Primary School staff and students, together with our FOOSHC partners, commemorated National Reconciliation Week with a range of activities, including watching a slideshow created by our Culture Club students and helpers, looking at the significant events of Sorry Day, the 1967 referendum, Mabo Day and The Uluru statement; the Year 6 Cultural Leaders created a display board; and Ms Pilgrim read 'Welcome to Country', a story by Auntie Joy Murphy.

All Canberrans have been invited to 'Take the Pledge' to work towards Reconciliation. At Forrest Primary School, we commit to Caring for Country, especially with our new Indigenous Garden. The teachers pledged to further embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives in their Units of Inquiry.

We're pleased to announce that Jeremy Hadrill, together with the P&C, have secured three grants to support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and community members.

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 **Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Working Group**. If you are interested, please contact Jeremy at jeremy.hadrill@ed.act.edu.au.



Reconciliation. Artwork by Lynnice Church (Ngunnawal, Wiradjuri and Kamilaroi)



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

Change to Primary Schools Central Placement Panel date for small group programs (LSU, LSU-A, LSC) and specialist school placement

The 2020 school year has started unlike any other, and this has caused significant disruption to usual routines for students, families, and schools. As we welcome students back into our schools, planning is underway to minimise long term impacts of these unprecedented times on our students and their ongoing schooling. In line with this, the date for Primary Schools Central Placement Panel (where small group program placements for LSU, LSU-A, LSC and Specialist Schools are determined) has been changed, with applications now due in Week 6, Term 3 and letters of offer sent to parents in time for schools and parents to develop a transition plan together in Term 4.

The Secondary Central Placement Panel will proceed as anticipated with outcome letters for Year 6 student applications for high school placements in 2021, sent to parents early in Term 3.

If you would like to access more information regarding the Disability Education Central Placement Panel and process, please see the [Students with Disability](#) webpage on the Education Directorate website or speak to school staff. If you need further information, you can email your query to DisabilityEducation@act.gov.au.

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

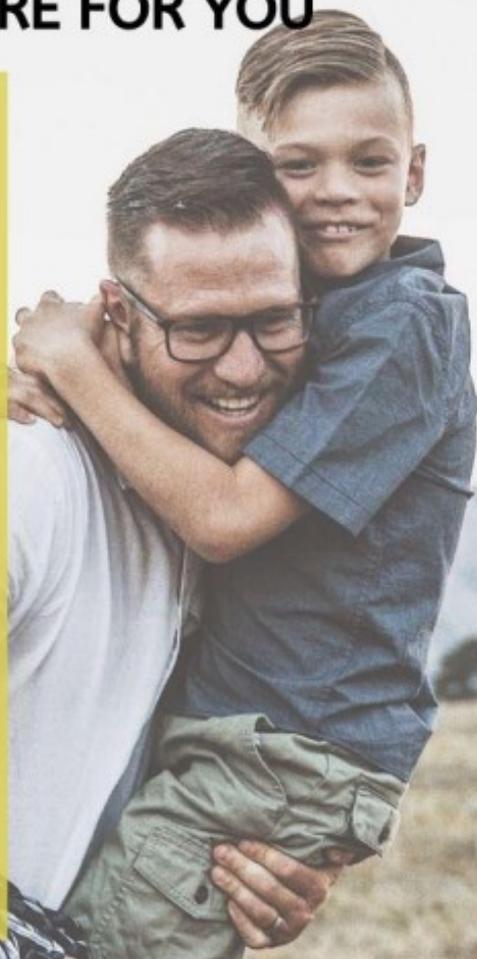
Contact us for a FREE confidential chat



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:	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