

FORREST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter Week 5 Term 4 2021

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.

EXECUTIVE ADDRESS

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

This week saw our Year 3, 4 and 5 students return to on-site learning. It has been lovely seeing our whole school back together (albeit adhering to our cohort strategy). Hearing children's voices and laughter in the building is a welcome addition after so many weeks of remote learning. As you can see from our photos, everyone is enjoying being back on-site.

Our Cohort Strategy

One of the strategies we have implemented at Forrest to minimise the contact between people on-site is to cohort students. This means we are limiting unnecessary physical interactions between students and staff on school grounds. One safety aspect tied to this is the movement of staff across the school. To best protect our school community, we have



Inside this issue:

Executive Address	1-3
Canteen	4
School Happenings	5-6
Contacts	7



DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 11 & Friday 12 November
Kindergarten Health Check

Friday 19 November
last day to submit requests for 2022 class placements

Thursday 2 December
Colour Explosion

Tuesday 14 December
Year 6 Graduation Assembly

Wednesday 15 December
Shivoo video available on Seesaw

Thursday 16 December
Year 6 Graduation Dinner

reallocated our staff (teachers and Learning Support Assistants) to be tied to cohorts of students. This has resulted in a change to how specialist programmes are being delivered for the remainder of the year. Previously, our talented specialist teachers would teach their respective subjects (Library, PE, STEM and Japanese) across the whole school each week. This movement doesn't align with our COVID safety practices. The reallocation of specialist teachers has meant that classroom teachers will now deliver that curriculum area to their own classes, with the support of the specialists. We thank all of our staff for using their great depth of knowledge to be able to accommodate our COVID safe practices and embrace new roles and responsibilities.

World Teachers Day

Yesterday we celebrated World Teachers Day! World Teachers Day is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the special teachers we have known. Great teachers are generous, inspiring, and teach with wisdom, understanding and patience. We would like to acknowledge the wonderful, talented and humorous teaching staff we have here at Forrest Primary School, each of them making a difference to the lives of those in their care. We would also like to thank the P&C for their generous gifts to our staff. We all felt very appreciated by them, our students and the families we work with.



Traffic

With the return to school, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to please be patient and follow the rules when using our traffic system. The school will open from **8:45am** each morning. Please ensure you do not drop your child off any earlier. Students will be assembled at the side gate and at the traffic drop-off/pick-up area from **2:55pm** each day.

2022 Class Placements

It is that time of year again where you can talk to Chris Pilgrim (Principal), Renee Berry (Deputy Principal) or Jemma O'Brien (Deputy Principal) about your child's class placement for 2022. You can make a phone appointment through the front office or email us at forrestps@ed.act.edu.au with your requests, until **Friday 19 November** (Week 7) only. Please remember:

- We want to know about your child's needs. Information about your child's personality, disposition, and work habits help us to place children into classes.
- You can nominate three children you would like your child to be with in a class. We can guarantee one of your choices only. We cannot guarantee all of them and we cannot guarantee your choice if you only nominate one or two children.
- We have not finalised teacher placements for 2022 and we do not allow parents to choose teachers for their children. Please respect that our staff are highly professional and expert teachers, who will arrange classes based on the educational, social and emotional needs of your child.
- We will contact you if your request cannot be met.

Access to Water

All students are required to bring a drink bottle to school. Bubblers are inaccessible for drinking but can still be used to refill bottles. Students have access to water as follows:

- Kindergarten and Year 1 have access to water in their classroom.
- Year 2 students have access to water at the 'Water on Tap' station on the junior asphalt. Additionally, the Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 cohort can fill their bottles at the bottom of the bubblers on the junior asphalt. Please note that *the top of the bubblers will remain closed for students*.
- Year 3 students can fill their bottles at the bottom of the bubblers on the senior asphalt. Please note that *the*

top of the bubblers will remain closed for students.

- Year 4 and 5 students have access to water in their demountable classrooms and can refill their bottles on the veranda at the refill station.
- Year 6 students have access to water in the wet area of their building.

Lost Property

We now have a new, easy-access lost property system. There are three pull-out bins at the outside entrance of the junior end of the school (near the junior drop-off/pick-up area). The three bins are marked as follows:

named clothing and hats

unnamed clothing and hats

mixed items

The bins are left unlocked, and we invite parents / carers to check lost property at any time. We strongly encourage you to clearly name all of your children's clothing and other items, and teachers will continue to teach students to look after their belongings.



Shivoo 2021

Like last year, Shivoo this year will look a little different. With health and safety as our priority, we will once again present Shivoo through a video collage. Teachers will compile a short video of each year group, and these will be made available to you via Seesaw on **Wednesday 15 December**. We are excited to be able to continue our Shivoo tradition in this modified format. We hope you enjoy it!

Save the Date: Year 6 Graduation

The Year 6 graduation assembly will be held on **Tuesday 14 December**. The graduation dinner is scheduled for **Thursday 16 December**. The Year 6 team will provide more information shortly regarding the COVID-safe measures for these events.

Thank you for your continued support.

Candice Kingston

on behalf of the Executive Team

JUST A FEW REMINDERS...

If your child is **absent** from school, please notify the front office (*rather than any individual staff member*) by email at forrestps@ed.act.edu.au or phone on **6142 1470**.

If your child arrives **late** to school (i.e. after **9:15am**), please remind them to sign in at the front office and receive a late arrival pass.

If you need to collect your child **early** from school (i.e. before **3:00pm**), please give the front office as much notice as possible via email or phone.

Have a question or concern?

Need to chat?

We realise that the current COVID safety measures have made in-person communication between parents/carers and teachers/staff a bit more challenging. However, we still want to hear from you, we still value your feedback, and we're still happy answer questions and help however we can! So remember, you can always call us or drop us an email!

6142 1470

forrestps@ed.act.edu.au

CANTEEN

Today, Friday 5 November, is Canteen Day!

Canteens can be the heart of the school, where staff and families can come together for a nourishing meal or snack and to see a friendly face. It has been a difficult year for school canteens, with the recent lockdown adding to the existing challenges of running a low-cost healthy food service for families. Now that counter service can resume in our schools, Canteen Day provides a terrific opportunity for the whole school community to show their appreciation and support for their canteen—a vital service for many Canberra schools.

So from all the staff and students at Forrest Primary School,

THANK YOU!

to Dipendra, our wonderful Canteen Manager, and the Forrest P&C,
for providing such a valuable service for our school.



Congratulations!

Forrest Primary School Canteen

For your effort in making healthy food and drinks a part of everyday life at school

B Pennay

BRITTANY PENNAY APD
Nutrition Australia ACT



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Forrest Primary School's Colour Explosion
will be held on

Thursday 2 December 2021

Fundraising for the event will close on
Wednesday 24 November to allow for the
ordering of prizes.



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Forrest Primary School Colour Explosion

Great effort!

Since we started this event, lots of students have already started fundraising!

Way to go!

To date we have raised **\$17, 851!**

With five weeks to go before the event, the countdown is on!

Keep fundraising – there are lots of prizes up for grabs!

Remember that all funds raised will go towards purchasing iPads, Chromebooks and IWBs (interactive whiteboards).

Most importantly, visit myprofilepage.com.au to create your profile page and share it with your family and friends to spread the word!



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:	Renee Berry, renee.berry@ed.act.edu.au Jemma O'Brien, jemma.o'brien@ed.act.edu.au
Business Manager:	Sonya Campbell, sonya.campbell@ed.act.edu.au
Board Chair:	Cameron Bowles, fpsboardchair@gmail.com
P&C President:	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