



Meadow Matters

The newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

Term 1 Week 5 – 24th February 2016

Principal's Report

"Our attitude towards life determines life's attitude towards us."

New Bells and School Day – 9.00 am – 3.00pm:

So far, so good!!! We have survived our first days of our new bells and new school day teaching sessions. I include the new times again in this week's newsletter for your information.

Monday to Thursday:

8.55 am. Bell/Music Children to go to the toilet and move to our large roof Covered Outside Learning Area (COLA) or cement Quad (Quadrangle) next to our Hall.

9.00 am. Morning assembly led by our Student Leaders

9.00 – 11.00 am. Morning Session (2 hours)

11.00 – 11.45 am. First eating and play session (45 minutes)

11.45 – 1.45 pm. Middle Session (2 hours)

1.45 – 2.15 pm. Second eating and play session (30 minutes)

2.15 – 3.00 pm. Afternoon Session (45 minutes)

3.00 pm. Children dismissed and end of school day

Fridays Only:

8.55 am. Bell/Music Children to go to the toilet and move to our large roof Covered Outside Learning Area (COLA) or cement Quad (Quadrangle) next to our Hall.

9.00 am. Morning assembly led by our Student Leaders

9.00 – 11.00 am. Morning Session (2 hours)

11.00 – 11.30 am. First eating and play session (30 minutes)

11.30 – 1.15 pm. Middle Session (1 ¾ hours)

1.15 – 2.00 pm. Second eating and play session (45 minutes)

2.00 – 3.00 pm. Afternoon Session (1 hour)

3.00 pm. Children dismissed and end of school day

Another New Idea and Program in 2016: Easter Hat Parade.

Towards the end of this term, with Easter early this year in Week 9, FMDS will enjoy an Easter Hat Parade and P&C Easter Raffle, to raise funds for our students. Two Mufti Days will be held on Thursday, 10th March and Thursday 17th March. On these mufti days, students will be asked to bring in a chocolate Easter egg to donate to our wonderful P&C who will then organise Easter Baskets to sell in the raffle. The chocolate eggs will be collected at morning assembly by our very reliable student leaders. I ask parents to have a look around the house and should you have any old baskets which you do not need anymore, these can be brought into our canteen to be used in the raffle. Our Easter Hat Parade will be great fun and a great fundraiser for our school.

Thankyou and Well Done Teachers and Students:

Thankyou to the family who sent me an email praising Mr. Napper and the “extra” things he does in his class, in particular, for one little boy who sometimes can become a little anxious. This week has certainly disappeared far too quickly, but Mr. Napper and 5/6N should be congratulated and rewarded with some extra play, if not this week, with so many things happening, certainly next week. Well done Mr. Napper and 5/6N. Seeing I missed a teacher with playground duty and a class with extra play this week with so much happening every day, I may have to do 2 classes next week.

Remember Our SRC Leadership Induction Assembly – This Friday, 26th. February, 9.15 am. Mr. Gordon Bradbery, Lord Mayor of Wollongong, OAM:

FMDS is so excited to have our Lord Mayor of Wollongong, Councillor Gordon Bradbery OAM, attend our SRC Induction Ceremony. As you can appreciate, Mr. Bradbery has a very busy schedule but has been able to squeeze FMDS into his diary. Mr. Bradbery can only be with us a short time before he must leave at 9.30 am. to attend another meeting. It is something very special to have our city’s leader attend our student leader’s assembly.

Sydney Children’s Hospital Pre-School and Kindergarten Screening – 27th & 28th April:

Free statewide eyesight screening (StEPS) of all pre-school and Kindergarten children will take place at FMDS on 27-28th April. Attached to this newsletter is a parent consent form which must be returned to FMDS ASAP. I urge all parents of this group of children to be part of this FREE program.

Thankyou to Teachers and Parents for Meet the Teacher:

Over this week and last week, teachers across the school K-6 have met with their student’s parents to discuss what lies ahead in 2016. Thankyou to the many parents and our wonderful teachers who have given up their time for these very important meetings.

Our Fantastic New Facebook Page and Authority NOT to Publish Student Details:

I hope all our children and parents are viewing our fantastic new Facebook Page thanks to all the hard work and dedication of Mrs. Scott. An amazing new addition to FMDS. Thankyou again, Fiona. I ask all parents to consider that with FMDS being such a “techo and IT school” with our Skoolbag App, Electronic School Sign, Class Blogs and email lists, FMDS Website and new Facebook Page etc. should you NOT want your child’s face and name included in any of the school’s publications and profiles, please, given photos, stories and comments are uploaded daily to showcase our amazing students, staff and their achievements, as a matter of urgency, parents need to come to the office and complete an “Authority Not to Publish,” no later than Friday, 4th. March, 2016.

Clothing Pool New Order Form now on Skoolbag App, Website and visit our School Office.

Gardening Club:

Thankyou to those parents who have contacted me regarding our Green Club or Gardening Club. I attached to last week’s newsletter our “Volunteers Policy” and “Working with Children Check” procedures. I ask all parents and potential volunteers to carefully read both policies, complete their WWC Check and sign the FMDS Volunteers Policy. In short, you will need to give me 2 pieces of paper, one being your WWC Check which will include your name, address and WWC reference Number, and secondly, a signed FMDS Volunteers Policy. Having received the 2 pages from you, we will then talk about how you can support FMDS, either in the classroom, sporting field, canteen, Scripture or in the garden and playground.

No Parents Parking in School Carparks – Damage to Parent Cars:

I remind all parents that only 2 families with prior Principal approval are permitted to park in the staff carpark area. All other families must park in the neighbouring council carparks. I also ask parents to be mindful and careful of other parent’s cars and property when parking their vehicles. Some parent cars have been damaged and sadly no notice left on the windscreen or wherever. Unlike most schools, once again FMDS stands out from the crowd, as we are so lucky to have large carparks with plenty of space, so there should not be a problem parking so close to each other.

School Payments Made Easy on Skoolbag App:

Online school payments can now be made by accessing Make a Payment on our Skoolbag App. You will find this option on the App Homepage and it's called 'Make a Payment' – how easy is that!!!!

Upcoming Events:

(Also have a look at our Fantastic School Website, FMDS App, Electronic School Sign and our new Facebook Page for further information)

Week 5:

Thursday 25th February Mr. Brightwell and Student Leaders to Keira High School Leaders Induction Assembly, 11.00 am.

Friday 26th February SRC Leaders Induction Assembly & Morning Tea, 9.15 – 10.00 am.

Week 6:

Monday 29th February Ryan Park, MP Keira visit FMDS, 10.00 am.
Assembly Year 3-6, 1.20 pm.

Tuesday 1st March Assembly K-2, 2.15 pm.

Wednesday 2nd March PBL Peer Support Groups K-6 start

Thankyou for your support

Paul Brightwell

Canteen News

Everyone seems to be coping well with the changes to lunch and recess. Keep remembering to put Break 1 or Break 2 on your order bag.

Take note that the times are different on Friday's.

It is very important that orders are in by 9am. Due to reduced time for cooking, the hot food needs to go in the oven at 9am.

Our fabulous reusable order bags that come in bright new designs are available at the canteen for \$15.00 each.

Our wonderful helpers are:

Mon 22/2		Mon 29/2	Gabe Skinner	Mon 7/3	Brooke Wood
Tue 23/2		Tue 1/3	Coralie Easton	Tue 8/3	
Wed 24/2		Wed 2/3		Wed 9/3	
Thur 25/2	Simone Warburton	Thur 3/3	Michelle Haigh	Thur 10/3	Kaylene Roach
Frid 26/2	Lisa Springett	Frid 4/3		Frid 11/3	Lisa Springett

Community News

****Falcons Illawarra Hockey** are holding a 'come and try hockey' day for kids 7-15 on Mar 4th at 4:30pm at the Uni of Wollongong Hockey Field. Free drink and lolly bag included. No cost, no obligation, just for fun. Join a group of amazing kids learning team skills, hand/eye coordination, and leadership – while getting fit! Register no <http://www.falconsillawarrahockey.com>

****Corrimal Cougars** registration day Saturday 13th and 20th February 1pm – 3pm at Corrimal Leagues Club. For more information please call Steve Waddell on 0466 148 539 or secretary@corrimalcougarsjuniors.org

**** Southlake/Illawarra BMX Club** located in the Croome Road Sporting Club, Albion Park. For all enquiries contact Andrea Dallinger 0418 245 268, Russell Robeille 0411 645 644 or Tim Robson 0450 095 150