



Meadow Matters

The newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

Term 1 Week 10 – 29th March 2016

Principal's Report

Week 10

"I enjoy life a lot more by saying yes, than by saying no."

Easter Hat Parade Success – Congratulations Everyone: – Thursday, 24th. March, 2.00 pm, COLA:

Thankyou and congratulations to all the students, families and staff who bought our P&C Easter Raffle tickets and better still won some early Easter baskets full of chocolate eggs. Many thanks also to Mrs Jessica Harris and Sharon in the canteen for their excellent organisation and behind the scenes hard work. All we have to do for next year is get the COLA audio system to work better!!! We were so lucky to have so many baskets of eggs and the weather was very kind to our Easter Parade.

Thankyou also to all our families from so many different religions and countries who came along to join in our Easter fun to support our children and our school. An amazing afternoon of colour!!!

3 way Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews and Communication Survey:

This week, in particular on Wednesday 30th March from before school to 8.00 pm. All Year 1 to Year 6 teachers will be organising time for all parent and students to participate in this very interesting and very worthwhile discussion between parents, teachers and students. Students have a wonderful opportunity to explain to their parents what they have learnt and achieved in the first term of 2016.

During this interview I will ask all teachers to request that you complete a very simple Communication Survey from me regarding school communication – what you think is important and what you actually take the time to read or look at during the week so you know what's happening at FMDS. I ask that you take about 2 minute to complete my survey and return to the teacher at your 3 way conference. I'm attempting to understand what's the best and the most effective channels of communication between school and home and between home and school.

NAPLAN 2016:

This week all Year 3 and Year 5 families will receive an information sheet about this year's 2016 NAPLAN testing on Monday 10th May, Tuesday 11th May and Thursday 12th May, Term 2, Week.

Tell Them From Me Student (Year 4 to Year 6 only), Staff and Parent Surveys 2016:

Last year the Department of Education provided an on-line opportunity for Year 4 to Year 6 students, staff and parents to complete a satisfaction survey which is included in our FMDS Annual School Report. The survey informs areas of strength, further attention, development and improvement as we continually strive to make FMDS an even better school. I attach to this newsletter an "I Do Not Want" my child to participate Parent Form. The completed "exclusion from participation" form must be returned to the office this week, by Friday 1st. April. Students will be completing the on-line survey next week during our final week of Term 1.

Post Graduate Research at FMDS:

This week as part of the UOW Research project the following groups of children will receive an Information Pack with all the necessary information: All Year 2 and Year 3 students.

Whole School Assembly (Trial New Shorter Program) – Wednesday, 30th. March, 2.15 – 2.55 pm.:

Due to the recent school learning sessions and bell changes, our afternoon session after Break 2 (1.45 – 2.15 pm) is shorter; only 45 minutes (2.15 – 3.00 pm) and therefore our Whole School Assembly is also shorter. Our first Whole School Assembly for 2016, this Wednesday, 30th. March, will be a new shorter format. As always our student leaders will lead the assembly and announce our Superstar winners. Instead of a class item we will showcase our school choirs, dance groups and individual students. This will allow for most of our students to perform at a whole school level. At our first “trial” assembly tomorrow we will see and hear our wonderful Senior Choir.

P&C Working Bee This Sunday, 3rd. April, 10.00 – 12.00:

I realise everyone has busy weekends with sport, shopping etc. but if you can spare anytime, even 30 minutes or one hour this Sunday from 10.00 – 12.00 would be great. Just bring along some gloves, a bucket, maybe a spade or shovel so we can make a start to clean up the side garden adjacent to the soccer field carpark. We will be welcoming many staff from all Wollongong schools over the remainder of 2016 as FMDS becomes a training classroom for Principals and School Administrative Managers (SAMs) like our Jo. I want our school to look its best for all our visitors so they are all green with envy of FMDS when they return to their own schools, not to mention the hundreds of University of Wollongong pre-service students who visit our classrooms and school each year.

Upcoming Events:

(Have a look at our New School Facebook & Website, FMDS App, and Electronic School Sign as well!!)

Week 10

Wednesday	30 March	Whole School Assembly, 2.15 – 3.00
Thursday	31st March	Woodwork Student Group
Friday	1st April	PBL PD Groups
Sunday	3rd April	P&C Working Bee, 10.00 – 12.00 (bring a spade or shovel)

Week 11

Tuesday	5th April	Stage 2 Nan Tien Temple Excursion Dream Cricket, Support Classes
Wednesday	6th April	Stage 3 Observatory Sydney Excursion P&C Meeting, 7.00 pm
Friday	8th April	Last PBL PD Groups Last day of Term 1 Happy, Safe Holidays everyone.

Term 2

Week 1

Tuesday	26th April	School Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
Wednesday	27th April	All children K-6 return to school Kinder Eyesight Screening
Friday	29th April	FMDS ANZAC Ceremony, 10.45 am.

Thankyou for your support
Paul Brightwell