



Meadow Matters

The newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

Term 1 Week 7 – 10th March 2016

Principal's Report

**"You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore."
(Christopher Columbus)**

Start of the Day and Morning Assembly:

We continue to wait for the bell expert/technician to arrive. Unfortunately, I still cannot hear the bell/music from my office. It's like trying to get a tradie, brickie etc!!! After another week of trialling our new bells and school times the school bell/music will ring accordingly:

Monday to Thursday:

8.57 am.	Bell/music to signal go to the toilet etc and/or move to Morning Assembly
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:

8.57 am.	Bell/music to signal go to the toilet etc and/or move to Morning Assembly
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 – 1.30 pm.	Middle Session (1 ¾ hours)
1.30 – 2.00 pm.	Second eating and play session (30 minutes)
2.00 – 3.00 pm.	Afternoon Session (1 hour)
3.00 pm.	Children dismissed and end of school day

Easter Hat Parade, Thursday, 24th March, 2.00 pm. Under the COLA:

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.

Mrs Jessica Harris and Canteen Sharon are working hard to make this day a great success for everyone. As this is our first new Easter Hat Parade, we are setting aside the last hour of the school day on Thursday, 24th March. This time will be largely determined by how many baskets of Easter eggs are to be raffled. The children will parade in buddy classes in order to speed up the parade. Should the parade finish early, children will be permitted to go home with parents once parents have notified the teacher and your child's name is marked off. Parents will not need to go the office.

Congratulations Mr O'Connor and Mrs. Fenwick with Chess Club:

This week the children were able to involve themselves in a Chess Tournament organised by Mr. O'Connor and Mrs. Fenwick. Yet another opportunity for the children to keep busy indoors and away from the heat and humidity, and the more active play activities. Well done everyone.

Dance Groups Started This Week:

Congratulations to our students selected in our FMDS Dance Festival group for 2016. Practice started this week and there will be practice and practice each week so you can show your FMDS best. Well done boys and girls and thank you to Mrs Toll and her very talented teacher team.

Thankyou and Well Done Teachers and Students:

Well done and thank you to K-3 girls, Ms Dirou and her 3D this week with extra play.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) PD Groups Started and Focus for This Week 7:

Last week our PBL P.D. Groups Program began with all children placed in K-6 groups led by a teacher and a student leader. This wonderful program after Break 1 (11.50 – 12.30) initiated by our dedicated PBL Team, led by the energetic Mrs. Fenwick, has a weekly focus of structured lessons and discussion starters. Next Friday, 18th March is a National Day of Action Against Bullying which will become a very relevant topic for next week's PD discussions. Well done everyone, a very important forum for student voice and student leadership.

Hats - PBL Focus for this week again (especially with the hot, sunny weather of late).

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

Free state-wide eyesight screening (StEPS) of all pre-school and Kindergarten children will take place at FMDS on 27-28th April. I urge all parents of this group of children to be part of this FREE program.

Skate Park Concerns at Start of School Day:

Our children are so lucky to have the skate park nearby and it's great to enjoy after school, on weekends and on holidays. With recent accidents at the skatepark before school, some children coming to school late, as well as some "interesting" locals who also visit the skate park, as a parent, I would not allow my children to go to the skate park on their way to school. The proximity to local public toilets is also a concern. When children leave home they should come directly to school.

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!!!!

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

Mr. Brightwell's Weekly Quotation at the start of his Principal's Report:

Each week I begin my Principal's Report with a short quotation or saying. This quote has significance for something that is happening at FMDS that week or over a number of weeks or months. I have asked the staff to reflect on these few words each week. I now ask students and parents to also reflect on the words I use. To this end I will run a competition each week and one student will win a prize from me each week. I want students to write briefly in their own words (not parent's words) what they think Mr. Brightwell is thinking about or referring to whatever is happening at FMDS. They can give their words to their teacher, the ladies in the office or to me when they see me. I will congratulate the winning student and explanation on morning assembly each week. Good luck.

New Facebook Page, New-Look FMDS Website and Authority NOT to Publish Student Details:

I trust all parents who do NOT want their children's photo and name to be included in our school publications and electronic communication including our FMDS Webpage, Facebook Page, Skoolbag App, School Sign and School Newsletter has completed an "Authority Not to Publish" located at the school office, as last Friday, 4th March was the deadline.

Upcoming Events:

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

Week 7:

Thursday	10 th March	Mufti Day for Easter Hat Parade (bring a chocolate egg) Woodwork Student Group
Friday	11 th March	PBL PD Groups

Week 8

Tuesday	15 th March	5/6KS Reward Day, 11.00 – 2.00
Wednesday	16 th March	Year 6 Buddies Reward Day, 12.30 – 2.30
Thursday	17 th March	Easter Hat Green St. Patrick's Mufti Day Woodwork Student Group
Friday	18 th March	National Day of Action – Bullying – PBL PD Groups

Week 9

Monday	21 st March	Harmony Day
Thursday	24 th March	Easter Hat Parade, 2.00 pm. COLA

Week 10

Tuesday	29 th March	Cross Country FMDS
Thursday	31 st March	Woodwork Student Group
Friday	1 st April	PBL PD Groups
Sunday	3 rd April	P&C Working Bee, 10.00 – 12.00

Week 11

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

Term 2

Week 1

Tuesday	26 th April	School Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
Wednesday	27 th April	All children K-6 return to school Kinder Eyesight Screening

Thankyou for your support
Paul Brightwell

Canteen News

Don't forget Thursday is our first Mufti Day. Please bring a donation of an Easter item for our raffle. Donations will be collected at morning assembly.

Raffle tickets are for sale at the canteen and before school at the COLA, 50c each or 3 for \$1.00.

The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat parade.

We need more canteen helpers, particularly for the 1st Friday of each month, the dates for this are 1st April, 4th May, 3rd June. If you can help, please come into the canteen and chat to one of our supervisors.

Canteen helpers for the next few weeks are:

Mon 7/3	Brooke Wood	Mon 14/3	
Tue 8/3		Tue 15/3	Deb Neich
Wed 9/3		Wed 16/3	Rachel Melville
Thur 10/3	Kaylene Roach	Thur 17/3	Melissa Hellmund
Frid 11/3	Lisa Springett	Frid 18/3	Jacqueline Boyton

CHESS CLUB

