



Meadow Matters

Welcome to the newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

Week 10 Term 2 - Monday 27th June, 2016

Principal's Report

"Challenges are inevitable, happiness is optional."

Thankyou Everyone and Enjoy Your Holidays

Well, another busy term has come to a very quick end. At the last P&C meeting I reported that in the 29 days since the previous P&C Meeting, our students had participated in 49 activities, while the staff were involved in 38 activities, making a grand total of 87 activities in only 29 days, and that's on top of everyday classroom teaching and learning. We wonder why the days disappear so quickly and some people are a little tired !!!! Thankyou to our FMDS students, staff, parents and families for all your support and hard work. Please enjoy a relaxing and safe winter holidays. Thankyou to all the mums and dads who came along to cheer the girls on.

Congratulations to our Senior SRC Break 1 Playground Happenings

Over recent weeks our wonderful senior SRC students have given up their long Break 1 to spend time with the younger children, keeping them busy with dancing, ball games, chess, handball and skipping. Thankyou Senior SRC students. I think you should all repeat and not go to high school !!!!!!!

Great Effort Our Senior PSSA Soccer Girls

Sadly FMDS lost to Russell Vale 3-0 in yesterday's 4th Round State PSSA Knockout. To get to the 4th round is an amazing achievement and losing to RVPS who made it through to the top 8 last year is to be commended. Our girls tried hard the whole match, kept chasing the ball and never gave up. Sophie, the smallest on the field took on the biggest girls and never stopped running. Rachel, our fantastic goalkeeper made four huge saves and injured her hand in one of the saves but played on to the end of the game. Well done girls and well done Coach Denton.

Congratulations Blake Hasler

Blake represented the South Coast at the State Rugby League 11 Yrs Championships held recently in Tamworth. Blake has also excelled being selected in the South Coast Rugby trials at Goulburn and South Coast Touch Football here in Wollongong. Well done Blake. You are certainly very versatile and very fit. We are all very proud of your achievements.

Kindergarten Transition Questionnaire

I urge all Kinder parents to complete our simple questionnaire with both positive and maybe not so positive reflections, so we can make this important transition to big school even better. Please return your response to your Kinder teacher this week, the last week of Term 2, if you have not already done so as 2017 Kinder Orientation starts early Term 3.

What's happening @ FMDS?

Term 2

Week 10

- 27 Consistent Teacher Judgement and Planning Week for Teachers & Staff
PBL Reward Extra Play Stage 1, Years 1 & 2
- 28 PBL Reward Extra Play Stage 3, Years 5 & 6
- 29 PBL Reward Extra Play Stage 2, Years 3 & 4
Whole School Assembly, 2.15
- 30 PBL Reward Extra Play ES1 - Kinder
PBL Prize Draw

July

- 1 Last day of Term 2

Term 3

July

Week 1

- 19 **Tuesday** - First Day Term 3
All children K-6 return to school
- 20 P&C Meeting, 7.00 pm

Week 2

- 25 SurfSense Wollongong Lifeguards, Yr.2,4,6
- 29 District Athletics

August

Week 3

- 1 Choral Festival FMDS

Week 4

- 9 Kinder 2017 Information Evening, 7.00 pm.
- 10 Pre-School Photos

Week 5

- 16 Kinder Excursion Botanical Gardens
- 18 Athletes Foot Shoe Laces Program
- 19 Yr. 5 STEM Science Day Keira H.S.

COLA Drainage Work and School Improvements

This week and during the holidays workmen will be at school to install new drainage on our COLA. Hopefully then when it rains our COLA will remain dry for the children to use this wonderful space. Other work around the school will include some painting and purchases of new colourful furniture and games to make some spaces around the school into fun, colourful flexible learning spaces. Mrs Toll's Kinder and Bunnings gardens (Thankyou our Bunnings Mum Rita) are looking great after our recent rain. Early next term work will also start on our Sensory Garden at the front of the school. FMDS looks good now but wait until our new plans are complete. FMDS will look soooooooooo good !!!!!!!

Student Attendance at School

I remind all parents and families that student attendance at school is not only compulsory but ensures a child's education and preparation of life-long learning as a future Australian citizen. A child with numerous unexplained absences will not learn as they should and will quickly lag behind their fellow students, which will compound their learning difficulties and will do little to make them feel happy at school. If your child is sick, keep them at home and send a note to school the next day before one forgets explaining their absence. If your child is not sick, they must attend school.

PBL

This week our students have enjoyed extra play in the sunshine after the wet start to the week. The smaller stage groups of children really enjoy having our large, green playground all to themselves. Well done boys and girls – you deserve the fun !!!

Positive Parenting Strategies

There are however a number of strategies that can be used successfully to ensure that your family is a healthy and happy one. So what is a healthy family? A healthy family is one where everyone is involved in decisions and activities, where there is a high level of communication and mutual respect and where the children are empowered and have a high level of self-esteem. A few strategies to achieve a healthy family balance include:

Be an active parent

- ▶ Help your children learn by teaching how to do things their way. Don't expect them to have the same level of expertise as someone older.
- ▶ Be aware that you are ***always*** a role model to a child.
- ▶ Demonstrate your love through your actions.
- ▶ Develop routines. Routines create an environment that feels dependable and safe to your child.
- ▶ Make time to spend one-on-one with each of your children. Remember quality of your time is more important than quantity.

Semester 1 Reports

Semester 1 Reports to parents will be delayed with teachers using a new format and computer program which is having "a few technical glitches". The new format is in response to parent and student feedback about reports last year. Teachers plan to send reports home during Week 1 of Term 3 if the program works as it should? I apologise for any inconvenience.

FMDS Website, Facebook Page, School Sign and SkoolBag App

I hope everyone is having a look at our school website and exciting Facebook Page which are both full of amazing photos, stories and comments from hundreds of viewers showcasing the many talents of our students and staff. With so much happening at FMDS our website, Facebook, School Sign and SkoolBag App show it all. A huge thankyou to the many staff and parents who upload and contribute as well as Mrs Scott who spends countless hours at home updating everything for you to view.

Canteen News

Next term we are able to offer our very popular cheese toasties 60c per half and scrolls 60c each at 2nd Break. The scrolls come in two flavours cheese & vegemite and cheese & pizza sauce. We will offer them for sale over the counter as a trial to see how well they sell.

Keep an eye out on the whiteboards outside the canteen to see what items are out of stock.

You may have noticed over the past few weeks our canteen roster that are listed in the newsletters that we are desperate for volunteers. If you are able to offer any amount of time especially on Thursday and Fridays could you please call in and see us in the canteen to add your name to the roster.

Thanks

Phone: 4284 2009

Email: fairymeado-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

Delivering excellence, success and opportunity