



Meadow Matters

Welcome to the newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

Week 8 Term 2 - Monday 13th June, 2016

What Else Can We squeeze Into Our FMDS Days and Weeks?

Sorry there was no newsletter last week but with Stage 1 Excursion on Monday and Stage 3 off to Canberra for three days from Wednesday to Friday, Week 7 too quickly disappeared. And this week started on Tuesday after we all enjoyed the unseasonal warm weather over the long weekend.

Tuesday saw Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 sing all day at the cluster rehearsal at Balgownie Public School for our choral festival. Today, Wednesday we all enjoyed fine weather again at Beaton Park with our athletics carnival. Congratulations to all our students who tried so hard on the track, in the field events and novelty events whether winners or behind the winners. Well done to all the staff who also enjoyed a very full non-stop day with no breaks from their events.

A huge thankyou to Mr Dill, Mr Napper and Mrs Whalan who organised the Junior and Senior Carnival. Thankyou also to our UOW PEX Students, students from Illawarra Sports High School, care of one of our mums who also teaches at ISHS and the many parents and family members who came along to cheer and support the children. Over coming days in the final weeks of Term 2 there are more sport days, more debating, a Science Day for Stage 1, UNSW Academic Tests, Keira High School coaching Kinder, PBL Reward Extra Play and in Week 10 the teachers and staff take time to assess consistency of student work and plan for Term 3.

P&C Meeting Report

At this week's P&C Meeting in my Principal's Report I highlighted that in the past 29 days since the last P&C Meeting, our students have participated in 48 activities, events or programs while the staff have been involved in 39 activities over the same 29 days, making a grand total of 87 events over only 29 days at school. It is little wonder that the days just disappear far too quickly and so students and staff are starting to get a little tired, maybe !! It is a fine balance that we seek but maybe FMDS is doing too much ????

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.

Cross Country Report

7 students represented FMDS at the Regional cross Country Championships at Nowra. All did a fantastic job and completed a very challenging course to the best of their ability. Students who represented FMDS were: Blake H, Lochy N, Maksim N, Abby L, Chloe DM, Abby W and Jack DB. Special mention to Jack who came 9th out of 76 runners. Well done everyone.

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What's happening @ FMDS?

Term 2

Week 8

- 13 Queen's Birthday Holiday
- 14 Cluster Choir Rehearsal
K-2 Assembly, 2.15
UOW First Year PEX begins
- 15 FMDS Athletics Carnival – Beaton Park
- 16 Woodwork Group
UNSW Writing Test
UNSW Spelling Test
- 17 K-2 Tennis – COLA

Week 9

- 23 Wollongong Eisteddfod Support Classes
Debating Mount Ousley P.S. 8.50 – 12.00
Woodwork Group
- 24 K-2 Tennis – COLA
Keira H.S. Yr. 11 Sport Coach Kinder, 2.15
Stage 1 Science Day

Week 10

- 27 Consistent Teacher Judgement and Planning
Week for Teachers & Staff
Senior Assembly, 1.20 pm
- 28 K-2 Assembly, 2.15
PBL Reward Extra Play ES1 - Stage 1, K-2
- 29 PBL Reward Extra Play Stage 2, Years 3 & 4
- 30 PBL Reward Extra Play Stage 3, Years 5 & 6
PBL Prize Draw

July

- 1 Last day of Term 2
- 19 **Tuesday** - First Day Term 3
All children K-6 return to school

PBL

Positive Parenting Strategies

Do you struggle at times to create a balance between your career, managing your household, community and social responsibilities, and raising your children? It is a difficult balance for many working parents and is a common source of stress for both mum, dad, and of course the children!

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:

Create effective family rules

- ▶ Rules hold a family together. They create a foundation for learning, taking responsibility and developing mutual respect.
- ▶ When creating rules, create them from a positive perspective (for example, using your quiet voice in the house!)
- ▶ Have as few rules as possible.
- ▶ Take the time to educate your children about the rules and ask them to reflect the rules back to you using their own words.

Kindergarten Transition Questionnaire

This week all current 2016 Kindergarten parents and carers will receive a very important questionnaire regarding their thoughts and experiences with their 2015 Kinder Transition to FMDS. This feedback is so important as we begin to plan now to make 2016 Kindergarten Transition the best it can be for our new Kinders and new families. I urge all Kinder parents to complete the simple questionnaire with both positive and maybe not so positive reflections, otherwise we will never know how to make this important transition to big school even better. Please return your response to your Kinder teacher ASAP.

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.

Athletics Carnival



Senior Girls

PEX Helpers at Athletics Carnival

