



Meadow Matters

Welcome to the newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

Week 9 Term 2 - Monday 20th June, 2016

Principal's Quote for the Week

"Life is like a game of chess – to win you have to make move."

Good Luck to Our AFL Players and Our Soccer Girls at PSSA Knockout

Our AFL team and Soccer Girls will be competing in the PSSA State Knockout Competition. We wish our teams well and know they will do FMDS proud.

Debating, Support Classes Eisteddfod, Keira H.S. visit, Stage 1 Science Day

This week our students K-6 will not only be competing on the sports field but on the stage, debating floor and science spaces. Well done everyone. We also wish our caring and very dedicated KM Mrs Mathers (and naturally Mr Mathers) a wonderful honeymoon and look forward to her return.

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

Next week being our last week of term our students will enjoy their PBL Reward which will be extra play over Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

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:

Encourage communication

- ▶ Demonstrate interest in your child's life and experiences. Talk about school and other interesting daily events. It is in these discussions that your children will learn valuable lessons, and share themselves with you.
- ▶ Encourage children to talk to you about things that are important to them.
- ▶ Use active listening behaviours (face them and use eye contact) and reflect to them what you hear them saying.
- ▶ When there is an opportunity to teach values to a child in a meaningful way take advantage of that.
- ▶ Schedule regular family meetings and encourage group discussion wherever possible.

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What's happening @ FMDS?

Term 2

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

Term 3

- 19 **Tuesday** - First Day Term 3
All children K-6 return to school

Week 10 Consistent Teacher Judgement and Planning Week for Teachers

Next week being the last week of the term all teachers will have a day to sit down with their stage colleagues to review their lesson programming and consistency of assessment (judgement) as well as plan for Term 3. This day of professional conversations is so important for teachers within each stage (ie. Early Stage 1: Kinder; Stage 1: Yr1 & Yr2; Stage 2: Yr3 & Yr 4; Stage 3: Yr5 & Yr6) to have an opportunity over a whole day to discuss and share their teaching. For consistency and stability, a number of our most familiar and popular casual teachers will be on class to replace our teachers on their planning days.

Kindergarten Transition Questionnaire

Last week all current 2016 Kindergarten parents and carers were given 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 this week.

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.

FMDS Clothing Pool News

We are very happy to announce we are getting hoodies. These will be replacing our existing school jumper and we will let you know as soon as they are in.

On a sad note, due to supplier issues we are currently running very low on most sizes of Dry and Cosy's and we hope supplies will be delivered for Term 3.

We are also stocking a slightly different sports jacket as our suppliers are no longer making our school colours. We are currently out of size 10 and 12 and are very low on size 8 and 14. Unfortunately there are supplier delays in these jackets too and we have been told it could take up to 12 weeks for delivery.

The P&C has been trying to absorb the costs of our uniforms and prices on most items have remained the same for nearly 5 years, however, due to more supplier price increases our Dry and Cosy's will now cost \$45.00 and the sports jackets will be \$40.00. The new hoodies will be \$30.00

Canteen News

Just a reminder to everyone that we are still looking for helpers at our BBQ and Cake Stall that we will be holding at the school on Election Day – Saturday 2nd July.

If you are able to offer your services to help on the day especially in the morning could you, please contact Jo Trotter on 0438 859 317. Any amount of time you can offer would be greatly appreciated.

We would also like people to donate baked goods, cakes, slices, biscuits etc. for the cake stall. Cakes boxes can be picked up from the canteen and are available now.

Our wonderful helpers are:

Mon 20/6		Mon 27/6	
Tue 21/6	Deb Neich	Tue 28/6	
Wed 22/6		Wed 29/6	
Thur 23/6	Simone Warburton	Thur 30/6	
Frid 24/6	Lisa Springett, Rita Stephenson	Frid 1/7	