



# Meadow Matters

Welcome to the newsletter of Fairy Meadow Demonstration School

**Week 2 Term 3 - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2016**

## Principal's Report

**"You don't always get what you wished for; you get what you worked for."**

### NAIDOC Week – Week 2

This week like every week our teachers and students will have a strong focus on the significance of our Aboriginal history and culture as part of NAIDOC Week. On Wednesday the children will also experience the talents and important messages of a visiting Aboriginal performer. I ask parents and children to share the importance of this week and Aboriginal Australia.

### Education Week – Week 3

Education Week this year will be celebrated with a busy week as always at FMDS. On the Monday night we will all be so proud of our students as they perform at the Wollongong Choral Festival. On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday our school PBL and Wellbeing focus will be supported by an amazing program for all students K-6, Explore, Discover, Act. Our Aboriginal students will also be busy at Southern Stars rehearsal and the staff are also busy learning after school on Wednesday from 3.30 – 7.00 pm as part of our professional learning. On Thursday we invite parents, grandparents and families to share lunch with the children while listening to our choirs sing and then off to the classrooms to see some of our students' marvellous work and beautiful classrooms. Come and enjoy !!!!!!!

### Kinder Transition 2017

One of our most important events this term is our new look 2017 Kinder Transition and Orientation Program led by our Relieving Assistant Principals P-2 for the remainder of 2016, Mrs Toll and Mrs Alexander. Mrs Toll along with her wonderful Kinder team, Mrs Mathers and Miss Scerrie have an amazing 2017 Kinder Transition planned for Term 3 and 4. Our pre-schoolers and families will be so excited, confident and comfortable about coming to big school at FMDS. Our first Kinder 2017 Parent Information Evening is on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup>. August at 7.00pm.

### Student Attendance at School

A timely reminder to start Term 3, is that student attendance at school is not only compulsory but ensures a child's education and life-long learning. A child with numerous unexplained absences will not learn as they should and will quickly lag behind their fellow students. This will add to their learning difficulties and will do little to make them feel happy at school. If your child is sick, keep them at home, then phone the school, use Skoolbag or send a note to school the next day before one forgets. It can't be any simpler than this. If your child is not sick, they must attend school.

Phone: 4284 2009

Email: [fairymeado-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fairymeado-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au)

## What's happening @ FMDS?

### **Week 2**

- 25 Stage 3 Yr. 5&6 Gymsports 9.00-1.45  
SurfSense Wollongong Lifeguards, Yr.2,4,6
- 26 Debating FMDS 9.00 – 11.00  
Assembly K-2 2.15-3.00
- 27 Aboriginal Performance
- 28 University of Wollongong 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr. Students  
(Every Thursday)
- 29 District Athletics

### **August**

### **Week 3 Education Week**

- 1 Choral Festival FMDS Day & Night  
Explore/Discover/Act Kinder 9.00-11.00
- 2 Explore/Discover/Act Stage 3 Yr.5&6 All Day  
Southern Stars Aboriginal Performers
- 3 Explore/Discover/Stage 1 Yr.1&2 11.45-1.45  
Staff Development In Lieu 3.30-7.00
- 4 UOW 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Students 9.00-1.45  
Education Week Lunch, Choir, Open  
Classrooms 1.45-3.00
- 5 Explore/Discover/Act Stage 2 Yr.3&4 9 -1.45

### **Week 4**

- 8 Stage 3 Yr. 5&6 Gymsports 9.00-1.45  
Assembly 3-6 2.15-3.00
- 9 Southern Stars Rehearsal  
Assembly K-2 2.15-3.00  
Kinder 2017 Information Evening, 7.00 pm.
- 10 Pre-School Photos  
P&C Meeting, 7.00
- 11 Stage 2 Yr. 3&4 Spelling Bee
- 12 Kinder Orientation Session 1 9.10-10.30  
Stage 3 Yr. 5&6 Spelling Bee

### **Week 5**

- 15 Stage 3 Yr. 5&6 Gymsports 9.00-1.45
- 16 Kinder Excursion Botanical Gardens
- 17 Assembly Whole School K-6 2.15-3.00
- 18 Athletes Foot Shoe Laces Program 9.00
- 19 Yr. 5 STEM Science Day Keira H.S.

### **Week 6**

- 22 Stage 3 Yr. 5&6 Gymsports 9.00-1.45  
Assembly 3-6 2.15-3.00
- 23 Kinder Orientation Session 2 9.10-10.30  
Assembly K-2 2.15-3.00
- 24 Southern Stars  
Stage 1 Yr. 1 & 2, K-4W Killalea Excursion
- 25 Southern Stars
- 26 Southern Stars

Delivering excellence, success

### **Many Visitors to FMDS**

Every day for the remainder of 2016 FMDS will be a training school for not only our wonderful children, but every Principal and Office Staff from all Wollongong Schools for the new finance system being implemented by NSW Public Schools. I have impressed upon our students to show their best FMDS manners and to introduce themselves and welcome our guests to FMDS should the occasion present itself. I have also told the students to keep our school looking great and free of rubbish so all our guests will leave FMDS with very positive memories and wish their school was as good as FMDS. This week we also welcome not only 240 UOW Teaching Students to FMDS but also Miss Sally and Mr Arthur, two students from the University of Hong Kong. The staff of FMDS have designed a new program in partnership with the UOW Education Faculty called EMPATH which serves to build upon the professional knowledge and expertise of our teachers and compliment the UOW PEX and DEM Programs.

### **PBL – Full School Uniform**

To start Term 3 in the cooler months, I remind all students and parents of the need to wear our full school uniform from black school shoes to our very impressive warm FMDS jackets. Our students look so good in their full school uniform, especially with our new trendie hoodies which have arrived this week. Only \$30, thick, fleecy and warm. Can't wait to get mine !!

### **Good Luck Sharnee B at State Netball**

Just like Caleb T success recently at State Swimming, we all wish Sharnee good luck at the State Netball Championships this week. We all know Sharnee will do her best and make everyone proud.

### **LMBR Letter to Parents**

This week all parents from Pre-School to Year 6 will receive a letter and on Skoolbag explaining important information about the new finance system implemented by NSW Public Schools. The new system has implications for parents and school payments.

### **Thankyou P&C and Thankyou Jo Trotter**

Our hardworking P&C recently allocated \$15,000 to start our Sensory Garden at the front of the school. School funds also contributed \$11,000 to make Stage 1 of \$26,000. Last week Jo Trotter our P&C President worked hard to finalise a submission to Ryan Park MP as part of the NSW Government's Community Enhancement Program. Please have a look at the photo below to see how the overgrown, leafy, branches, twigs, weeds will be transformed into something wonderful for our students.

### **Swimming Scheme Term 3**

I remind parents to consider their child from Yr. 2-6 participating in the upcoming Swim Scheme program designed for children who are not strong swimmers and need improved water confidence and safety. Full payment of \$80 (includes bus and pool fees) must be made by Friday of Week 9, 16<sup>th</sup>. September. Parents paying by instalment need to start making instalments now.

### **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.



**Visiting Hong Kong Students**

Phone: 4284 2009

Email: [fairymeado-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fairymeado-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au)

### **Sensory Garden - Stage 1**



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