

Forest Crescent News

Newsletter No. 3 1 March 2024

Primary School 9232 3550

www.forestcrescentps.com

In Learning We Grow

IMPORTANT DATES!

Mon	4 Mar	Public Holiday—Labour Day
Tues	5 Mar	PP Yogazeit YR 6 Kelmscott SHS talk 9am
Wed	6 Mar	YR 6 ASIT Workshop YR 3 Yogazeit
Thurs	7 Mar	Sculpture By The Sea—TAGS Art Senior Assembly RM 18 & Citizen of the Month YR 5 Yogazeit
Fri	8 Mar	YR 4 Zero to Hero YR 5 ASIT Workshop
Mon	11 Mar	K1A & 2A Incursion
Tues	12 Mar	YR 2 Strength Hero's YR 2 Yogazeit
Wed	13 Mar	YR 6 ASIT Workshop P&C AGM 7pm NAPLAN YR 1 Wellbeing Incursion
Thurs	14 Mar	NAPLAN K1B&2B Health Incursion YR 6 Dental Screening 11am
Fri	15 Mar	NAPLAN YR 4 Zero to Hero

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Greetings to parents, students, staff and community members, welcome to this edition of the FCPS Newsletter. I trust that the beginning of the school year has been as smooth for you as it has for us! I also hope that you can spend some quality family time this long weekend enjoying the mild weather as we head towards Autumn.

Safety House: The Safety House Program WA is a local community program that:

- Provides a safe place for children
- Provides children with the skills and confidence to feel safe
- Provides a network of safe places for children within the community.

The Safety House Association WA was set up in October 1983 and is an incorporated Association with support and cooperation from the Department of Education and the WA Police. Thanks to the P&C and Abby Albert, we have reinvigorated our Safety House Program across our school community. Through Abby's leadership we currently have 8 Safety Houses with the distinctive Ima logo displayed on their letterbox. This week all classrooms were provided with a map outlining where the Safety Houses are and how we use a safety house. Teachers will regularly reinforce the safety house message and update the map as required. A map of our current safety houses is attached to this newsletter. Should you wish to know more about the Safety House program you can find it on their website <u>www.safetyhousewa.org.au</u> Thank you to members of the community who have volunteered their residence as a Safety House, providing our students with a safe place to stop should they be concerned.

Harmony Week: Harmony Day is celebrated annually on March 21st in Australia. Harmony Day began in 1999, coinciding with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Each year, it is marked by people coming together and participating in local activities. During Week 8 we celebrate National Harmony Week, culminating in our Harmony Day Assembly on Thursday 21 March commencing at 2.00 pm. On Harmony Day students can wear their National Costume or come dressed in orange, as a symbol of Harmony Day. This is not a Free Dress Day and only National Costume or orange should be worn. All other students in school uniform as usual. We are finalising international food trucks for lunch and will provide more information on choices later. Students will be able to purchase from these food trucks and parents are welcome to come and have lunch with their children (signing in at your child's classroom) from 1.05 - 1.45 pm. Thank you to Mrs Rodricks for coordinating our Harmony Day activities, with Ms Britten and Ms Auld teaching the whole school song. The assembly will be held on the grass guadrangle adjacent to the undercover area from 2.00 pm - 2.50 pm. We educate students from many cultures, students with differing abilities, backgrounds and from various linguistic personal circumstances and family combinations. I look forward to participating in Harmony Day.

Leaders Day: Last Monday I spent the day getting to know our 18 school leaders, 10 Student Councillors and 8 Faction Captains, as they participated in a variety of Team Building activities at Bickley Recreation Camp. They participated in Crate Climb, Raft Building and other team orientated tasks. I would like to congratulate them on working so well together as a team, and learning about their strengths and weaknesses as a group.





I am sure that the Student Councillors and Faction Captains will work hard this year to ensure that their leadership tasks are carried out to a high standard. Thanks to Miss Sandhu who coordinated the day of activities and who works with the School Councillors throughout the year, providing them with many opportunities to develop their leadership skills.

EAL/D Parent Meeting: Thank you to Mrs Rankine and Mrs Whitney who coordinated our new families EAL/D parent information meeting last Friday. It was great to see so many families in attendance to find out a bit more about the teaching and learning program at Forest Crescent. With approximately 175 students coming from a background other than English, representing around 55 different cultures, it is important that parents and students feel supported throughout their educational journey. I would like to thank all parents who attended, and hopefully found the information session informative. Our next EAL/D meeting will be organised to meet our primary school parents.

School Board: The School Board met for the first time on Wednesday 21 February. The Board is formed in accordance with the Education Act with the fundamental purpose of enabling parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of students and will enhance the education provided by the school.

4a. FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

- The functions of the Board will be as permitted by the Act and the Regulations.
- The functions of the Board are:
- (a) to make recommendations on the following -
- establishing, and reviewing from time to time, the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
- the planning of financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions;
- (iii) evaluating the school's performance in achieving them; and
- (iv) formulating codes of conduct for students at the school.
- (b) To promote the school in the community.
- (c) To determine, in consultation with students, their parents and staff of the school, a dress code for students when they are attending or representing the school.
- (d) To provide advice to the Principal on:
- (i) any general policy concerning the use in school activities of prayers, songs and materials based on religious, spiritual or moral values
- (ii) the implementation of special religious education.
- (e) To approve:
- (i) any charge or contribution.
- the costs to be paid for participation in an extra cost optional component of the school's educational programme.
- (iii) the items that are to be supplied to a student for the student's personal use in the school's educational programme.
- (iv) any agreement or arrangement for advertising or sponsorship entered into by the principal
- (f) With the approval of the Minister or Director General, as the Minister's delegate, to: take part in the selection of, but not the appointment of, the school principal or any other member of the teaching staff under section 129(2) of the School Education Act.
- 4b. The Board cannot:
- i) intervene in the control or management of the school;
- ii) intervene in the educational instruction of students;
- iii) exercise authority over teaching staff or other persons employed at the school; and
- iv) intervene in the management or operation of a school fund.

Parking: I continue to see motorists who continually ignore the parking signs around our school. This causes a major concern for the safety of our students during pick up and drop off times. The issue of parking and traffic congestion around school, especially at pick up time continues to be a big problem for our school. The reality is that there will never be enough parking for everyone, so we depend heavily upon parents "doing the right thing". If you can walk from home, that would be even better. The two major problem areas at present are the kindergarten car park, and the Year 1 car park, with cars ignoring the no parking signs, or double parking down Redheart Drive creating a dangerous situation for oncoming traffic and our students. I have witnessed several near misses, with students crossing the car parks and getting into cars in the middle of the road! As I have spoken to many motorists, there is a simple solution if we are willing to wait between 3-5 minutes after the siren to pick up our kids. If there is no available legal parking in these areas, cars should single park behind the last car on Redheart Drive. Once the siren has sounded, if you wait between 3-5 minutes the first round of cars leave, and there is ample parking to pull in to pick up your child safely by pulling into the vacant car bays.

I would also request that parents <u>do not use</u> the Staff Car Park at the front of the school as this causes further safety issues for our students. The City of Gosnells Rangers are now ready to issue parking infringements when they see cars parked illegally. Please note the following information which is re-printed from the City of Gosnells "Safety Around Schools" brochure:

School zones: 40km/hr school zones are in place around every school in the City of Gosnells. School zones operate from 7.30am to 9am and 2.30pm to 4pm. Children warning signs and 40km/hr school zone speed signs are the responsibility of Main Roads WA.

Continuous yellow line markings: You cannot stop or park anywhere along a single yellow line painted on the edge of the road. This restriction is in place 24 hours a day and attracts a \$100 penalty. The City will use yellow lines instead of signage where placement of signs may be difficult, pose a hazard or affect the amenity of an area.

Kiss and Drive: Kiss and Drive zones typically allow parents to pick up and drop off children adjacent to the main school entrance. Kiss your child, say goodbye, allow them out and drive away as soon as possible. When using the designated Kiss and Drive zone around schools, never leave your car unattended.





Our Library is an inviting, colourful and resourceful area of the school. We house many resources to stimulate and encourage reading for pleasure.

All children from Pre-Primary to Year 6 <u>need a</u> <u>library bag</u> for borrowing. This protects the books on the way to and from home. A durable, waterproof bag is ideal. Plastic shopping bags, paper bags or homework folders are not suitable.

Books are borrowed for one week at a time and may be renewed if needed for a longer time. To do this, the books must be returned to the library on the due date during their weekly Library session.

If books are lost or damaged beyond repair, parents are asked to replace or pay for the book. Please do not try to repair books at home, tapes and glue contains acids and often cause more damage.

Parents we would greatly appreciate it if you could ensure that books are looked after while at home. Please remind your children to bring their books back on Library day.

Thanks for your assistance, very much appreciated.

Mrs Lambert







Do you enjoy driving and want to help your local community? Become a volunteer driver and add a new dimension to your life!

Addie Mills Centre is urgently looking for volunteer drivers to provide transport to and from the centre, so our senior 55+ residents can live healthy and independent lives, enjoying our programs and interacting with fellow community members.

If you hold an MR Licence and are available Monday to Friday from 8am to 12.30pm (2.30pm on Thursdays), the City would love to hear from you.

More information?

For information regarding this exciting volunteer opportunity please contact the e-Volunteer Hub: **Phone**: 9397 3000 **Email**: council@gosnells.wa.gov.au

