

NEWSLETTER

Friday 31st July 2020



Important Dates to Remember

Wednesday 12th August
Curriculum day
(No on site or online learning)

Parent Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 12th August

2021 Foundation Information
Session
Wednesday 12th August 5pm

Last day of Term 3
Friday 18th September

Bank Details

Commonwealth Bank
Footscray Primary School
BSB: 063 132

Account: 10090179

Please include a reference with
the student(s)' name.

EFTPOS available at the office



Hello families,

Whilst a return to remote learning was not what we had hoped for Term 3, the community, students and staff have embraced it with a positive attitude and open mind. In situations such as these, we all have diverse views on what remote learning should look like. I have posted an online survey link on compass today to seek your feedback. We value your input and ask that it is delivered respectfully, in the same way you would deliver feedback in person.

2021 Enrolments

As you would have seen in our compass post yesterday, the language for our bilingual program will be Italian. For further information, the compass post is included later in this newsletter. If you have a child who will be attending FPS Foundation in 2021, please contact the office or download the enrolment forms from our website as soon as possible if you haven't completed the enrolment paperwork as yet. Planning for 2021 begins now and recruitment of our Italian Bilingual teachers will also start soon. Finalising enrolments helps us to determine how many classes we will have, and therefore, how many teachers we need. We haven't finalised our transition program for incoming Foundation students due to COVID restrictions. We will likely commence transition in Term 4.

FPS Annual Implementation Plan Check-in

Professional Learning Focus

We have redirected our staff professional learning to focus on High Impact Teaching Strategies in the context of remote learning using peer observations to evaluate and improve our professional practice. Sally has launched the process for building our Mathematics Curriculum with the whole staff and

will continue this work across the term.
T. 03 9687 1910 E. footscray.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.footscrayps.vic.edu.au

LEARNING FOR LIVING

Footscray Learning Precinct (FLP)

Whilst it has been challenging to collaborate across the precinct due to COVID, there is still much work happening behind the scenes. Each school (Footscray PS, Footscray City PS, and Footscray High) has appointed a STEAM leader to create a team of designated leaders who will build their knowledge, skills and expertise and align their learning to suit the needs of each school. Caroline Donovan is our designated STEAM leader and she has already met with the team and fully embraced the role. I am excited to see this work evolve across the year and into 2021.

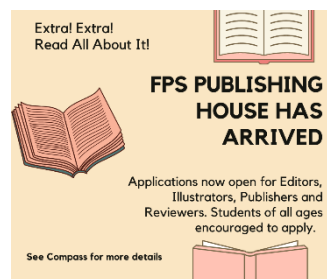
Parents as Partners

Remote learning continues to highlight the strength of our families and their ongoing dedication to education and to our school community. We acknowledge the additional pressures put on each of you during remote learning and do hope you are reaching out if you need support. Despite the challenges, our community continue to offer enthusiasm and support and are finding many innovative ways to contribute to the school. We are at various stages of implementation with a number of new initiatives that have come from community suggestions. You will learn more about each one as they launch across the year. These include:

- A community run buy, swap, sell FB page for FPS uniform (Thanks Cat, Ruth, Meg, Jane and Rebecca)
- A mural to fill the library wall with literary inspiration (Thanks Francine and Wendy)
- Community Pantry will be ongoing once restrictions ease
- Garden Club – Rachel has worked with Caroline to have the garden club rotate weekly through classes to help children learn about how our garden grows ☺
- Student social events – Class Parent Reps have been busy organising virtual social gatherings for the kids to stay connected – thanks reps!
- Historical Artefacts – Meredith is busy with the big, ongoing job of organising all the historical documents and artefacts we discovered in the shipping container.

FPS Publishing House

I am thrilled to have this piece of work coming to life. Please remind your children, if they are interested, that applications for editors, illustrators, reviewers and publishers are due to classroom teachers by Friday, August 7, 2020.



Save the Date - FPS Lock Down Trivia!

Let's (virtually) come together with some fun family-friendly online trivia Saturday 15 August, from 6pm

Entry is free, you'll just need the following: a laptop/device to log in to a Microsoft Teams meeting, AND an additional smart phone/device to log your answers... and your quiz whiz genius of course!

Log in details and instructions will follow. Hope to see you all there!
www.footscrayps.vic.edu.au

LEARNING FOR LIVING

As we've not been able to hold our cake stalls to raise funds for All Aboard we will be seeking donations on the night if you're in a position to contribute. All Aboard aims to ensure that every FPS student can be involved in excursions, camps and all facets of school life regardless of their financial background.

Parent Teacher Conferences – Wednesday 12th August.

Parent – teacher conferences will take place on Wednesday, August 12th. This will be an opportunity for you to check in with your child's classroom teacher about their Semester One report and to discuss any questions you have about their learning.

The conferences will take place via WebEx. This will be a student-free day, so there will be no WebEx morning meetings, student conferences or video lesson launches scheduled for the day. There will be also be no provision of on-site learning for the day. TheirCare will be available for bookings and will communicate their availability with interested families.

Bookings for the conferences will open up next week via Compass, more information to follow.



Update on FPS Language Learning from 2021

July 30, 2020

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www.footscrayps.vic.edu.au

LEARNING FOR LIVING

Last night, the FPS School Council met to decide on the target language for our bilingual program. We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the Language Subcommittee for their extensive research and the time they each committed to this work.

The information collated by the subcommittee included;

- Community survey data (Incoming families & Current families)
- Staff survey data
- Feedback from other Designated Bilingual Program schools
- Information provided by Kylie Farmer, a Language Education Consultant with extensive practical and theoretical knowledge of bilingual education
- Considerations relating to other areas such as staffing, pedagogy (teaching approaches), potential pathways and partnerships.

We are pleased to share the news with you that from 2021, we will be delivering an Italian Bilingual program at Footscray Primary School for all incoming Foundation students. We will review the possible inclusion of current Foundation students in the coming weeks.

This decision was made after much discussion and deliberation of the research and data, with the focus being on what we thought would be best for our students into the future Including:

- Significant community and staff support
- Alignment with IB teaching methods already embedded across the school
- Transition to secondary school language program at Footscray High School
- Support for Latin based language
- Considered to be a relatively easy language to learn
- Possible partnerships and support from Brunswick South Primary School which also provides an Italian bilingual program.

Whilst we join together to celebrate the adoption of Italian as the new Bilingual program from the start of the 2021 school year, we also wish to acknowledge the disappointment that this may bring to some members of our community, particularly those members of our community who are so passionate about learning Vietnamese. Please be assured that we will continue to embrace the Vietnamese language, its rich culture, history and traditions through the development and design of a highly innovative languages program. This program will be underpinned by parallel lines of language learning and deepening cultural understanding as we partner with organisations beyond the school.

If you would like to be involved in any future working parties to develop and strengthen the Italian and Vietnamese Language programs at FPS, please contact Jen Briggs on jenny.briggs@education.vic.gov.au.

We would like to thank our school community for the manner in which you have all engaged in this process, especially to those of you who sent through questions and suggestions, attended the community meeting, participated in the online survey and of course a special thanks again goes to the languages sub-committee, without all of their hard work, this decision would have been so much harder.

Raylene Varone
School Council President

Jen Briggs
Principal

August and September 2020

Parenting in Maribyrnong



Starting Solids

Wednesday 5 August, 1-2pm

Thursday 20 August, 2-3pm

Wednesday 2 September, 2-3pm

Thursday 17 September, 2-3pm

Learn how to introduce your baby to solid foods. All your questions answered in a friendly and informative online session facilitated by a Maternal and Child Health nurse. Ideal for parents with babies 5-7 months.

Bookings: 9688 0501 or via bookmch@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Baby Makes 3

12, 19 and 26 August, 6.30-8pm

8, 15, 22 September, 6.30pm-8pm

This program provides an opportunity for parents to talk about the changes since becoming parent, and what it means for your family. Parents are invited to attend this 3 session online workshop which will be facilitated by Baby Makes 3 trained facilitators.

Bookings: 9688 0501 or via bookmch@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Raising Multilingual Children

Friday 21 August, 10-11am

A free online seminar for parents, carers of children 0-12 years.

Professor John Hajek from Melbourne University will talk about the importance of speaking to your child in your first language. He will also share practical tips and strategies to promote the use of first language with your child.

Bookings: raisingmultilingualchildren.eventbrite.com.au

Further information: 9688 0138 or infoearlyyears@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



Suggestions for future sessions

We welcome your ideas for future Parenting in Maribyrnong sessions.

Please email: infoearlyyears@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



Play and Creativity

Wednesday 9 September, 7-8pm

A free online workshop with lots of tips and ideas for creative play for children aged 0-5 years. Presented by play specialist Cat Sewell, the session will showcase how play and creativity helps your child's development, learning and wellbeing.

Bookings: creativityandplay.eventbrite.com.au

Further information: 9688 0138 or infoearlyyears@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Useful contacts

Maternal and Child Health

9688 0501 or

BookMCH@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

Immunisation

Call 9688 0501 or 9688 0145 to make an appointment

Register for long day childcare and kindergarten

Call 9688 0116 or visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/crs

Playgroups

Interested in joining a playgroup? playgroups@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au