

NEWSLETTER

Friday 15th May 2020



Important Dates

Monday 24th May
Curriculum Day-Student free day

Monday 8th June
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Wednesday 10th June
Foundation Information Session
(via a digital platform)

Last day of term 2
Friday 26th June

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.



Staged Return to School

We are looking forward to welcoming our staff and students back to school and feel grateful that it has been declared safe to do so. Additional cleaning will continue to be provided throughout the day and hand sanitiser will be available. We will follow DET advice to ensure up to date health and safety protocols are followed. We will release more information closer to the return date regarding entry and exit procedures and any changes to routines.

Foundation to Year 2 students return Tuesday, May 26.

Year 3-6 students return Tuesday, June 9.

In the two-week period between May 26 and June 9, the current criteria and processes for accessing on-site schooling will continue to apply. Please see the recent compass post for further information.

As per DET advice, 'once a year level has returned, all students will be expected to attend school as normal. This means if you choose to keep your child/ren home after their year level has returned to on-site schooling, we can no longer support their learning at home. This does not apply to children who need to be absent for health or medical reasons. For those families, please contact us so we can make an appropriate plan.'

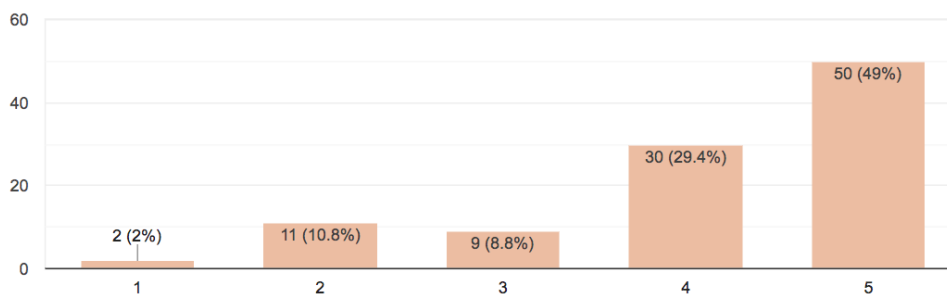
Remote Learning

Thank you for taking the time to complete our feedback survey on remote learning. This week in our professional learning, teams took time to analyse their year level data using a 'I notice, I wonder' protocol to identify trends and patterns. Each team created an action plan of small changes they could make immediately and things they could work towards.

We have also read through each and every comment and appreciate all of the messages of support, and equally appreciate the frustrations and disappointment expressed by some. As you can imagine, remote learning has been a vastly different experience for each family, and indeed each child and adult. Overall, it was affirming to see a majority of the respondents were feeling satisfied with the way we transitioned to remote learning.

How satisfied are you with the way FPS has managed the transition to remote learning?

102 responses



School Improvements

Climate Control in the Greenwood - When I arrived at FPS, I heard from many staff, families and students that we needed air conditioning in the Greenwood building. There were a number of occasions in early Term 1 where we had to relocate the classes due to extreme heat. I am pleased to share that we will be installing air conditioners in 3 of the 4 classrooms in the coming weeks. We hope to fundraise a further \$4000 to install the final unit in the fourth classroom in the future.

Water Damage in the Edwardian - Throughout the year, we have become aware of regular leaks in the Edwardian building. In recent weeks I made a report to the Department's 'Make Safe Program' and have been incredibly impressed at the prompt response with a range of trades people on site the day of the report. Over the next weeks, we will have a range of works done including repairs to the roof and replacement of the carpet in grade 6C (Luke's room).

iPad Protection - Thanks to your outstanding fundraising for the colour run we have already been able to purchase 100 iPad cases to protect the iPads we already have from damage. This was particularly useful as we distributed over 70 iPads to support families during remote learning. We look forward to purchasing more iPads to fill the trolleys up to a full class size, ensuring all buildings have access to at least one class set of functional devices.



Library Design – In line with the IB philosophy that the library plays a central role in student learning, I believe the library sits in the heart of the school. We have been working closely with Mark to re-organise the library after the relocation earlier this year. A library should feel open and inviting, comfortable and calm. Thanks to your generosity and contributions to our library fund we have been able to purchase some low shelving units. This will provide ample space for book displays, allow clear line of sight so students can roam freely throughout the space, and create a bright and inviting space for our readers to chill out. We will continue to work on this space throughout the year. I can't wait to see it come to life. We always need volunteers to contact the new books coming in thanks to the read-a-thon funds so come in and see Mark if you are interested and able to help.

Reporting and Parent Teacher Interviews

The DET advice for reporting has come through this week and we are in the process of revising our report structure as a result. Due to the impact of remote schooling, teachers have been unable to deliver, differentiate and assess the full range of curriculum that would normally be enacted this semester. Assuming the rest of the year is on site, regular reporting will return in the next semester. Your child/ren will certainly receive a personalised, written report; it will just look a little different. Parent-teacher interviews will need to look different also due to social distancing and we are working on the design and dates of this over the coming week. As soon as we have confirmed details we will share these with you so you can plan accordingly.

2021 Enrolments and Tours

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our information session scheduled in April for 2021 Foundation students. I will be announcing a number of regular school tour dates shortly, where we will meet with groups of 10 or less to ensure we can follow social distancing regulations. We hope to provide a digital platform for our foundation information session scheduled for June. If you have a child enrolling in 2021, please contact the office for enrolment forms.

School Council – April Meeting

The main item of business in our April school council meeting was to review and endorse the 2019 Annual Report. The final report is now available for viewing on the school website under parent information. We will share this more formally at our public meeting later in the year. We have done our best to capture the achievements and progress of the school, however, many of us were not employed at the school or were in different roles in 2019. We are greatly looking forward to writing our next annual report when we can reflect on the strange and wonderful year that is 2020. I would also like to thank Tim Liston for volunteering to take on the role of convening the Buildings and Grounds subcommittee.

School Photo Day

Due to COVID-19 we had to change the date of our school photos, we are pleased to be able to inform you all that a new date for school photos to be taken is the Friday 30th October 2020. If you have yet to order you can still do so by going to www.schoolpix.com.au and follow the prompts, Cut off for orders will be the 4th November 2020.