



Footscray North PRIMARY SCHOOL

OUR MISSION at Footscray North Primary School is to graduate empowered students who are high achieving, socially and emotionally intelligent, globally aware and active citizens in the community.

11th September 2018

With the holidays fast approaching, it's time for another update!

Principal Appointment

Thank you to those of you who have come and congratulated me personally on my new role. I am honoured to accept the Principal position here at Footscray North Primary School. It is an absolute privilege to serve the students and families in our terrific community. I joined the community here at FNPS in 2007 as a Leading Teacher, and have had an opportunity to work with a committed staff and amazing leaders during my time here (as well as a few periods of family leave over the years). I look forward to building upon the work that has been achieved already, and continue to strengthen our commitment to future improvements.

Staffing

At the end of the term, we will farewell Samantha Kenely (Leading Teacher/Acting Assistant Principal) and Jan Thom (Business Manager). Samantha has been appointed as the Assistant Principal of Aitkin Hill Primary School, a new school opening in Craigieburn in 2019. She will join her Principal at the start of Term 4 during the planning stages in readiness to open in Term 1 2019. Jan Thom, our Business Manager, has also accepted a new position for Term 4, working alongside Davide Lombardi as the Business Manager at Burnside Primary School. We thank both of these ladies for their contributions to the FNPS community and wish both of all the best in their new roles. We currently are in the middle of a recruitment process to fill the Business Manager, Assistant Principal and Leading Teacher vacancies.

Very early next term Samantha Molloy will commence maternity leave. We wish her and her family all the very best at this exciting time. At the start of term 4, Melissa Martin will join the FNPS team allowing some days for hand over and planning with Samantha. Melissa joins the FNPS with a wealth of experience supporting students in schools, and she is looking forward to getting to know members of our school community.

2019 Planning

We continue to meet with families planning to join our school community in 2019. If you, or families you know of, are still due to enroll for 2019, at prep or other grade levels, please ask them to contact the office. If you are aware that you are not going to be returning to FNPS in 2019, informing us of this will help us with planning, as we are currently looking at options for 2019 grade structures.

2019 Prep Transition Program

Term Four sees a focus on supporting the transition of the children from pre-school settings to Prep. We have scheduled transition interviews during the first two weeks of term 4. On Thursday 15th November, and for the subsequent two Thursdays (22nd and 29th), will see the future Prep students attend a series of classroom based sessions, before finishing the year with a social get together.

Pick My Project – Voting Open!

FNPS has a submission in Pick My Project. Please follow the link to vote for our project.

<https://pickmyproject.vic.gov.au/rounds/pick-my-project/ideas/footscray-north-tree-planting-and-greening-project>

Voting can be tricky, this is what to do:

1. Follow the link in the post

2. Click the 'Add to Shortlist' button on top right
3. Choose your registration method and register
4. The project should now be added to your shortlist to vote.
5. If you are outside of Footscray area (like I was), you might have to click the 'Outside of my area' button on the project page to select Footscray as your area.
6. Check your email and mobile phone to verify your registration.

Buildings and Grounds

We anticipate the redevelopment along the northern edge of the grounds to be completed very soon, (In fact it may be re-opened by the time I send this out!). The upgrade to the windows in the hall should be completed soon, with the hall due to re-open later this week or early next week, after a thorough clean. Camp Australia will remain in the 5/6 building (BER) until the kitchen upgrade has been completed. We are currently looking for commercial builders to quote on the kitchen/canteen upgrade to finish off this project.

¾ Camp

By all reports, from both students and staff, the ¾ camp at Philip Island was a terrific destination. The days were filled with adventure based experiences and exploring the local area, with the nights including a campfire and a little bit of sleep. We thank the staff that attended camp for taking time away from their own families to ensure our students have the opportunity to participate in a camping program each year.

Father's day stall

Thank-you to the team of parents that organized and ran the Father's Day stall. It was an action packed morning and wouldn't have been possible without the energy and generosity of our parent volunteers. We trust there were some winners in the presents that children brought home.

Father's Day Afternoon Tea

Our Prep students welcomed their Dad or special person to share an afternoon at school to celebrate Father's Day. There was strong support for this event and a real buzz in the rooms for all our students and their guests.

School Concert

Ticket sales for our Annual School Concert "Thrive and Shine" will open soon. Ticket order forms will be sent home from the office shortly. All students have been working on their performance piece throughout the year and we expect all students to be in attendance on the night. Many hours of rehearsals both within the Performing Arts program and during lunchtimes have been underway, not to mention construction of props, sets and costumes. It is one of the highlights of the school year and we anticipate a terrific night.

Baby news!

Nick Antoniou is currently on parental leave after the safe arrival of his son Jarvis (a little earlier than planned), we trust that these early days are treating the family well.

Kay Willmott
Principal

Save the date!

Footy Colours Day – Friday 21st September – dress in your footy colours (gold coin donation)

Last day of Term 3 – Friday 21st September **2.30 Dismissal**

First day of term 4 – Monday 8th October

Concert – Thursday 25th October – Whole school rehearsal during the day, 7pm performance @Quinn Auditorium at Caroline Chisholm College (corner Darnley Ave and Churchill Ave, Braybrook)

Curriculum Day – Monday 5th November – no children required at school. Camp Australia will NOT be offered on this day.

Cup Day (Public Holiday – School closed) – Tuesday 6th November

Spanish Day – Wednesday 7th November

½ Sleep over – Thursday 8th-Friday 9th November

Kinder-Prep 2019 Transition sessions commence – Thursday 15th November

5/6 Camp – 19th-21st November

Fundraising – Election Day BBQ – Saturday 24th November (volunteers welcome!)

P-6 Swimming program (10 day program) Monday 3rd December – Friday 14th December

Prep 2019 BBQ – Thursday 6th December (more details to come)

Year 6 Graduation – Wednesday 19th December

Last day of term 4 – Friday 21st December **1.30 Dismissal**