



Forster Public School Newsletter



Respect

Safety

Personal Best

Term 3 Week 5

Friday 21 August 2020

CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 17 ICAS Science Competition**
- 24 ICAS English Competition**
- 28 ICAS Digital Technologies Competition**
- 31 ICAS Mathematics Competition**

SEPTEMBER

- 4 ICAS Spelling Bee Competition**
- 7 P & C Meeting**

School Canteen



**Online ordering at
quickcliq.com.au**



Principal Report – Mrs Annie Everingham

Hard to believe that we are half way through the term already!

I received some lovely postcards from Year 2 last week from The Bungles Bungles! Yes...they had a virtual excursion to this magic site and told me all about it as if they were there. It was very convincing. This week they went to Uluru! Busy little people.

We started ICAS testing this week with the Science test taking place on Monday. ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) are designed to recognise academic excellence. Students are assessed on their ability to apply classroom learning to new contexts using higher-order thinking and problem solving. ICAS is an independent, skills-based assessment program. ICAS recognises and rewards student achievement in areas such as English, Maths, Science, Spelling, Writing and Digital Technologies. This gives great insights into how students are performing compared to their peers, locally, nationally and globally.

Many of our staff commenced their training in Close Reads this week. The training is designed for all teaching staff from year 2 upwards. Please find a brief explanation below.

WHAT IS CLOSE READING?

Close reading is thoughtful, critical analysis of a text that focuses on significant details or patterns in order to develop a deep, precise understanding of the text's form, craft, meanings, etc. It is a key requirement of the Common Core State Standards and directs the reader's attention to the text itself.

Close reading includes:

- Using short passages and excerpts
- Diving right into the text with limited pre-reading activities
- Focusing on the text itself
- Rereading deliberately
- Reading with a pencil
- Noticing things that are confusing
- Discussing the text with others
 - Think-Pair Share or Turn and Talk frequently
 - Small groups and whole class
- Responding to text-dependent questions

We have started doing our planning for 2021. This involves informing the Department of our anticipated numbers for next year. If you have a Kindergarten 2021 child at home please contact the front office and place your enrolment in. This way we can include you and your child in any orientation information that may occur. At this stage we are unsure of how our Kindy Orientation will look, due to COVID restrictions but will let you know as soon as we do. If you are moving towns next year can you also let us know as soon as you are able. Thank you.

We have been advised from the Department to continue to send students who are unwell or have flu like symptoms home. We have also been asked to remind parents to keep their children home if they are unwell. Before students can return to school, after having flu like symptoms, they will be required to have a COVID-19 test. The negative results will need to be emailed to the school before the child can return. The same applies for our teaching staff.

Another change is that we cannot accept birthday food to be brought into school and shared with others on student's birthdays. An alternative suggestion could be Freddo Frogs in their wrappers or similar. Staff are also unable to have shared morning teas. Thank you for your understanding.

Have a great weekend and stay safe everyone.

**Annie Everingham
Principal**

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Head Street Forster 2428 Tel: 65556766 Email: forster-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Year 3 News

Back in June we designed, built and tested our Rube Goldberg machines. The children had so much fun and were able to adapt their designs effectively. They loved sharing their designs with the whole class. Just this week, we had fun estimating and measuring distances. To quote one student "I didn't know maths could be so much fun." Our estimating skills have improved through the activities. During English, we have read descriptive phrases and sorted facts to develop our informative writing.



This semester in Geography 3/30 are learning about our neighbouring country New Zealand. We are using our red laptop trolley to find out facts about the capital city, population, location, flag and native animals and plants. It is very interesting to look at the similarities and differences between Australia and New Zealand.

We also had a lovely session in the garden where we tasted a variety of fruits and vegetables. The students were able to identify which parts of the plant they can eat. It was a lovely sunny day sitting on the new seats outside.



Stage 2 are learning about the lifecycle of mealworms in Science. They were very excited to get two of their very own mealworms as pets to observe their changes over time. We are also learning the different parts of plants and how to classify them.



P & C NEWS

While we haven't been able to be in the school to see all those happy faces, the P & C have still been busy managing the Uniform Shop and hosting our meetings virtually.

Our online shop is being well used and we hope parents have been enjoying the convenience. Being managed by a small volunteer pool, we can't always process orders quickly, but we always try to get them done as soon as possible. We would love to get any feedback from parents on how they are finding the online shop and ways we could improve the experience.

At our last meeting we discussed the planning for our usual upcoming events. Unfortunately, we have made a decision to cancel this year's Spring Ball. We are all very sad, as everyone who was involved last year had such a great time and I'm sure we could all do with a party at the moment to celebrate our wonderful school. We have also cancelled any fundraising for the remainder of the year, as we want to be respectful of the difficult situation many families are going through.

For Father's Day this year, we will be developing another special take home pack for students to be able to make and do something for the male Hero in their life. Turner Branding kindly donated their time to develop the Mothers & Carers Day pack and will be doing the same again for Father's Day. So please keep an eye on SkoolBag for this in the coming weeks.

The P & C also has a stunning new logo. Rachael Turner, again donated her time to help us create a new identity for the P & C. The logo is an adaption of the Hadley logo, which we thought was a great way to reinforce the values of the school, celebrate our local Aboriginal community and inject a bit of colour and fun into the P & C.

Our next meeting on Monday 7 September will be our Annual General meeting. We will be sending out a nomination form soon, for anyone wanting to get involved in the P & C. We would love to get more members of the school community involved and there are many ways you could help. If you would like more information or be sent a Zoom invite to the meeting, please get in touch with us via email forsterpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Keep smiling and stay safe.

Many thanks,

Sarah Wilkinson

President



School attendance

Students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded **NOT** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home.

NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the [COVID-19 clinics](#).

Students and staff with flu like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school. This copy may be sent to the school email forster-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Schools are not required to conduct widespread temperature screening or mandate the wearing of a mask.



Anti-bullying Lessons

For the last four weeks our PBL focus has been on anti-bullying. The lessons are part of our Anti-Bullying Action Plan. This photo is of some very colourful posters Year 6 did as part of these lessons. They certainly brighten the hall and remind our students that bullying is not tolerated in our school.



**THIS WEEK'S POSITIVE
BEHAVIOUR FOR
LEARNING LESSON
(PBL)**



**Respect
Safety
Personal Best**

Learning Intention: To help students understand why it is important to be compliant and follow the class expectations and make the right choice.

Why is it important? So that students understand that school is a place to learn for all. When everyone complies and follows the instructions given it maximises the opportunities for great learning.

Specific skills to be taught: 1. Safety 2. Respect 3. Personal Best
School Rules for each value – see posters in each classroom

Success Criteria: Looks like/Sounds like:

- Listening to and following teacher instructions
- Calm voices
- Ask for help if needed and make good choices
- Stay on task
- Use your class pass when leaving the room
- Care for others and their belongings
- Follow class behaviour expectations
- Always walk in the classroom

We remind ourselves and each other to always meet our three core values of safety, respect and personal best every day. If we do the right things, we may get rewarded with Class Dojo's or Hadley awards.



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With further restrictions to music activities in schools for corona virus safety reasons coming into force this week we have needed to quickly adapt how the band programme operates.

All singing, chanting and playing of wind instruments in groups have to stop until further notice.

Training Band rehearsals on Tuesday mornings and Concert Band rehearsals on Wednesday mornings have been cancelled.

Instrument lessons will continue however. We have changed the tutoring timetable so everyone has an individual but slightly shorter lesson. Lessons will be on the same day and with the same tutor.

Tuesday: flute, keyboard, drums, percussion

Wednesday: clarinet, saxophone, trombone

Friday: trumpet

All our players have been getting back into their music after the long break over Term 2 and beginning to feel pleased with their progress. Please encourage your child to keep practising on their instrument at home. The more we practise on an instrument, the easier it is to play it.

And please remind your child to keep their instrument clean and the cleaning materials regularly washed and clean.

Keep humming cheerfully (since singing and whistling are not allowed) and we will get through this testing time.

Elizabeth Berry

Meet Our Staff – Ms Jenny Lowe

Salutations! My name is Jenny Lowe and I'm currently taking class 1/20 whilst Miss Tyrie is on maternity leave. Originally from Sydney, my partner and I have moved up to Tallwoods Village, overlooking the ocean from Blackhead to Forster and couldn't be happier with the change of scenery. In my spare time, I enjoy exploring my local beaches with my three dogs or hitting a silly white ball around a golf course... So frustrating, yet so satisfying when you finally do rack some decent points up. Pre Covid, I loved being part of local musical societies and was just about to audition for "Mamma Mia" with Taree Arts Council! Oh well, my class will just have to put up with my acting and singing for a little bit longer.



TERM 3 School Planner

| Week/ Month | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------------|---|---------|-----------|----------|---|
| Week 6 August | 24 ICAS English Competition | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 ICAS Digital Technologies Competition |
| Week 7 Aug/Sept | 31 ICAS Mathematics Competition | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 ICAS Spelling Bee Competition |
| Week 8 September | 7 P&C Meeting 5.30pm via Zoom | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Due to the current Covid 19 situation, our school is undertaking extra precautions and higher sanitisation.

Students are not allowed to share food and drinks at school. We also ask that parents do not send cupcakes, birthday cakes or any other homemade items to share with the class. An option may be to send in individually wrapped treats such as Freddo Frogs.

We appreciate your support.

NEXT P&C MEETING

AGM



Monday 7 September

5:30pm via Zoom.

If you are interested in being a part of this meeting, please send an email and we will forward you the Zoom link.

forsterpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

Community Survey

We are currently evaluating our current school plan and looking towards the next four years. We would love for you to be part of this process. Please access the link below to complete the "Community Survey for our new School Improvement Plan 2021-2024." We appreciate your support.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=muagBYpBwUecJZOJHv5kSykyuai4ChLi07c-uu1mIUeJBNOI5N0U2MIM5UjYxSzFMMjhVR0JQRi4u>

2021 High School Enrolments

Great Lakes College would like to inform all Year 6 parents to keep an eye on the post for Year 7 enrolment packs for next year. If parents would complete the form and return to Forster Campus by Friday 21 August. If you haven't received a package yet, please contact Forster Campus on 6554 6062.

Taree Touch 2020 Junior Competition

Comp Start Date: Monday 7th Sept



Boys & Girls Under 9's, 11's & 13's Plus Development Sessions for 6-8yr olds



Have fun, be active, play Touch Football. Active Kid Vouchers Accepted

Nomination day: Monday 24th August 4-6pm Taree Rec Centre Touch Shed For more information head to our FB page Contact: Graham Goodwin 0457 826 001 or Email: tareetouch01@gmail.com

Is Your Child Coming to Kindergarten in 2021?

We are now taking enrolments. Your child must be 5 by 31 July 2021.

Enrolment packs are available at your local preschools or can be collected from the front office.



Kindergarten

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