

FORSTER PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

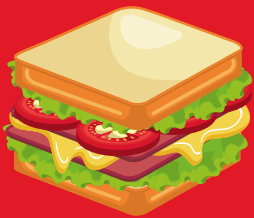


Head St, Forster 2428

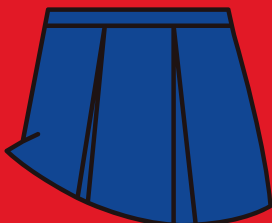
Email: forster-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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Uniform orders at
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DATES TO REMEMBER

18 May
Netball Knock-out

23 May
Boys/Girls Soccer

27 May
Zone Cross Country

2 June
Athletics Carnival

13 June
Queens B'day
Public Holiday

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Mr Peter Johnson

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school for Term 2. The weather certainly has cooled off and we are looking forward to another busy term. This week sees students in Yr 3 and Yr 5 sitting the NAPLAN tests in Reading, Language Conventions, Writing and Numeracy. These tests give us great insight into our Yr3 and Yr5 cohorts as well as trend data for us to drive our school improvement. Most of the tests are being conducted online (Yr3 Writing is still on paper) meaning we should see our results earlier than in previous years.

Also driving our continuous improvement strategies are our attendance programs. We continually look at the attendance data of our students to see any issues arising due to non-attendance. Our aim is for all students to be present at school for at least 95% of the time that the school is open. Ensuring each student attends school for at least 95% is setting them up for the best chance of achieving academic success.

Late Arrivals

Sometimes students can arrive late for school for any number of reasons. Usually due to an unavoidable appointment that could not be made outside school hours. It is critical that if your child is late for school that a parent or carer come into the office to drop them off, sign them in and explain the reason for their lateness. Students who arrive late without a parent or carer are marked as absent for that time as 'absent - unexplained'. The reason for it being unexplained is that we are only able to accept reasons for absence from an adult who is responsible for that child. We also need parents or carers to accompany their child into school as a child protection issue. For the safety of all our students, accompanying them into school when they are late ensures they arrive safely at school.

Principals report cont...

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

Justifiable absences from school

Our school, following Department of Education guidelines, recognises that there are times when students need to be absent from school. Justifiable absences include - being sick or having an infectious disease, having an unavoidable medical appointment, being required to attend a recognised religious holiday or exceptional / urgent family circumstances (e.g. attending a funeral) In these cases, absences are marked as 'explained - justified' on the roll and contribute to your child's attendance rate. Absences for other reasons may be marked on the roll as 'explained - unjustified' as they fall outside the criteria for a justified absence also contributing to your child's attendance rate.

Normally our school notifies parents of a student absence via text message around 11am each morning. A response to this text message is considered the same as if a note had been sent to the class teacher explaining the absence. Absences of two or more days are usually followed up by the class teacher if we have not heard from you and can also serve as an explanation for the absences.

If your child has COVID related absences from school, a copy of the text message or email received from NSW Health is enough evidence to explain the absences.

Also remember that a good old-fashioned letter from the parent / carer to the classroom teacher upon the student's return to school explaining the absence is also fine.

Absences of three or more days need to be supported by a medical certificate.

Travel

At times, families may also decide that they wish to take their child(ren) on a holiday during school times. Travel is encouraged outside school times, however when this cannot be avoided an 'Application for Extended Leave' form must be filled in for the principal to review and consider approval. Absences due to travel, and after the extended leave form is filled in, are marked as 'absent - leave approved by the principal' on the roll and contribute to your child's attendance rate. The form can be obtained from the front office as well as from our school website. A certificate is issued by the school stating that the leave is approved by the principal and provides a reason for your child's absence from school should you be approached by police or other agencies.

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

We are currently reviewing the processes in place when dealing with student absences. We wish to work productively with families to ensure student success through regular attendance at school. Teachers, Assistant Principals, Deputy Principals and the Principal are all here to work with you to ensure satisfactory attendance for your child setting them up for the best chance to achieve success. I want to thank all of our families for working with us to ensure success for your child.

Peter Johnson - Principal (Rel)

From the Library...

We have had a great start to Term 2, with very few missed library sessions and some great borrowing by many students!

In our library programming, we are now including the Department of Education's new Information Fluency Framework, released in December, 2021. This framework supports the development of information fluency and a range of library skills for our students via valuable library team teaching experiences, and we continue to adapt our programs to best meet our student needs in this vital learning area.

Thank you for your continued support with the Scholastic Book Club, and we are expecting to see another issue arrive later this term if you missed ordering for Issue 3. Remember, you can also order Book Club online using LOOP.

We are currently processing many fabulous new books, with Bec helping out enormously with different library tasks, including covering our new arrivals. Bec also brought in two special visitors to Forster Public School Library to promote some of our donated books, as can be seen in the picture below.



Jodie Lednor
Teacher Librarian

Cross Country

After many months of rain we finally managed some sun for a few hours and completed our Cross Country!

Our juniors performed so well, starting strong and showing the rest of the school how cross country should be run!

A big congratulations to our Year 2 students that gained a placing to go to Zone level. This is a huge achievement.

Our 11's stepped up to the 3km event this year and also showed great school spirit, Liam showing that training can really pay off completing the 3km event in under 13mins!

Our seniors then kept the spirit alive and ran the course, some enjoying the walk more than others.

The Zone cross country will take place on the 27th May in Wingham, please send notes back asap to the office so we can make sure to arrange transport for all students wishing to catch the bus there and back.



Anzac Day

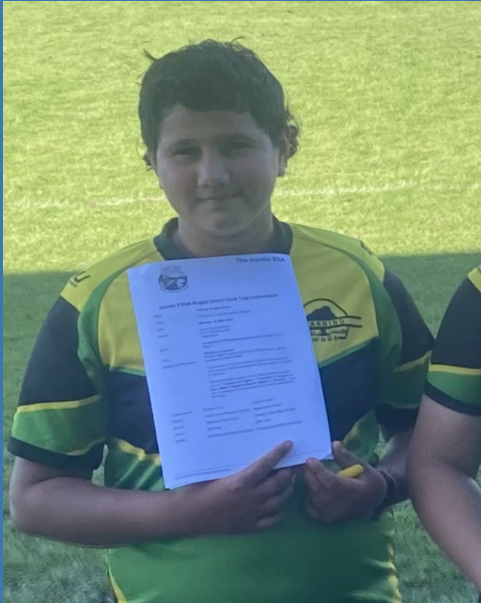
We were so pleased to see our students attending the Anzac Dawn Service and morning March. Our school leaders also attended the wreath laying ceremony on board the Forster/Tuncurry Marine Rescue boat.

Prior to the holidays, Forster Public School held a service at school and we thank Padre Darryl Moran for his address. It is always so interesting to hear the stories of the ANZAC spirit.



RUGBY UNION

Congratulations to Jae who was invited to trial with the Manning Zone Rugby Union side on Friday. Jae was chosen to play in the Possibles v Probables side at Newcastle on the 30th May. The Hunter Rugby Union team will be chosen from these teams. We wish him the best of luck!



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How to install the SkoolBag app

Instructions for parents and community

1. Get your favourite mobile device
2. Open the App Store/Play Store
3. Search for "SkoolBag"
4. Download the free app
5. Open the app and add your school(s)

for Apple users

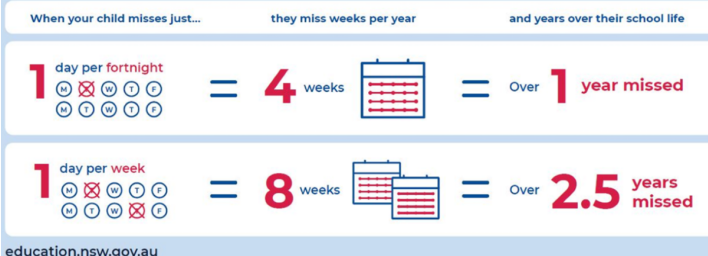


for Android users



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



education.nsw.gov.au



VISITORS ENTERING THE SCHOOL WILL NEED TO REGISTER USING THE SCHOOL VISITOR CHECK-IN CODE



Week 3 Positive Behaviour for Learning focus....

Right place, right time..

Week 4 Positive Behaviour for Learning focus....

Respectfully Eating in the Classroom at Lunch Time

HADLEY HELPERS TRAINING PROGRAM

This Term all Year 5 students and their teachers are being trained in the Hadley Helpers program.

Hadley Helpers is a Peer Support Program which means it's students helping others by supporting them in play and making friends. It's about showing responsibility, leadership, problem solving and care for others.

We have already had one session in the first week of this term and the last two sessions are Thursday 19 May and Thursday 26 May.

When the training is complete, students will self-nominate themselves if they wish to be a Hadley Helper leader. The Hadley Helper leaders spend a lunchtime in either the Kindergarten Year 1 or 2 playgrounds just once a week supporting the students with positive play. The Hadley Helpers will wear a blue vest so that the students know they can go to them if they need help.

The Hadley Helper Leaders will have the opportunity to give feedback to a teacher weekly to ensure the program is working well for all.



WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY 20 MAY 2022

Well it's that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 20 May 2022!

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au



AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Forster Public School is registered with the Australia Day Council to present two 'Aussie of the Month' awards for ten months this year. The Australia Day Council promote the values of

Fair go – not just in how we apply ourselves but also providing opportunity for all.

Mateship – generosity of spirit and compassion for those in need.

Respect – of self, others, of our community and the environment.

Inclusion – Celebrating difference, and the rights and freedoms we are all entitled to.

All students can be nominated by any staff member for active contribution to school, community and peer groups, as well as upholding our school values of Safety, Respect and Personal Best.

Congratulations to our recipients this year so far.



Maya T
Year 6



Sloane F
Year 1



Aden J
Year 6



Charlotte A
Year 6