Message from the Principal

School Council Election Results

I would like to inform our school community that our recent School Council election has been completed. As we had four parent nominations for four School Council positions, an election was not needed. I would like to congratulate the following members of our school community who have been appointed to our School Council.

The re-elected parent members are Chris Loane, Thanh Troung, Deborah Blackwell and Louise Frank.

The staff members who have been elected are Kay Willmott, Linh Nguyen and Nick Antoniou.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Di Travers, who has been on the school council for over 20 years at Footscray North Primary School. This is an incredible commitment Di has given to our school community and we thank her for her contribution.

School Council is a very important part of the school community and I thank the members of the community who take the time to be part of school council.

There is one more 12 month parent vacancy available. If you would like to be part of the school council please contact me to discuss.

Our first meeting will be held at 6.00pm on Monday 21st March in the staffroom. Office bearers will be elected at this meeting. Please remember that any member of our school community can participate in the subcommittee meetings.

Parent Information Night

It was wonderful to see so many parents attend our Meet the Teacher evenings. I know that the information that you received about your child’s education will assist you in supporting your child at home. This is the first part of our reporting to parents’ process for 2016. In Term 2, you will be receiving a written mid-year report as well as having the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher during our parent/teacher/student conferences. In Term 4, you will receive a written end-of-year report as well as having the opportunity to attend a parent/teacher/student conference. We believe that it is important to keep parents informed of their child’s progress throughout the year as well as having the opportunity to celebrate our students’ achievements at interviews in December.

Of course, if you would like to discuss your child’s progress at any other time throughout the year, please contact your child’s teacher.

Curriculum Day & Camp Australia Whole Day Program

Just to remind parents that our Term 1 Curriculum Day will be on Wednesday 9th March. On this day, staff will be involved in professional development which centres on highly effective teaching strategies. Please note that students will not be at school on this day. Our Before and After School Care provider, Camp Australia will be offering a whole day program on both of these days for students who are enrolled with them.
Prep 2017 Enrolments

We will shortly begin our enrolment process for our 2017 Preps. Our first information night for the year will be on Tuesday 19th April at 6.00 pm and our first school tour will be on Thursday 21st April at 9.30am.

Dates for all of the school tours and information nights are as follows:

**Information Evenings at 6.00 pm**
- Tuesday 19th April
- Tuesday 19th July

**Open Day**
- Wednesday 18th May 2016

**School Tours at 9.30am**
- Thursday 21st April
- Monday 2nd May
- Tuesday 31st May
- Tuesday 14th June
- Friday 22nd July

If you know of any parent whose child is due to start school next year, please let them know of the tours and that they can currently enrol their child for Preps in 2017.

Connecting to Our Community

At Footscray North PS, we know that it is very important to keep our parents informed about what is happening at school. We know that you want to be part of your child’s learning at school and to assist this, we have several ways for you to be kept up to date with school activities. You can be kept informed by:

- The school newsletter which is sent home on a Monday once a fortnight.
- Regularly checking our school website. The website can be found at [http://www.footsnth.vic.edu.au](http://www.footsnth.vic.edu.au).
- Subscribe to our newsletter so that it is sent electronically to you. You can subscribe through our website.
- Subscribe to tiqbiz through your app store or download tiqbiz on your PC or Mac at www.tiqbiz.com.au

like our Facebook page.

Essential Book List 2016

Please be advised the school Essential Book List charge for 2016 will be $180.00 per student. This charge covers all the necessary items that are used in the classroom for each year level including, writing books, pens, pencils, printing, access to the internet and mathletics. Payment for the Essential Book List will be required by **4th March 2016**. Parents may pay at the office either by cash or cheque or you may wish to use BPAY. The instructions for Bpay are on the individual Tax Invoice.

**Acting Principal**

**David Lombardi**
PREP TEAM - TERM ONE OVERVIEW 2016

The Prep team would like to welcome you and your families to our Footscray North Primary School community. At the beginning of Term One we establish classroom routines and expectations within our classroom. Students will also learn about our four school values Respect, Responsibility, Excellence and Inclusion.

LITERACY
In Literacy, the students will be immersed into poems and chants and other simple texts. They will begin to start borrowing books from the classroom library every day. Students will also consolidate their letter-sound knowledge and the syllables they can hear in a word.

Students will identify the different parts of a book, establish left to right reading, and be introduced to independent reading. We will be introducing the comprehension strategies of making predictions using our prior knowledge, and visualising. We will also be focusing on decoding strategies to assist students in reading unfamiliar words including using initial sounds to predict words in reading, recognizing high frequency words in books and using meaning from pictures to attempt words.

In Writing students will begin to write their name with correct upper and lower case letters and will be encouraged to visualize their story before conveying their message. They will create simple labels for around the room and write a simple sentence to summarise a text or event.

NUMERACY
In Maths, our number focus is on Numbers to 10. They will be using concrete materials to build and support their understanding of number. Students will connect names, numerals and collections up to 10 and beyond. They will also compare sets of collections describing them as either ‘more’ or ‘less’. Students will also classify shapes and objects and create patterns with objects and drawings.

INTEGRATED
Our integrated focus this term is ‘Communities.’ Students will be introduced to classroom and school life and are supported to develop a sense of belonging to the school community.

Key Questions:

What is a rule?
Why are rules and routines important?
How do rules help us?
Who makes the rules?
What are the different types of rules within the home, school and community?

HOMEWORK
We will be introducing our homework routine at the beginning of March. Homework tasks and the reading log are due on a weekly basis and are handed in on a Friday. Homework tasks are a revision of concepts covered in class which students should be familiar with. If there are difficulties completing homework tasks students and parents are encouraged to come and see their classroom teacher. It is the expectation that all students read for a minimum of 10 minutes each night and bring their take home folders to school each morning to change.

The first 10 spelling words will be introduced this term and will be incorporated into weekly homework tasks. Students will be tested on these words every Friday until the end of term.

We are very excited about the year ahead!

The Prep Team
Phoebe Hickman, Liz Higham, Diana Polazzon, Karen Meyers & Kylie Gilcrist
1/2 TEAM - TERM 1 OVERVIEW

The 1/2 Team would like to extend a warm welcome to our students and families at Footscray North Primary. All students have had a very successful first few weeks back and we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead full of learning!

Literacy:
This term the 1/2’s will be revising independent reading routines and expectations. We will also be focusing on strategies such as making predictions, visualising and asking questions to assist students in demonstrating their understanding of the texts they are reading. All students will be given a reading goal in which they will need to practice during independent reading. These goals are set with the student and teacher during a reading conference and students are encouraged to collect evidence to demonstrate they are working towards achieving their learning goals.

Our writing focus this term is Recounts and Poetry. Students will be immersed into high quality examples of these text types and will explore the text structure and language features to build students understanding of the genre. In poetry we will be learning about different poetic devices such as rhyme, repetition, alliteration and onomatopoeia, these devices will be explored through range of structured and free verse poems both in reading and in writing.

In spelling we will continue to build upon students understanding of frequently used words through the Oxford word list. We will explore letter sound relationships, vowel and consonant blends with a focus on spelling investigations such as word families to develop students’ understandings.

Numeracy Focus:

Our number for this term is Place Value where students will be exploring the value of numbers. We will also focus on addition with a major focus on addition strategies to assist students when solving problems. Concrete materials and open-ended questions will be used to support students in developing their understandings of key concepts. There will also be a minor focus on time where students will explore days of the weeks, months of the year, school times and their birthdays.

Bounce back

This term we will be focusing on continuing to explore our school values, Respect, Responsibility, Inclusion and Excellence. We will also learn about ways in which we can bounce back from challenging situations, identifying emotions and positive coping strategies.

Integrated

Students will recognise how their behaviors impacts on their relationships. Students will learn about maintaining and sustaining healthy relationships and friendships and learn skills and strategies for dealing with conflict.

Key Questions:
- What is a friendship?
- How can I promote respect within my friendships?
- How does my behavior impact on my friendships?
- How do we identify strategies to deal with conflict?

Please feel free to come in and speak to your child’s teacher should you have any questions.

Lee-Anne Parboo, Tracy Walker, Maria James, Valda Grimston and Nick Antoniou
3/4 TEAM - TERM 1 OVERVIEW

The 3/4 team would like to extend a warm welcome to our students and parents for 2016. We hope you have had a wonderful summer break.
During the first three weeks of Term One, students were engaged in our start up program. Teachers and students in each grade have been getting to know each other and establishing a learning community within their classroom. Students discussed our school values and established expectations and routines for their classes. They will begin to set goals and discuss how to work towards these.
Integrated studies: Victoria
Students will explore the differences between Footscray and other areas of Victoria. They will investigate the different land uses and how we depend on different areas for our food. They will also be mapping these different areas of the state.
Key Questions
- How are the areas of Victoria different?
- Where does our food come from?
- How do we use our environment(s) in Victoria?

Literacy
Writing: We will be focusing on persuasive writing and poetry. In poetry, students will practice using a range of language devices, to prepare them for writing in other genres. These will include the use of more interesting verbs, adjectives, adverbs and a range of figurative language. When writing texts to persuade, students will work on building a clear structure which explains their arguments. They will also practice using emotive language in strong introductions, and clear topic sentences.
Reading: Students will be immersed in a variety of literature types. They will be exposed to a range of comprehension strategies such as visualization, prediction, and questioning, to explore their own thinking that occurs when they read. They will also continue to work towards improving their fluency.
Spelling and word investigations will be focused on each week and incorporated into weekly homework tasks. Students will be investigating spelling strategies to assist them to spell unfamiliar words.

Numeracy
Our major focus this term will be counting place value and addition. Students will be expected to be confident in reading, writing, interpreting and ordering 4 digit numbers, or larger. Students will explore simple addition problems with 2 digit numbers or larger, using a mix of written and mental strategies. There will also be a minor focus on time, as well as reading data and graphs. Throughout this term and this year, students will strengthen their knowledge of multiplication tables.

Homework
It is the expectation that students in years 3 and 4 read for a minimum of 20 minutes each night. Homework tasks are set on a weekly basis and are due every Monday. Students are expected to record the books they have read and the time they have spent reading each night in their school diary. We would greatly appreciate if you could monitor this and sign their school diaries at least once a week.

Naplan
This year NAPLAN will be from 10th - 12th May.
We look forward to a fantastic term with the students.

Mr. Tom Hortop, Ms. Sharon Smith, Ms. Lauren Vella and Ms. Sally Uldrikis.
5/6 TEAM - TERM 1 OVERVIEW

The Year 5/6 Team would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and existing families and students for 2016.

In Literacy this term the students are examining persuasive texts, poetry and using comprehension strategies when reading. They are looking at persuasive devices and the use of figurative language to enhance expression and utilise greater description in their own writing. The students will focus on spelling and word investigations that will be incorporated into their fortnightly homework tasks.

In Maths we are studying the concepts of Place Value, Decimals, Rounding and using mental and written strategies for Addition and Subtraction.

Our Integrated Topic for Term 1 is “The Media.” We are investigating how media informs, persuades and influences people. This topic correlates very closely to our Literacy programme and is a great way to engage our students and encourage them to become critical thinkers (and savvy consumers!)

This year the three upper school classes will be working very closely with one another to ensure all students benefit from a consistent curriculum. The 5/6’s have moved their shared classroom library to the large end or the BER Building and dubbed the communal space “Area 56.”

The 5/6 students will be participating in interschool sports in Term 2. We look forward to them proudly representing our school and upholding our values of Inclusion, Responsibility, Respect and Excellence. The students are currently gaining experience playing Football, Netball, Soccer and Newcomb.

We strongly encourage all students to remember to bring their personal tablets/devices to school, as the use of ICT is heavily integrated through many areas of the curriculum.

Student diaries are required to be brought in everyday, and in keeping with our School’s Sun Smart Policy, all students are required to wear their school hats when outside in Term 1.

Each term there will be lunchtime clubs and activities for the students to participate in if they wish.

The Library is currently open at Monday Lunchtimes with Chris Powell.

Tuesday sees the students battling for bragging rights on the basketball court in the hall with matches held by Tom Hortop.

Wednesday is the inaugural Footscray North Primary School Downball Tournament adjudicated by Henry Crofts.

Thursday is a day for budding green thumbs and botanists who can get their hands dirty in the school’s very own veggie garden with Kylie Paine, and on Friday’s, Marla James is hosting Bollywood Dance Lessons in the Performing Arts Room.

Homework will be handed out every second week. The students have 12 days to complete their tasks. Homework will focus on the main areas of the curriculum, with Reading; Spelling, Maths and Topic work covered each fortnight.

At the end of May, the Year 5/6’s will be heading to Camp Billabong in Echuca for a 4-day school camp. It will be a fantastic experience and a great opportunity for our students to develop independence and their leadership skills. Further details will be available in the upcoming weeks.

A big congratulations Harris Nguyen and Bessie Nguyen, our School Captains this year. Our Vice Captains, Cindy Nguyen and Jonathan Do will ably support them. Samir Bakesy and Melat Ayele will represent Footscray North Primary School as our Sports Captains. We are confident they will represent our school proudly!

Aside from the many various duties these students will undertake around the school this year, they are all eagerly awaiting their Captain badges!

The 5/6 Team
Linh Nguyen, Henry Crofts and Stephanie Keswick
TOMORROW FOUNDATION HOMEWORK PROGRAM AT RECWEST

Over the last two years, volunteers with the Tomorrow Foundation have generously donated many hours and resources supporting students at FNPS with their learning through the homework program. The Tomorrow Foundation are now moving their program off-site to RecWest, Essex St, Footscray on a Wednesday afternoon from 2nd March. For all those families who are interested in finding out more about the learning support and mentoring program at RecWest - the Tomorrow Foundation will be at the library this Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday talking about the program and accepting applications. Please contact Kylie Paine for further information about applying to the program.

Kylie Paine
Primary Welfare Officer

KIDS MATTER ACTION TEAM

As a KidsMatter School, Footscray North Primary School is committed to enhancing the mental health and wellbeing of our whole school community. We do this through focusing on the development of student social, emotional and personal safety skills by embedding these learning opportunities into our curriculum, behaviour management systems and expectations and relationships with our families and carers.

The Action Team is responsible for coordinating and 'driving' KidsMatter Primary in our school. The team works within the KidsMatter framework to implement a coherent and whole school approach that is tailored to the individual needs of our school.

Action Teams vary in number and make-up. Most important is getting the right people on board. To be most influential, the membership needs to be representative of the school community and include:

- the school principal (or their representative)
- teachers
- parents
- a representative from the welfare/wellbeing team (e.g. the school psychologist/counsellor or student welfare coordinator, if the school has one).

At this time we are calling for expressions of interest from members (Parents or Guardians) within our school community to join with the staff of FNPS to work collaboratively as part of our KidsMatter Action Team. We would like two people (at least) to join with our staff on this important committee as we work towards accreditation as a KidsMatter School later in 2016.

There would be a meeting twice a term, at a mutually agreeable time for staff and parents (most likely on a Tuesday or Thursday). If you would like further information, please speak to Kylie Paine or Kay Willmott

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PARENT'S NAME

STUDENT NAME ___________________________ YEAR ____________
The 2016 Swim Team represented our school at the district swimming event on Friday the 19th of February. It was great to see everyone do their best and display good sportsmanship on the day supporting each other and being respectful to all around.

The following students have also qualified for the next stage which is the Divisional Swimming to held on Thursday the 8th March at St. Albans Leisure Centre—Harris Nguyen, Andie Bessell, Jennifer Hoang, Stanley Chi, Justin Huynh, Danielle Phan and Bessie Nguyen.
MORE DETAILS ON FUNKY HAIR DAY COMING SOON!

Funky Hair Day!

We're going wild and wacky with our hair!

Money raised will help the Leukaemia Foundation to look after people with blood cancers and pay for research to find better treatments and cures.

Our Event
Place: Footscray North P.S.
Date: Friday 11th March
Time: All Day!!
**Aussie Hoops**

Basketball for kids 5-10

Westgate Basketball Association, your local basketball association, is running the Aussie Hoops programme for boys and girls aged 5-10 years old. Sessions are run at the indoor stadium at YU Community Sports Stadium, Whitten Oval, and give the kids skill sessions, fun drills and friendly games.

The sessions are run by Representative level youth basketball players and give kids a terrific grounding in the fundamental skills for the game.

So if you were wondering if your kid just might be the next Patty Mills or Lauren Jackson, stop wondering and find out! Come along, make new friends and see for yourself why basketball is one of the most popular youth sports in Australia.

Sessions are run Thursday afternoons or Saturday mornings, and they'll be smiling for days!

**Register Now!**
and see you on court

For further details on times and dates, prices and registration, please visit our website:


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**Footscray North Primary School**

NOTICE BOARD

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**NORTH FOOTSCRAY FOOTBALL CLUB**

**AUS KICK**

Catering for all ages from prep to grade 6

Saturday’s 9.30am to 10.30am

**Come and join in the fun with plenty of parent and family participation.**

Complimentary sausage sizzle and drink after training

**Starting date:** 9th April

**Address:** Hansen Reserve, Roberts Street Footscray West

**Register at:** AFLAUSKICK.COM.AU for Footscray North AusKick

**Contact:** Scott Kenny 0407 317 788
Sharon Matovic 0410 583 444
NOTICE BOARD

Uniform Shop Trading hours

Tuesday 8.00am – 8.30am & 3.15pm – 3.30pm
Wednesday 8.00am – 8.30am & 3.15pm – 3.30pm
Thursday 8.00am – 8.30am & 3.15pm – 3.30pm

Order forms can be left at the office at anytime.

4 Weeks to go until the end of Term 1 2016