PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Included in Intercom this week are several referrals to the positive support given to our school community – parents, grandparents and staff. This is a quality promoted by our core value of ‘Positive Relationships’ – valuing all members of the school community as individuals’ and acknowledging their contributions.

Canberra Excursion

We often take for granted the ‘extra mile’ teachers and support staff will go to for the sake of our students. It is exhausting to be vigilant for 24 hours a day, ensuring students on an excursion are safe, engaged in learning experiences and dealing with a different set of social and behavioural expectations, away from the routines of home and school. Mrs Macky has worked on the organisational side of the Canberra excursion since Term 4 of last year, Mrs Curzon and Mr Pentecost shared the supervisory responsibilities during the excursion – and all are back at work today despite being very tired. Please encourage your children to express their appreciation to these members of staff over the next few days. Organising and going on overnight excursions is a good will exercise on the part of the staff— they are not required to go and not recompensed for being away from their families and home comforts while on excursions.

Thank You

Below is a text from a member of the school community, Mrs Jan Arndell, who has voluntarily been contributing her expertise, time, equipment, plants and mulch to beautifying and maintaining the school grounds, she wrote the following.

Just a note to let you know that whilst whipper snippering the footpath Bailey Steven’s Dad Brett, stopped and helped me with his snipper and ride on mower. He mowed the best part of the grass, from the gate to the highway, even returning the following day to help me finish the job.

This was very kind of him and I thought you would like to know.

Thanks Jan (Bowen’s Nan)

And I thought you would all like to know about these supportive members of our school community.

ABC Workshop

Included in Intercom this week is a report from Mr Earl about the visit to the ABC van by some of our Stage 3 students who did not participate in the Canberra excursion. This was made possible by the Springwood High School offering the Wednesday afternoon timeslot to our school. I note that the ABC van will also be present at the Springwood Foundation Day, so families might wish to include a visit to the van on Saturday.
Exemption Forms
Please remember if you and your family are planning an activity that can be classified as any of the following:-

- Exceptional domestic circumstances
- Other exceptional circumstances
- Direction under 42D of the Public Health Act
- Employment in the entertainment industry, participation in elite sporting event including for short periods of time \( \text{ie} \) for one or two days and at short notice, you may make an Application for Exemption from Attendance at school. The form is available from the office.

Mufti Day
There are a number of reasons to support Mufti Day today.
- it is the first Student Representative Council organised activity this year.
- it is a way of assisting another student in our worldwide community of learners Credo might not be attending this school, but he is one of the billions of children in the world whose future prospects will be enhanced by an education.
- it develops a social awareness in our students.
- it is enjoyable

We are very privileged in Australia. We live in a First World Country where education is a right we take for granted as a result we do not all value it and fight to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to gain the benefits that education bestows.

Voluntary School Contributions Reminder
The school contributions at Faulconbridge PS are considerably lower than the State wide average for NSW Primary Schools, $44.00 per student. Schools are permitted to increase their voluntary contributions by a maximum of 2.45% on the previous year’s level, which has not been the custom here. We request $20.00 per child for materials – this covers the cost of students exercise books and other classroom necessities including glue, art paper, paints, pens and pencils and $40.00 voluntary contributions per child or $65.00 per family. The voluntary contributions assist with school resources like sporting equipment and specialist subject resources. While it is understood that some families have financial constraints and cannot pay these fees in total, it is possible to pay by instalments – for example $15.00 per term.

At present 18% of the school contributions have been received and 25% of the materials payment. If possible we ask parents to pay their contributions before the end of the term.

Opera performance: the Barber of Seville
Please remember tomorrow is the last day to pay for this performance, which will be presented in the school hall at 11.30 next week on Wednesday 9th April.
This Opera performance is an initiative of the Ebbeling family, and on behalf of our students I gratefully acknowledge their support of the school and our students in making this opportunity available.

Mothers Day Breakfast
Please note the information about this wonderful initiative by the Blackboard Café co-ordinators, Mrs Emmanuel and Mrs Petterfy. If you - a mother, grandmother, aunt or neighbor, can be here to share breakfast with your children, it would be a lovely start to the day and a way of valuing the bond between children and their female relatives and friends.

Annual School Report (ASR)
The 2013 ASR is available on the school website or in hard copy from the office. It reports on the schools achievements and future directions and is an important document made available to parents. It covers a range of topics including student results, finance, attendance data and other information about the operation of the school.

Dorothee Lean
Principal
# ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 Week 3</th>
<th>HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS</th>
<th>POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>LEARNING</th>
<th>PERSONAL GROWTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KBC</td>
<td>Xavier H</td>
<td>Summer L</td>
<td>Jeremiah H</td>
<td>Mikayla G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Saxon L</td>
<td>Baxter H</td>
<td>Evan L</td>
<td>Joshua H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1F</td>
<td>Lochlan W</td>
<td>Mitchell B</td>
<td>Gareth R</td>
<td>Sam M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1ZR</td>
<td>Tiana H</td>
<td>Emily S</td>
<td>Caelum H</td>
<td>Matilda B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3T</td>
<td>Mia M</td>
<td>Tarana S</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mahalia B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Caitlyn M</td>
<td>Harry H</td>
<td>Ayden B</td>
<td>Grace R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2T</td>
<td>Hunter P</td>
<td>Mya A</td>
<td>Rosalie D</td>
<td>Luke W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gold Achievement Awards**

Mia S, 2T – Sarah B, 2T – Caleb G, 2T – Louis S, 2T

---

**Deadlines and Reminders.....**

**Funny Photos**

*Cut off for orders is **FRIDAY 4TH APRIL***

---

**Disco**

*Cut off for disco permission slip and money is **FRIDAY 4TH APRIL***

---

Blackboard Café will be holding a Mother’s Day Breakfast on Friday May 9th. We look forward to seeing you there. Pop it on the calendar.
Our Senior AFL superstars have been asked to play during the half time break at the Giants vs Demons game this Sunday. Look out for them on the television.

ABC Exhibition Trailer
Yesterday afternoon Mr Earl and 14 stage 3 students walked to Springwood High School to visit the ABC Exhibition Trailer. We were the only primary school in the Blue Mountains lucky enough to go. We got see how they produce television shows and radio programs at the ABC. We started by choosing a script from popular ABC shows such as Studio 3, BTN and the News. After practicing, we sat down in front of a green screen and produced the clips we had chosen...they looked just like the real thing! After we made our clips we went to the radio studio and recorded radio interviews (complete with music and sound effects). It was an amazing afternoon and we felt extremely lucky that we were able to have this ‘behind the scenes’ experience.
By Milla L. and Natalya P.
Faulconbridge Public School
P&C Association

Email: faulconbridgepublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

**NEXT P & C MEETING**

The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday, 7th April at 7pm in the teachers staffroom. EVERYONE is welcome to attend 😊

**MOTHERS DAY ORDERS**

Just a reminder that all Mothers Day orders must be returned to the office by Thursday, 10th April. No late orders will be accepted so make sure you don't miss out! We are still needing more helpers on the day to assist our "Little Shoppers" to purchase their special gifts. There is a separate section on the form which you can complete and also return to the office if you are able to volunteer just a little of your time.

**ICEBLOCKS AND FROZEN ORANGES**

We're now down to our last couple of weeks until our beloved ice-blocks and frozen oranges bid us farewell until Term 4. A reminder that students are not to purchase ice-blocks or oranges for other students due to health and dietary reasons. Also... Remember to “DO THE RIGHT THING” and put your wrappers, sticks and orange peels in the bin.

G. Mills – P & C President
Are you new to the School in 2014 and wondering what the Parent Buddy Group is all about?
We are a group of supportive parents who are navigating parenting with ADHD, ODD, Autism, Aspergers, Dyslexia, Physical Disabilities, Speech & Learning Difficulties .... and hormones!
We try to meet on a regular basis (usually once a month during the school year) to have a laugh, a coffee and to share ideas on resources in the local area and variations on parenting strategies. Anyone from the FPS school community is welcome to come along.

Our next Coffee & Dessert Night will be on Saturday 12 April 2014 from 7.30pm at the Ori Cafe, Macquarie Road, Springwood. New parents & carers are most welcome!! To assist with the table booking, could you please text your name & numbers attending to 0450 122 886.

Super Softball Team
Today, finally our senior girls softball team managed to play their first game against Henry Fulton PS. They did not win but everyone played their personal best. After weeks of training and cancellations due to poor weather it was great to see them finally play. Photos to follow next week.

Mrs Thomas and Mrs Reynolds

Pip Punk

Pip Punk’s black spiky hair looked like upside down ice-cream cones. He shaved his hair off because he wanted to look cool. His eyes were as black as a starless night. He looked as if his anger was uncontrollable like a bull in a stampede. Although his clothes were clean, the trousers were ripped and the hand-me-down leather jacket was too baggy for him.

Jointly written by 3D
The rewards issue with the bank has been solved and we expect to have the backlog of reward orders processed in the next week. Hopefully this means we will get them back to the kids by the end of term.

We have about 50+ students who have 10 or more tokens that they can cash in for a reward. If you are interested in ordering either the handball or the scented pencils, then please try to have your order returned to the banking team before the end of term 1. The handball is proving popular so we want to try and fill orders before stocks run out at the bank.

The new awards that start to become available in term 2 include the penguin or shark plush key ring, and the whale shark pencil case.

How to claim your reward

To claim your reward, please fill in a card showing the reward that you are claiming, your name, class, and banking student ID. (We have more reward cards available if students need them, or you can write all of these details on a piece of paper.) Put the reward card information in a zip lock bag together with your 10 tokens and hand this in to the banking team on any Friday.

Don’t forget to deposit a small amount each week to see big results!

See you Friday,
The Banking Team
The questions we ask children shape their view of the world. If we focus on the positive we can help our children to develop a positive view of life. When your child comes home from school you naturally want to know how their day was. Here are some questions to try and some to avoid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good questions to ask</th>
<th>Questions to avoid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What was the best thing that happened at school today?</td>
<td>What was school like today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. For older children, who are negative about school:</td>
<td>How was school today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tell me three positive things that happened at school today and one negative.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. What were most of the kids doing at lunch /recess?</td>
<td>Who did you play with?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. What was the best game at recess?</td>
<td>Did you play with anyone?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. What did you talk about at recess?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Who sat near you at lunchtime?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Did anyone have anything fun or interesting to talk about?</td>
<td>Were the other kids nice to you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Who did you enjoy talking to today?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. What schoolwork did you feel proud about today?</td>
<td>How did you go in reading /maths?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. What class activity did you and your classmates enjoy today?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Parents and Caregivers,
Faulconbridge Public School is very pleased to be able to introduce students to the magic of Opera through this delightful production from Opera Australia.
As the 'Opera Guru' - (people in the office are sometimes cheeky) I've been asked to write about 'The Barber of Seville', which is being performed here at school on:

Wednesday 9th April.

My first experience of Opera was as a 12 year old and I became a lover of classical music because I had the opportunity of seeing a performance.

We should experience all kinds of cultural pursuits as you never know what will become a lifelong passion or a passing phase if you don’t have a chance to try it.

For some of our students this will be their first chance to see a live performance of an Opera, and 'The Barber of Seville' is a wonderful introduction. It has been shortened, is in English and has lively tunes and comic action, all for $7.00 per person, or $10.00 per family.

Dorothee Lean
Principal
An adventure-filled weekend for fathers and sons

Ditch the technology for a fun and adventurous camping weekend.

An exclusive phone, computer, TV and work-free zone, YoungStars camps are aimed at primary school boys aged from seven years, and their dads.

Together you will:

- Pitch your tent and set up camp
- Sit around an open fire and roast marshmallows
- Play games, laugh, have fun and make friends with other kids
- Talk to other dads about the experience of raising boys.

BYO tent and sleeping bag – and let us do the cooking and organising.

Your son will:

- Be the star of the weekend, with exclusive one on one time with dad
- Build social skills by making new friends and doing something adventurous in a group
- Have active alternatives to technology

Boys can also attend with their uncle, grandad, step-dad or a close male family member.

Find out more or book:
13 13 02

- Learn skills to aid his transition from primary to high school.

Locations
Berry and Milson Island Sport and Recreation Centres

Cost
$400 per family

Dates
Camps will run over a series of weekends from April to November 2014
**Loop the Loop Studio**  
**Art/French/Textiles classes with Abby Howells**  
@FAULCONBRIDGE

---

**MONDAY**  
Home School Kids Beginner French Class 8-11 yr old  
8 weeks  
$80  
11-12noon

**MONDAY**  
Kids Beginner French Class 8-11 yr old  
8 weeks  
$80  
4-5pm

**TUESDAY**  
Kids Beginner French Class 5-8 yr old  
8 weeks  
$80  
4-5pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
Home School Kids Beginner French Class 5-8 yr old  
8 weeks  
$80  
1-2pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
Kids Afternoon Art Class 5-10 yr old  
8 weeks  
$100  
4-5pm

---

**Qualified Art & Textile Teacher - Practising Artist - Working with Children**

E. abhowells@hotmail.com  
M. 0408 700 817

http://looptheloopstudio.weebly.com

---

Andrew McLeod  
Accredited Club Professional NSW TCA Coach  
Previously coached in USA and Germany  
Qualified PDHPE Teacher

**GROUP & PRIVATE LESSONS**  
ALL AGES – beginners to elite players  
SCHOOL HOLIDAY COACHING CLINICS  
PRO SHOP, RACQUET SALES & RESTRINGING

Phone: 4751 5383  
Mobile: 0416 08 34 72

Email: springwoodworldoftennis@hotmail.com

SPRING ST. SPRINGWOOD  
PO BOX 139 SPRINGWOOD NSW 277