PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Another term is nearly over and as usual it has been a busy one. A few of the events that spring to mind are the ANZAC Day march and school assembly, Mothers Day Stall, NAPLAN, Book Fair, School of Origin matches, Walkathon and Winmalee Cup. It is not over yet – tonight is the Disco and the Parents and Citizens (P&C) Parent Forum and tomorrow the Semester 1 reports will be issued. After that there will be two weeks for students, their families and staff to draw breath, and have some quiet time to get ready for Term 3. Enjoy the brisk weather, sleeping in and have a safe and happy holiday.

Parent Forum
On Monday the P&C meeting developed a draft of the parent focus for the next school strategic plan for 2015 to 2017. The Parent Forum tonight will be an opportunity for the broader parent and caregiver community to have input into the future directions of the school.

Where: School Library
When: 6pm start, tonight 26th June

School Development Day
Staff return to school on Monday 14th July. The program for the day includes all staff completing the online Disability Act professional learning module. The rest of the day will be used to prepare the next 5 week English Unit based on the new English syllabus, which is being implemented this year.

Dyslexia Presentation
On Tuesday members of the School Learning Support Team were inserviced by Ms Becky Bailey from Dyslexia NSW. The presentation was a very interesting reminder to the team about the characteristics of students with Dyslexia and the suggestions given for supporting these students in the classroom were so pertinent that we invited Ms Bailey to present a session during the end of the year School Development Days. She is also available to run sessions for parents and caregivers if there is sufficient interest.

NAIDOC Week
Included in this Newsletter is information from Mrs Jacquie Thomas, the coordinator of the NAIDOC week events at the school this year. She has liaised with the Waradah Aboriginal Centre to develop the program for Tuesday 15th July. There will be an Assembly on Friday 18th July. The Tuesday 15th July timetable is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.55</td>
<td>Scripture and lessons</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30 – 11.15</td>
<td>Rotation 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15 – 12.00</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>12.00 – 12.45</td>
<td>Rotation 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.45 - 1.30</td>
<td>Rotation 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.30 - 1.55</td>
<td>Recess</td>
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<td>2.00 - 2.30</td>
<td>Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.30 – 2.55</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
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Included in the rotation activities will be Didgeridoo playing, dance, storytelling and art. We look forward to celebrating Aboriginal Culture with you and our students.
Ethics Classes
There has been considerable press coverage in recent days about the National Chaplaincy program. I found it interesting that a spokesperson for one of the larger religious school systems this week promoted other programs, including ethics classes, as a preferred option if the Commonwealth funding for the Chaplaincy program is devolved to the states.
Also recently announced was the release of the Ethics for Kindergarten program, which is now available to be presented in schools. Ethics is an option for students at this school, but there is a dearth of people to present the Ethics program in the school. Ms Abby Howells who has worked as the Ethics Coordinator, is now also running the Stage 1 Ethics classes. If you are able to attend the 2 days training provided by the Ethics Centre or take on the coordinator role it would assist in the provision of classes already running at the school every Tuesday and perhaps next year Kindergarten students could also have access to Ethics classes.
Every now and then I sit in on one of the classes and am impressed by the maturity of the discussions our students are engaging in. The most recent session I sat in on concerned the ethics of eating meat. The level of engagement and respect shown for different viewpoints was enlightening.

Congratulations
On Wednesday students attended a rehearsal for this year’s PULSE concert. Miss Theoharis was very pleased to let me know that Sarah R of 5/6S has, for the second year in a row, been chosen for a solo part in the concert.
Verity H of 6M has also had some promising news, receiving a ‘call back’ from the Newtown High School of Performing Arts. After an audition and interview this is the final step before enrolments in the dance program are chosen. We wish her well.

Reports and Interviews
Semester 1 reports will be issued this Friday and Parent/Teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 22nd July. Please take some time over the holidays to discuss the report with your child, as parental reinforcement is a valuable component in developing our student’s positive attitude to learning as a life long endeavour. This will also give you time to reflect and consider what you would like to discuss with your child’s teacher during the parent interview.

Transition to Kindergarten
On Wednesday the Transition Buddies for the 2015 Kindergarten students participated in a full day of training in preparation for their important role next term. The buddies are a vital feature of the Transition program as they become the familiar, friendly face of the school to our 2015 new arrivals. Thank you to Mrs Jansons for coordinating the selection process and presenting the training program. Year 5 students were asked to prepare an Expression of Interest application to be considered as prospective buddies and this is seen as a valuable leadership role. Most of the current School Leadership team were buddies last year. Congratulations to the new buddies

Dorothee Lean
Principal

### ASSEMBLY AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS</th>
<th>POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>LEARNING</th>
<th>PERSONAL GROWTH</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
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<td>KE</td>
<td>Gabriel D</td>
<td>Ashleigh B</td>
<td>Scarlett H</td>
<td>Baxter H</td>
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<td>1F</td>
<td>Liam O</td>
<td>Josie B</td>
<td>Jayden S</td>
<td>Jacob K</td>
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<td>1ZR</td>
<td>Rhys J</td>
<td>Kayne S</td>
<td>Oscar Q</td>
<td>Caelum H</td>
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<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Tom E</td>
<td>Ayden H</td>
<td>Rose L</td>
<td>Starsan A</td>
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<td>Rosalie D</td>
<td>Mia S</td>
<td>Caleb G</td>
<td>Natasha Mc</td>
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*Gold Awards*
Alex B, 1ZR. Holly C, 2J. Regan H, 2T, Zara N, KE
Kindergarten Enrolments for 2015

Thank you to all those who have returned their enrolment forms promptly. Packages are going out this week with information on our Transition Days.

If you have a child who will be starting Kindergarten in 2015 and have not completed an enrolment form, now is the time to enroll! Our transition program will be starting early next term and we will soon be contacting our 2015 Kindergarten parents with information. If you have any friends or neighbours who may be attending Faulconbridge Public School next year, please pass on this information.

Enrolment forms can be collected from the school office.

Kristy Jansons
Transition Coordinator

School Athletics Carnival K-6

The school carnival will be held on Monday 21st July 2014. All parents are cordially invited to attend. The K-2 carnival will be held on the bottom oval at Tom Hunter Park and Years 3-6 will be held on the main oval. If your child turns 8 at any time this year they are eligible to compete in the 3-6 carnival. Please read the information below. Any parent who would like to assist with events please contact me.

**ATTENTION YEAR 2 CHILDREN**

Children who turn 8 in Year 2 and who wish to run in the 800m, will walk down with the primary children to participate in 3-6 carnival.
All other children in Year 2 who turn 8 and are participating in the 3-6 carnival, will come down with K-2 children by bus and will walk back to school with years 3-6.
Year 2 children who turn 8 are **asked to return the blue and the green note** as it gives permission for bus and walking to the venue.

*Linda Dalkeith*

Winmalee Cup Netball

Congratulations to both the Junior and Senior Netball teams who represented Faulconbridge PS at the Winmalee Cup last Friday. Both teams won their first game, then went on to lose their second game. We went through to the semi-finals and played strong games against two very tall teams. The girls played hard and demonstrated how determined they are on the court. Thank you to the parents and grandparents who supported the girls on the day. Special thanks also to Mrs Langworthy and Miss Kidd for assisting me with training the girls in the lead up to Winmalee Cup.

**Junior Team:** Emma D, Alexia B, Lauren W, Olivia M-L, Piper H, Tegan B, Abigail B, Isobel S.

**Senior Team:** Ella T, Verity H, Georgia B, Emelia R, Lucy B, Stephanie M, Kirrily W, Laila D.

Nicole Kowald

*Netball Coach*
Mini Fete Donations Please

Year 6 will be holding a Mini Fete on Thursday, 31st July, (Education Day). The community is asked to donate any goods or non-perishable items (to be part of the raffle) to the White Elephant Stall. If you have any toys, books, DVDs, pictures or funky items, please send them in. Buyers, on the day, will pay for tokens. Each token will be 25c and 4 tokens will be on a single strip of cardboard. Each stall will have its own price for goods or activities to be purchased.

Thank you in advance,

Janine Macky
Assistant Principal

Education Day Breakfast Orders

We would like to invite you to share breakfast with the staff for Education Day. Could you please click on the link below and fill out the form to help us order the correct amount of food?

When: Thursday, 31st July
Where: Under the Big Top
Time: 8 – 9am

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QKg1TPllh6EUyYNK039zvC6AvGEYqorC729rP1HBATs/viewform?usp=send_form

Delicious espresso coffee and tea will be available from the Blackboard Café on the day.

Kind regards,
Mrs Macky

NAIDOC Week

Week one of term three will be NAIDOC week. We will begin with a Celebration Day on the first day of term (Tuesday, 15th July) when students are invited to wear yellow, black or red. On this day the students will also participate in creating communal artworks as well as watching a performance by three dancers from Waradah Aboriginal Centre. Parents are invited to attend this performance which will begin at 2.00 pm. We will also be holding a special NAIDOC week assembly on Friday, 18th July where we will explore the theme for this year’s NAIDOC celebration which is ‘Serving Country’ Centenary and Beyond. This ties in with the Centenary of the beginning of World War I. Parents are also cordially invited to this assembly.

Please return the red permission note before this Friday, 27th June.

Jacquie Thomas
Coordinator

From the Uniform Shop – Girls Check Pants will no longer be available.
Swim Scheme 2014

This year Swim Scheme will be at Springwood Pool from Monday, 25th August until Friday, 5th September.

Notes will be given to Year 2 students on Tuesday, 15th July and payment must be made to secure a place in the program. On Tuesday, 22nd July notes will be given to Year 3 students and the following Tuesday (29th July) to the other year groups. Please note that each year group has been given a full week to pay. Payment may be made after that but if the Swim Scheme fills up quickly your child may miss out. There are only 50 places. Notes will not be available online or at the office.

Preference is being given to Year 2 as it is the first year they can participate in Swim Scheme; it also prepares them for our primary swimming carnival in 2015.

Linda Dalkeith
Swim Scheme Organiser
**Harvest Market**
On Friday 27th June we will be holding a Harvest Market outside the canteen at 11am & 2:30pm. This is where we sell produce from the school’s vegetable garden. All money raised buys seeds, seedlings & sugar cane mulch for the garden. Prices start at 50c.
In season at the moment: silverbeet, rhubarb, fresh herbs, spaghetti squash, kale.

Also if you have any old garden pots you don’t need, please bring them in & leave at the office.

Thank you
FPS Garden Gnomes

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**VOLUNTEER ETHICS COORDINATOR & TEACHER NEEDED**

Ethics classes commenced in 2013 at Faulconbridge and have been a great success so far. We need to find a new volunteer ethics teacher for the new kindergarten curriculum. We are also still looking for someone to replace the Ethics Coordinator.

**ETHICS COORDINATOR**

Coordinating involves liaising, usually by email, between the school, Primary Ethics and the volunteer teachers. Coordinating can mostly be done by email in your spare time and would take approximately 1 hour per week. Ethics Coordinators are vetted by Primary Ethics and are given training and support, they are required to have the Working with Children check.

**ETHICS TEACHER**

Ethics teachers are required to undertake two days training in the ethics curriculum. Teachers need to be able to commit to half an hour – three quarters of an hour teaching time each week of term. Teachers will also need some time to prepare for the classes each week. Teachers are given full support by Primary Ethics. Teachers are vetted by Primary Ethics and are required to have the Working with Children check.

To find out more about Primary Ethics and becoming an Ethics Teacher or Coordinator, please go to [www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au) or contact our school’s Ethics Coordinator, Abby Howells abhowells@hotmail.com.
Token check
Double check your tokens this week and find out whether you have 10 ready to redeem for a prize. If you order your prize on Friday it will arrive back early next term.
Choose from -
- Penguin or shark plush toy key ring
- Whale shark pencil case
- Handball
- Scented pencils
- We also still have some headphones (left over from last year)

**This week is your last chance to order the Handball or scented pencils because these two items are not available next term.**

Saving tips!

The school holidays are a great time to work on your savings. Here are a couple of ideas to help:-

- Keep some of your pocket money to one side ready for your next bank deposit
- No amount is too small and it all helps
- Why not help out around the house doing small chores in return for money?
- Try emptying any coins you have in your pockets at the end of the day into a jar. You’ll be surprised at how quickly they grow.

The first date for banking next term is Friday 18\textsuperscript{th} July.

See you Friday,
The Banking Team
BOOK FAIR UPDATE

What a fantastic result we achieved with just over $6,000 worth of books being sold! We have added some great new titles to our library and I am sure your children will enjoy reading them!

The Literacy Committee also purchased multiple copies of books, selected by the staff, at greatly reduced prices. These books are now being processed for classroom use. Thank you to those who have taken home bags of books to cover. There are more available if you are able to help.

EDUCATION WEEK

As part of the celebrations of Education Week I was invited to organise another Book Fair. This will be for one week only and on a smaller scale. Books will arrive in boxes and will be displayed on the tables.

On our Education Week open day, parents will be invited to donate a book to the library. Special donation labels will be placed inside the chosen books with your family's or child's name and class.

Our library still boasts some much valued books that were donated to the library by students who are now parents of children attending Faulconbridge school.

BOOK WEEK 2014 - THEME "CONNECT TO READING"

We are starting to plan ideas for celebrating Book Week which is Week 6 in Term 3, August 18 - 22. Information will follow next term.

The Premier's Reading Challenge will also end for students in that week.

My thanks to all volunteers who have helped throughout the term.

Enjoy the holidays and happy reading!

Diane McKay
Teacher Librarian
P & C MEETING
It was another great meeting on Monday night! Thank you to everyone who attended. It was wonderful to see many old faces and some new ones. The meetings are open for ANYONE to attend. You don’t need to be part of the committee to come along and have an input into what’s happening at Faulconbridge Public School. The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday, 21st July.

PARENTS FORUM – STRATEGIC PLAN
The parents forum will be held on Thursday night from 6pm – 7.30pm in the library. Everyone can come along as we will be discussing the recommendations which the P & C placed together on Monday night for the schools strategic plan. A school strategic plan sets out the school’s direction for the next 3 years. This includes the school’s purpose, values and environmental matters, as well as goals, targets and key learning areas.

AUSSIE FARMERS DIRECT
Aussie Farmers Direct were a major sponsor for our recent walk-a-thon. The delicious sausages and bread which we all enjoyed were delivered directly to our school. Just a reminder that if you use Aussie Farmers direct (or know anyone who does), make sure you link your account to Faulconbridge Public School as we receive a commission of 2% for all orders. You can check out what they have to offer at www.aussiefarmers.com.au

BLUE GUM MARKETS THIS SATURDAY
The Blue Gum markets are on this Saturday. Please still come along and support KBC and 1F as they show us what they can whip up in the kitchen. Remember that a full list of ingredients must be provided with all goodies. Items can be taken to the office on Friday afternoon (last day of term) or directly to the stall (located outside the hall) on Saturday morning between 8.30 – 9am.

**WALK-A-THON MEMO**
Please note that money raised by the students for the walk-a-thon is due back to the office by the 25th July, 2014. Don’t leave it till the very end though as the first class to return all their sponsorship sheets and money WINS an afternoon tea supplied by the P & C.

Ginett Mills – P & C President
Loop the Loop Studio

Art/French/Textiles classes with Abby Howells
@Faulconbridge

MONDAY
Kids Beginner French Class
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
Kids Art & Textiles Class 5-11 yr old
8 weeks $100 4-5pm

SATURDAY
Kids Beginner French Class
8 weeks $80 11-12noon

SATURDAY
Kids Art & Textiles Class 5-11 yr old
8 weeks $100 2-3pm

Qualified Art & Textile Teacher - Practising Artist - Working with Children Check
E. abhowells@hotmail.com
M. 0408 700 817
http://looptheloopstudio.weebly.com

Netball School Holiday Clinic

Thursday 10 July, 2014

Looking for something to do during the school holidays? Register for the Netball NSW School Holiday Clinic!

Where: Thursday, 10 July 2014
Where: North West Sydney Netball Association – Explorer Oval, Penrith
Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm (arrive at 9:00 am for registration)

Participants will receive a Netball NSW goody bag including a Gilbert ball:
- 3 hours of netball fun
- Ape specific
- Learn new skills
- Play safe netball
- Tailored to participant skill levels
- Accredited coaches on hand

Play lots of fun games and improve your netball skills all at the same time!

Fees: Children aged 5 – 11 years old
Cost: $40
Snacks: Morning tea, drink bottle, sunscreen and a hat

Registrations for this clinic will close Thursday, 3 July 2014.

Blue Mountains Baseball & Softball Club

Summer Softball Registrations

2nd and 3rd Sundays in July (13th and 20th July)
2pm - 4pm
Lomatia Park, Springwood

Junior – Adult
Girls/Boys
Male/Female

Training is at Lomatia Park, Springwood
All games are played on Saturdays at
Surveyors Creek Softball fields, Glenmore Park

NEW Junior players, please bring Birth Certificate (original & a copy)

For further details ring Barbara Povic
0417 269 089 or check our website: bluemountainssoftball.org.au
SAFETY ROAD RULES

Some members of the community are not slowing down at the crossing and complaining that the ‘Lollipop Man (Mr O) is waving them to be careful.

As a reminder to all, the school zone is 40kml per hour BUT the crossing itself when children are present is 25 kml per hour.

These rules are published in the Driver’s Handbook.

Please be mindful of the rules so that our children may be safe coming to and leaving school.

PLEASE NOTE : Too many parents and children are walking between cars and crossing the road WITHOUT using the crossing.

School Term finishes Friday 27th June, school resumes for students Tuesday 15th July
Happy Holidays !!