DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER
6 Year 6 Orientation Day
7 Year 5 Taster Day at Mill Park Secondary College
7 Family Carols Night
14 LT1 Celebration Day
14 LT2 Wombat Bend
14 LT4 TRAC
19 YR 6 Farewell Rehearsal 9.15am - 12pm
19 YR 6 Farewell Evening 6pm start
20 Last Day Term 4 1.30pm Dismissal

FAMILY CAROLS NIGHT
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7TH
5PM BBQ
6PM START

2017 TERM DATES
- Term 1: 1st February – 31st March (8 weeks)
- Term 2: 18 April – 30 June (11 weeks)
- Term 3: 17 July – 22 September (10 weeks)
- Term 4: 9 October- 22 December (11 weeks)

BEGINNING SCHOOLS PROGRAM
We are now half way through our Beginning School Program here at Findon and it’s fabulous to see so many of our brand new Foundation students here each Wednesday and Friday morning. They have adjusted well and have settled in nicely to the rigours of being at school! Below are some thoughts regarding the ‘Start of School.’

TRANSITION
Starting primary school is a major milestone for children and their parents, marking the start of a new phase of life for both. The transition to school is an experience that starts well before, and extends far beyond, your child’s first day. Your child may start school after going to kindergarten or child care or they may not have attended any formal service before going to school. All children will have developed a range of skills and abilities that will form the basis of their positive school experiences. As well as transition into Foundation we acknowledge the challenge our students face when entering the next year level of their schooling, and as such provide them with a ‘Meet the Teacher’ transition session on Friday 16th December 2016.

Findon Primary School conducts a Beginning Schools Transition Program (BSP) over ten sessions for those children leaving kinder and commencing their primary education. This program is a vital component of ensuring our new students make a smooth transition to the beginning of their formal education. During the transition program, our new students have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with their new school environment, meet many of the staff they will be interacting with and experience some of the structures and programs they will encounter next year. We welcome parents to our up and coming Parent Information Session in the Library from 9.15 till 10.45. These sessions will cover Readiness for School, Positive Transitioning to School and getting to know the other parents and families for 2017, over a cuppa. Look forward to seeing you there.

RECOGNISING TALENT & ACHIEVEMENT AT FINDON
The following Year 6 Findon students have been awarded various scholarships and recognition awards for year 7 at a number of Secondary Colleges. We congratulate these students and commend them on their effort and outstanding achievement.

Jaime-Lee: Music Scholarship for Mill Park SC.
Julia: Music Scholarship for Epping SC
Kim: Sport scholarship for Epping SC
Riley: Academic scholarship for North Side Christian College
Harry: Whittlesea Council Student Achievement award

GETTING MARRIED
On behalf of the whole Findon Community we would like to extend our very best wishes to Nicole Creek & Finn for their impending wedding on 11th December. Congratulations and I’m sure it will be such a beautiful day for you both!
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE cont’d

CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN
Congratulations to Molly 2MC and Jack 2MC who have won the Christmas card design for Andrew Giles MP. Andrew will be at our assembly this Friday, to present the prize for the winning designs!

CLASS STRUCTURE FOR 2017
The formation of classes for next year is almost complete, and like Santa, teachers will be checking them twice before they are finalised. The class structure for next year consists of

EARLY YEARS:
3 Foundation classes
5 Year 1/2 classes

MIDDLE YEARS:
5 Year 3/4 classes
4 Year 5/6 classes

Teachers will be allocated to classes once the student lists are finalised.

THANK YOU AFTERNOON TEA - REMINDER
Throughout the year there are many parents and community members who give their time and contribute to the life of the school enriching the programs and environment available to our students. We would like to express our appreciation and thanks to all those who have assisted in so many ways this year. We are holding a Parent Helpers’ Morning Tea on Thursday 8th December at 11am to express our thanks.

FAMILY PICNIC 2017
As you acquire your 2017 calendar please mark in Friday 24th February for the school’s annual Family Picnic. The Family Picnic will be the first whole school event for the year and one when families, teachers and support staff can get together and enjoy the relaxed and social event. This is also a wonderful way to welcome new families to the school. Hope to see you at the Family Picnic!

2017 ESSENTIAL STUDENT LEARNING RESOURCES
School Council has determined that the cost for the Essential Educational Resources for 2017 will be $225.00. The Department of Education and Training (DET) provides funding through the Student Resource Package. This means that we receive bulk funding for the cost of the school’s educational programs. The funding covers staff salaries, professional development, building maintenance, cleaning and sanitation supplies, energy, administration and contributions to our educational programs. Findon Primary School finds additional income from sources such as fundraising and the hire of school facilities to external organisations. However, these funds do not meet the costs of the quality education programs we wish to provide for your children. Findon Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost and number of items that need to be purchased to a minimum. We also try to ensure that the costs are affordable for all parents. While payment is not required until the start of the 2017 school year we would greatly appreciate completed and returned forms by Friday 9th December 2016. Payment and collection day for Book Box will be on Monday 30th January 2017. A school stationery pack will only be received upon payment.
I leave you with the following words to ponder…

**A Little Poem to reinforce the Home School Partnership**

I dreamed I stood in a studio  
And watched two sculptors there  
The clay they used was a young child's mind  
And they fashioned her with care.  

One was a teacher, the tools she used  
Were books and music and art  
One was a parent with guiding hands  
And a gentle loving heart

Day after day the teacher toiled  
With a touch that was deft and sure,  
While the parent laboured by her side  
And polished and smothered it o'er

And when at last their task was done,  
They were proud of what they had wrought  
For the things they had moulded into the child  
Could neither be sold or bought.

And each agreed they would have failed  
If they had worked alone,  
For behind the parent stood the school,  
And behind the teacher, the home

Paula Cosgrave  
Principal

**YEAR 6 TO 7 ORIENTATION/TRANSITION DAY**

As part of the transition from Year 6 to Year 7, students in government secondary schools participate in an orientation day. All government schools hold this orientation day on the same day.

Orientation Day for 2016 will be held on Tuesday 6 December.

At the orientation day, your child may:

- tour the school
- meet teachers and ask questions
- find out about the dress code
- learn what they will be doing in their first year
- meet other students.

For more information about your child’s orientation day, contact your child's new school.

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**Canteen News**

The Canteen will be closed  
Wednesday 14th December.

Canteen menu available on the school website  

2017 menu will be available from January 30th 2017. Please be sure to download the latest menu.
Congratulations to the following 34 students who entered a solution to the maths problem of the week during the eighth week of term. Each of these students earned 10 house points for their respective houses. Cuthbert won the week with 140 points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>HG</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>HG</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>House</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Upper</td>
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<td>Ahmed</td>
<td>EM</td>
<td>Upper</td>
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House Points

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<td>Strickland</td>
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THIS WEEK’S PROBLEMS

Upper (4 to 6) | Middle (2 to 4) | Junior (P to 2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>House:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Group:</td>
<td>Home Group:</td>
<td>Home Group:</td>
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Sudoku

Every row, column and 3x3 box must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 without any repetition.

<table>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Time questions:

Jane went to the zoo and was there for 4 hours. How many minutes is that?

Donald went fishing for 3 days. How many hours is this?

Olivia held her breath for 1 and ¼ minutes underwater. How many seconds is that?

The football game went for 4 quarters of 32 minutes. How many hours and minutes is this?

Continue these patterns:

23, 25, 27, ___, ___, ___

92, 94, 96, ____, ____ , ____

1A, 2B, 3C, ___ , ____ , ____

AB, BC, CD, ____ , ____ , ____

Please submit your entry to the office by the end of school on Thursday.

MATHLETICS

Don’t forget to try and log on to Mathletics at least 3 times a week to earn your 1000 points.

2FH is just maintaining their narrow lead in the race for the most class certificates. They now have 76, followed by 1II on 75. It’s coming down to the last two weeks!

LOG ONTO MATHLETICS AT: www.mathletics.com.au
You are invited to our

**FAMILY CAROLS NIGHT**

On Wednesday 7th December 2016

Each class will perform on stage

between 6.00pm and 8.30pm

BYO chairs or rug, drinks and picnic or buy our sausages ($2.50), vegie burgers ($3.00), juice ($1.00) soft drinks ($1.50) bottled water (1.50) zooper doopers ($1.00)

at school between 5.00pm and 6.00pm

**The raffle will be drawn on the evening**

Family tickets for the Carols Night are $5 (to cover all costs), which includes all immediate family members. Tickets are on sale at the office. Please bring your ticket with you on the evening to present at the side gate entrance on Roycroft Avenue.

It will be a great night!

(Children must be supervised by an adult family member)

It would be appreciated if you can spare some time to help with the BBQ - just half an hour to one hour on a roster basis would be of great assistance. Cooking will stop once the singing starts so you won’t miss a thing!

**Christmas Raffle**

Tickets $1.00 each (5 to a book)

**Raffle prizes:**

1. $150 Lowes voucher
2. Children's Smiggle and Accessories hamper - with a Diamond Valley Miniature Railway (DVR) unlimited ride family pass
3. Ladies hamper - with a $50 Rivers of Yarrambat voucher
4. Men's hamper - with a $20 Station Meats voucher
5. Office chair - with a $50 Lowes voucher
6. $50 Lowes voucher

Please return sold and unsold tickets and money to the school by Monday December 5, 2016. The Raffle will be drawn at the end of Year Family Celebration Night on Wednesday December 7.

The Early Learning Centre sessions are:

Monday
9.30am - 12.00pm

and/or

Fridays
9.30am - 12.00pm

Contact the office on 9404 1362 for more information and enrolment packs.
Welcome to the Science Page. The newsletter will feature Science Quiz Questions and fun Science Facts every week. All you have to do is answer one or all of the questions – it’s that easy! You will earn 10 house points for every question that is answered. Your name will appear in the school newsletter the following week. Each week you will be announced at assembly and ONE of you will be drawn out to win a small prize. Good luck!

**THIS WEEK’S TOPIC: Sports Science**

**DID YOU KNOW?**
- Olympic gold medals are actually made mostly of silver.
- Dimples on a golf ball help reduce drag, allowing the ball to fly further than a ball without dimples.
- The diameter of a full sized basketball is half the diameter of a basketball hoop.

**THIS WEEK’S QUESTIONS:**
Please submit your entries to the OFFICE by THURSDAY!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR (P-2)</th>
<th>UPPER (3-6)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAME:</td>
<td>NAME:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMEGROUP:</td>
<td>HOMEGROUP:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE:</td>
<td>HOUSE:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is typically the slowest swimming stroke, free-style, backstroke, breaststroke or butterfly?</td>
<td>Does an injury to your anterior cruciate ligament affect your arm or leg?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer:</td>
<td>Answer:</td>
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</table>

**HERE ARE THE ANSWERS FROM WEEK 8:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR (P-2)</th>
<th>UPPER (3-6)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name 5 planets from our solar system. Answer: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. <em>Pluto, which until recently was considered to be the farthest planet, is now classified as a dwarf planet.</em></td>
<td>What is the name of a place that uses telescopes and other scientific equipment to research space and astronomy? Answer? An observatory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCIENCE PROBLEM OF THE WEEK**

Congratulations to the following students who entered the ‘Week 8’ Science Problem. Don’t forget to add which house you belong to so that you can earn points!

**PRIZE WINNER – LOGAN FJW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>HOMEGROUP</th>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<td>Harrison</td>
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<td>Lana</td>
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<td>Strickland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ali, Shivam, Massimo, Akharr, Celin, Hayley, Suzan, Aria, Cameron, Riley, Kiara, Anthony, Natalia, Robert, Ahmed</td>
<td>5/6 EM</td>
<td>Strickland</td>
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**HOUSE POINTS TOTAL**

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Jenny W & Mrs J