Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all had a wonderful break and our students and families were able to spend some time together, in a relaxing and enjoyable way.

On a staffing note, we welcome Sarah Lord who will be working in 3HP throughout term 2, alongside Gabby & Briony, whilst Helen is on Long Service Leave.

There are a number of special events taking place throughout term 2, beginning with our ‘WORLD- A- THON’ Fundraiser, Foundation Expo Information Night on Wednesday 29th April, Education Week and Open Day, RMIT Platooning, NAPLAN for Year 3 and Year 5 students on May 12, 13,14 , Year 2 Sleepover as well as a number of planned incursions to complement our Science Inquiry units of work, across all Learning teams. The inquiry units that have been developed for this term have a strong Science focus and are in line with the National Curriculum. They include:

LT 1: ‘Down on the Farm’ (Hatching Chickens, Life Cycles)
LT 2: ‘Archimedes, Newton & Me’ (Push & Pull Forces)
LT 3: ‘Cycle of Life’ (Living & Non Living things, food chains, ecosystems)
LT 4: ‘Sustainable & renewable Energy Forces’

Term 2 is also our Assessment and Reporting Term, where students will receive their Semester One progress report and parents will have the opportunity to attend Student Led conferences, in the last week of term 2.

BABY NEWS: Niina and Chris are delighted to share their joyful news…the long awaited and safe arrival of Max Peeter Murray. Such a precious cargo!

INTERSCHOOLSPORTS SUMMER SEASON:
CONGRATULATIONS to Girls Tee ball 2015 Premiers

HOLIDAY GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE
Bill has been very busy throughout the holidays keeping our school looking beautiful and maintained and working on various projects. He has cleared all the guttering around the school; checked and unblocked the storm water drains that feed into the courtyard, in preparation for Winter; painted the corridor near the library and set up computers in Stephanie’s Foundation classroom. Bill along with Gabby, Leanne and Helen have also maintained watering of the garden beds and checked upon our chooks! Well done and a BIG THANKYOU for all the great work!

NEW SMOKING BANS
Smoking was banned on the grounds of all Victorian Government schools by the Minister of Education in 2009 via a Ministerial Ban Order. From Monday, 13th April 2015, smoking is banned within four metres of an entrance to all primary and secondary schools in Victoria, and within the school grounds, under an amendment to the Tobacco Act 1987.
ANZAC CEREMONY  April 25th

ANZAC Day commemorates the landing of Australian and New Zealand troops on the shores of Gallipoli at ANZAC Cove on 25 April 1915. The Australian and New Zealand soldiers were part of a largely British force that also contained troops from France, India, and Newfoundland. On 25 April the allies began an attack on the Ottoman Empire (now Turkey), which was fighting on Germany's side. This action began an eight-month campaign in which tens of thousands of soldiers lost their lives and thousands more were injured. The campaign ended with the evacuation of all allied troops in January 1916. Although the Gallipoli campaign was unsuccessful, every year, on the anniversary of the landing, Australians honour the courage of those who fought and commemorate the sacrifice of those who died during the campaign. On this day – ANZAC Day – Australians also commemorate those who fought and lost their lives in all wars. We remember and honor the spirit of the original ANZACs. This spirit, with its human qualities of courage, mate ship and sacrifice, continues to have meaning and relevance for our sense of national identity....Lest we forget

I invite all our parents and families to join us on Friday 24th April at 10am in the BER for our whole school 100th Anniversary ANZAC Day Ceremony. Our JSC will lead us through a solemn and respectful service and each class will present a wreath as a sign of remembrance and to celebrate the freedom we have in Australia. Year 6 students will also share writing pieces and reflections. Findon PS will also be represented at the Dawn Service (Epping RSL) on the morning of Friday 25th April by Autumn and Bailey Hodgson and parents Amanda & Ashleigh, who will lay a floral wreath on behalf of Findon Primary School.

SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

We continue to explicitly teach and implement a whole school approach to social and emotional wellbeing through our PATHS â program and our Kids matter Framework.

PATHS â stands for Promoting
  Alternative
  Thinking
  Strategies

and was written to help primary students develop better thinking skills, more mature and responsible ways of behaving, and improved academic performance. Some of the goals of the PATHS â curriculum include:

  • increasing children’s abilities to think and solve problems for themselves
  • increasing children’s abilities to use their thinking skills to act responsibly and maturely
  • improving children’s understanding of themselves and others
  • improving children’s feelings about themselves (that is, their self-esteem)
  • increasing children’s abilities to learn more effectively in the classroom environment

When children think independently, feel good about themselves and act responsibly, then they are likely to be motivated, to work up to their potential, and to persist when they are experiencing difficulties. By teaching your child these thinking skills, PATHS will be teaching them how to learn.

Why is it important for parents to know about PATHS.

Parents are a child’s most important models and teachers. As such, you are the most important influence on your child’s development! The more that you understand about the PATHS Curriculum, the more you will be able to help reinforce and support your child’s skills. By joining together in using positive ways to teach children self-control, emotional understanding, and problem solving both at home and at school, teachers and parents can create better learning environments and enhance developmental growth.

PATHS â lessons are being taught in the classroom on a weekly basis. Each lesson lasts about 20 to 30 minutes in the early years and 60 minutes in the middle years and focuses on one or more particular skills.

I leave you with the following words to ponder…..

It’s going to get harder before it gets easier. But it will get better; you just got to make it through the hard stuff first.

- Anonymous

Paula Cosgrave

Principal
Strickland wins 2015 House Soccer Tournament

Strickland has won the 2015 House Soccer Tournament with a dramatic late goal. They defeated Freeman in a very close and well fought match. Both teams acquitted themselves well in the grand final and played with the right spirit and great teamwork.

In the semi-finals, Freeman defeated Roycroft and Strickland defeated Cuthbert. Then in the grand final, Freeman took out the first game 3 – 2. This meant that Strickland had to come from behind in the second game. Strickland had managed to build a 2 goal advantage but with less than a minute to play, Freeman scored, and the overall scores were tied. Both teams were informed that the next goal would win and from the ensuing kick off, Jacob D. struck the ball towards the Freeman goal. Abdul, who had been a valiant keeper all tournament, was not able to palm it out and the ball fell into the back of the net. Strickland had won and joyous team scenes followed.

Congratulations to all players who participated in the tournament. The games were played to a high standard and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to represent their house.

Zahia and Daniel collect the trophy at assembly
## 2015 NETBOOK PAYMENT SCHEDULE

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<td><strong>Start date</strong></td>
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<td><strong>End date</strong></td>
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### Discovery Night

**Thursday 16th April**

5 – 8pm