Dear Parents, Students & Staff

Last Sunday was potato planting in the garden with lots of potatoes now growing, some mosaics completed and pizzas enjoyed by those who came.

No one can doubt the value of our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program. Through this program our students learn how to grow, harvest and prepare healthy food. Our students have enjoyed eating foods some never thought they would try, while learning how to co-operate and share with others during both gardening and cooking.

This program is expensive to run and while both the P&C and the school provide substantial funds, we need to charge a Student Resource Levy to subside the cost of such items as fertilizer, seeds, garden tools and cooking ingredients that are not able to be grown in the garden. More information on the levy will be sent out to those classes and students affected.

In line with this program, we are developing a whole school philosophy around the types of food that are served or sold at school. This includes food sold at events such as sports days and movie nights as well as in the tuckshop. If you would like to part of the steering committee for this you are welcome to attend a meeting tonight at 6.30pm in the staff room.

All Farnborough students have been joined up to the 2014 Premier’s Reading Challenge and this year we are aiming for 100% of students to meet their reading target. For students in Prep to Year 2 this means experiencing or reading 20 books, while students in Years 3 and 4 need to read 20 books and those in Years 5 to 7, 15 books. ‘Experiencing’ books can include shared reading, listening to stories, or reading picture books.

ASAP so they can be wrapped for the “Knock them Down Stall”. Please deliver these to Sue in the prep room or she can be phoned on 0488 397 700

Carol Butler-Mader (Principal)
OPTI-MINDS TIME IS COMING

The Opti-MINDS Creative Sustainability Challenge caters for a diverse range of learners. It encompasses many elements of the Australian National Curriculum. The ability to be flexible in your thinking and to adapt to change; to harness that change to advantage; the ability to problem solve and overcome hurdles; the ability to collaborate and communicate effectively; and an empowered sense of self are all things that support and enhance resilience. These are all essential elements in the process of the Opti-MINDS Challenge.

Each year our school participates in Opti-minds competition in Rockhampton. In recent years three of our teams have won the regional competition and gone on to compete in Brisbane. These have been wonderful experiences for the students and adults involved.

Students from Year 6 and 7 compete in teams of 6 to 8 students. Each team has 6 weeks to prepare their solution to the OPTI MINDS challenge. To make this possible each team requires an adult to assist them in developing their solutions and presentation of the challenge.

We are looking for parents who are interested in acting as facilitators for our teams this year. Being a facilitator is a fun and rewarding experience.

Any parents who are interested, or would like to hear more about this great opportunity please contact Mrs Butler or myself.

Ellen Clayton

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Just a reminder to parents, if you don’t wish to purchase school photos the form / envelope still needs to be returned to school on the day. Each order form has its own barcode which helps the photographer quickly scan each student name into the computer as they walk up to have their photo taken. Every student will have their photo taken even though you don’t place an order, so please remember to wear our full school uniform.

SAD NEWS

Sadly Kai Newcombe passed away last week. Kai has been a familiar and much loved face around our school. Our thoughts go to his family.

P & C PIE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

With last week’s newsletter an order form was sent out to the eldest in each family. All orders (with money) need to be returned to the office by 28th May. (next Wednesday). Delivery date is the Thursday 19th June.

A reminder to those who will be away on camp next week to return your order this Friday. A hot meat pie and veges with warm custard and apple pie goes down well on a cold winter’s night!!

Happy calculating!  Ellen (Acting Head of Curriculum)

DATE CLAIMER

MAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st</td>
<td>R’ton Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th–30th</td>
<td>Year 6 &amp; 7’s Camp</td>
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<td>28th</td>
<td>1st game of “State of Origin” – Go Queensland!!!</td>
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Helping Our Children

Helpful information from the HOC (Head of Curriculum)

Developing a Positive Attitude towards Maths is Essential.

Helping your child feel positive about maths is really important and it’s something every parent can do. Maths is everywhere – pointing this out helps children understand the importance of maths, and enjoy it too. Being numerate is a life skill that will help your child at home, at school, and one day in their work lives too.

A good understanding of numeracy will help your child with everyday tasks like:

- Solving problems
- Making decisions
- Understanding information.

Children with good numeracy skills are more likely to;
- Stay in education longer
- Be in work as adults
- Earn more throughout their lives

http://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/parents/index.html

As parents it is important to help you child feel positive about Maths. If you say “I can’t do maths or I wasn’t any good at maths at school”, it is likely your children will start to think like that themselves. Even if you don’t feel confident with maths, you can still make a huge difference to your child’s numeracy confidence and ability.

Tips for Parents:

Get involved – be proactive about your child’s numeracy

Be positive- avoid imparting your fear of maths onto your children Show your child how mathematics applies to real-life situations

Encourage children to take part in activities that use their maths skills like grocery shopping within a budget or measuring materials for craft activities

Get a list or poster of multiplication tables at home

Access programs on the internet designed to assist your child’s maths learning

Remain calm when helping with homework

Talk to the teacher to clarify teaching methods if your child says “we don’t do it this way in class” Use maths on the weekend – if you are planning a visit to a number of theme parks or places, ask your child to work out which is better value for money

Refresh your own math skills- look on the internet for courses or apps that assist in maths learning.

For more information and tips


issue1_mathshomework.html

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/involve/Pages/

literacynum.aspx

Happy calculating!  Ellen (Acting Head of Curriculum)

HPE & SPORT NEWS

R’TON DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY

Good Luck to all our runners tomorrow. Have a great day and show our Farnborough Spirit. Will touch base with more news next week but have a Healthy Active Week.

Margie

Like and Share our Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/farnboroughstateschool