

## Faulconbridge News

## Learn to Live

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Kitchen Garden (Stage 3)

Year 6 Shirts Lost Property

Annual swimming carnival (Year 2 students turning 8)

School band enrolment form (Year 3-6)

Return to school and COVID-19 update

#### Term 1, Week 2 (5th February 2021)

Important Dates:

Please mark these dates on your calendar

Principal: Mrs C Frith Assistant Principal Stage 1: Mrs N Bridges Assistant Principal Stage 2: Mrs K Jansons Rel Assistant Principal Stage 3: Mrs C Hawkins

#### Notes Home/ ENews Updates

Term 1 – FEBRUARY		
Wed 10	Swimming Carnival (Grades 3-6)	
	+Year 2, turning 8, can swim 50m	
Fri 12	AFL Auskick Clinic (during sport for each stage)	
Mon 15	P&C Meeting & AGM	
Wed 17	Meet the teacher evening 6-7pm	
Thur 18	Volunteer Induction 9.15am	

Term 1 – MARCH		
Mon 1	Volunteer induction 6pm	
Wed 10	School photos	
Mon 15	P&C Meeting	



#### **School Activities Update**

Garden Classes - Term 1 Stage 3 - 5/6H, 5/6P, 5/6S

> Sport Days - Fridays K-2 (9.55 - 10.55) 3-4 (12.25 - 1.25) 5-6 (1.55 - 2.55)



**PE Days (sports uniform)** Tuesday: 2/3P, 3/4T, 3/4Z, 3/4C Wednesday: 1/2F, 1/2W, 5/6P. 5/6H, 5/6S Thursday: 1/2H, KB, KG, K/1C

#### Library Days

Tuesday: 5/6S. 5/6H, 5/6P Wednesday: 1/2W, 3/4C, 3/4Z, 2/3P Thursday: K/1C. KG, 3/4T (odd weeks) Friday: 1/2F, KB, 1/2H, 3/4T (even weeks)

Music Monday: Tuesday: K/1C, KB. KG, 1/2W, 1/2H Wednesday: 5/6S. 5/6H, 5/6P, 3/4T Friday: 2/3P, 3/4C, 3/4Z, 1/2F



Grose Road, Faulconbridge NSW 2776 PO Box 249, Springwood 2777 Phone: 4751 2208 Fax: 4751 3933 Website: <u>http://www.faulconbri-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/</u> Email: <u>http://faulconbri-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</u> Access student portal: <u>http://portal.det.nsw.edu.au</u>



#### Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome Back to our 2021 school year.

It has been a busy but settled start to our school year. We have a student population of 332 students across 13 classes. There are many opportunities for students to participate in school programs across the year, and the Kitchen Garden program will start for Stage 3 classes this week.

#### 2021 Teaching Staff

This is our plan for 2021 classes. We will have composite classes in all stages and across stages also. The staffing of classes is:

KB Mrs Bridges	KG Mrs Galbraith
K/1C Mrs Carter	1/2F Mrs Fysh
1/2H Mrs Harrison	1/2W Ms Waddell/Mrs Langworthy
2/3P Mrs Percival	3/4C Mr Cleary
3/4T Miss Theoharis/Mrs Price	3/4Z Mrs Zordoumis
5/6H Mrs Hawkins	<b>5/6S</b> Mr Smith
5/6P Miss Parker	Learning Support: Mrs Jansons, Mrs Stevens and Miss Kemp
Kitchen Garden: Mrs Langworthy and Mrs Healy	Music RFF: Mr Earl and Mr Bucholtz;

Library: Mrs Capuyan/Mrs Rooney

Mr Thomson's classroom position is still awaiting permanent appointment by the DOE. Miss Parker is currently filling this position. In 2021 Mr Earl is taking leave and Mrs Hawkins is replacing him as Assistant Principal for Stage 3.

Mrs McKay and Mr McDonald are continuing on leave and Ms Slawski is continuing on maternity leave.

I would like to welcome Mrs Hawkins and Miss Parker to our teaching staff, and I know you will make them feel welcome.

#### **COVID** guidelines update

#### COVID Safe Check-in

From Term 1 2021, all NSW public schools use the Service NSW COVID Safe Check in.

Look for the COVID Safe QR code posters when you enter the school. Be sure to sign in at the school administration building according to your school's visitor guidelines. Parents and carers who are only dropping off and picking up students do not need to check in using the Service NSW QR code.

Please see the link to the latest COVID-19 guidelines for parents:

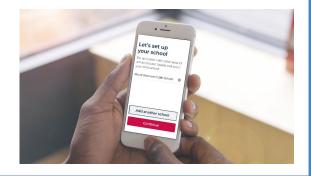
https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families

Alternatively download the app:

#### NSW School Updates app

The NSW School Updates app allows parents and carers to receive operational status updates for NSW public schools.

NSW families can now get notified when their school becomes nonoperational, wherever they are.





#### Principal's Report cont'd

The app will complement the other means of communication available to parents and carers from schools and the Department of Education to ensure families receive timely, accurate information in a crisis.

The app is free and available now for iOS and Android users.

You can opt in for notifications about the operational status of as many NSW public schools as you choose. The app doesn't store any personal or identifiable information. When using the app, it communicates with the department's servers storing a unique identifier for your device; the schools that you wish to receive updates for; and if you've opted into receive push notifications information to send notifications to that device.

#### Parental responsibility for attendance at school

At the start of the school year it is timely to remind parents and carers of their parental responsibility for student attendance at school. Attendance at school is a legal requirement. What are the responsibilities of Parents? Parents must ensure:

- Their children of <u>compulsory school age</u> (the child is of or above the age of 6 years and below the minimum school leaving age), are enrolled in a government or registered non-government school or, they are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) for Home Schooling.
- Their children who are enrolled at school attend every day the school is open for their instruction.
- They provide an explanation for absences by means such as a telephone call, written note, text message or email to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence.
- They work in partnership with the school to plan and implement strategies to support regular attendance at school, including communicating with the school if they are aware of issues impacting on their child's attendance or engagement with school.

#### Applications for Extended Leave (travel or holiday) procedure.

Since the beginning of 2015, family holidays and travel outside of the school vacation period has been counted as an absence for statistical purposes. If you are planning to travel during a school term, an Application for Extended Leave should be completed in the weeks prior to the travel and submitted to the school office. This ensures the timely issuing of the Certificate for Extended Leave prior to departure to travel. Travel is considered to be domestic or international travel for the purpose of a family holiday, family business, bereavement or other reasons, which should be specified on the application. In the case of family holidays, **you are encouraged to take holidays with your child/ren during school vacation periods**. Travel during the school term must be in the best interests of the student. Educational, social and participation reasons should be specified on the Application for Extended Leave.

As Principal, I have responsibility to accept or decline an Application for Extended Leave. Accepted applications receive written confirmation through the Certificate of Extended Leave which should be taken with for the duration of the leave period. If the application is declined, you will receive written notification. I may phone you to discuss the reasons for extended leave, to better understand your situation. Travel documentation, such as copies of travel itinerary or e- ticket can be attached to the Application to assist this process.

#### **Thinking of Others**

One of our students, Yanni Garber-Greenwood is raising money for a children's cancer charity - Kids with Cancer. He is cutting his hair next Thu 11 Feb. His hair will be donated to a wigmaker. Our community have generously already donated almost \$2000 to his efffort. The money raised will go directly to families who need support to care for their child with cancer. Here is the link to his fundraising page:

https://fundraise.kidswithcancer.org.au/fundraisers/yannigarber-greenwood



#### Principal's Report cont'd

#### P&C AGM

Our school P&C generally meets on the 3rd Monday of each month during school terms. Our first P&C Meeting is on Monday 15th February at 7pm in the library. The P&C AGM will also be held at this time. While everyone is welcome to attend we are limited to no more than 30 people due to COVID-19 restrictions. Only financial members can vote at the AGM. New parents can join the P&C at this meeting. We look forward to welcoming new members in 2021.

The P&C takes an active role in the life of our school, with subcommittees who look after fundraising, the Blackboard Café, advocacy for our school, student banking and the uniform shop. Fundraising events include the Mothers' Day Stall, Fathers' Day Stall, Twilight Markets and bi-annual walkathons/Colour run. As well the Blackboard Café supports many events at school throughout the year. All of these events are reliant on the good will and time of our volunteer parents and grandparents. Please consider taking an active role in the P&C if you can this year, as *'many hands make light work'*.

#### **Volunteer Induction**

As I stated above, our school works well as school community, due to the amazing number of people who volunteer their time to support programs at our school. As we start the new school year it is important all our volunteers provide their Working with Children Check number, 100 points of ID and complete either Appendix 5 or 11. Please ensure your details are up to date at the front office. If you have previously provided your details and your Working With Children Check has not expired, then you will be ready to start helping when the teachers are ready.

This year we are inviting **all new** volunteers to participate in an induction program. This will be a 30 minute session on Thursday 18th February at 9:15am in the school hall or Monday 1st March at 6pm in the school library. Anyone who is planning to assist in classrooms or volunteer in the school is encouraged to attend. This session will include site compliance for Workplace Health and Safety, Working with Children Check, Child Protection, Emergency procedures, Signing in procedures and protocols, security, supervision and PBL.

#### Communication from the school

Our school newsletter is the main source of information about our school, including upcoming events and key information. Our newsletter is uploaded to the school website each fortnight and is also distributed via the School ENews app. All notes sent home and all upcoming event information can be also be found on the website and the website is updated weekly.

From time to time family circumstances may change. When relationships breakdown it is important to maintain respectful communication with each other and the school. Notes will be sent home with the student, to the parent the child is residing with at that time. The non-residential parent can access all information on the website or via the School ENews app.

As always it is important to update your details at the front office to ensure the school has the correct information including address, emergency contacts, and any custody arrangements.

#### **Learning Supplies and Voluntary Contributions**

There are no compulsory fees in NSW Government Schools to meet minimum curriculum requirements. Each year every student/family is invoiced for Voluntary Contributions towards the operational expenses of running the school. Our voluntary contribution is \$46 for a student or \$75 for a family. **This contribution is voluntary**, and we appreciate the support of the families who make their contribution each year. This year we are also invoicing \$30 for Learning Supplies which will help purchase supplies used directly in the classrooms by students. **This payment is also voluntary**.



#### Principal's Report cont'd

#### **Band Fees**

Mr Earl will be running the band program on Friday mornings and coordinating music tutorials for all band members. Our band fees cover the employment and payment of the band tutors, purchase music and instruments, as well as maintaining and repairing instruments that are hired so they are in good working order for the students.

A big thank you to the parents who have paid their band fees last year and in preceding years. You may not realise that the band program costs about \$30,000 each year to run. In comparison to private music lessons our band fees are quite modest, especially when you consider the high calibre of professional musicians who work as our band tutors. Mr Earl spends a large amount of time organising and coordinating the band program. It wouldn't happen at all without Mr Earl, his energy, enthusiasm and passion for providing students with quality musical opportunities at school. It also happens with the support of parents paying fees in a timely manner.

Due to the costs involved, **students will not be able to continue with band if band fees from last year or previous years are not paid**. Invoices for last year's fees will be issued shortly. We cannot pay for our band tutors' wages if fees are not paid. If there is any difficulty in paying band fees, please contact Mrs Frith or Mr Earl to organise a payment plan.

#### **Primary Swimming Carnival**

Our Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at Lawson Pool. We hope to be lucky with the weather and have a high participation level of students competing in a range of races and novelty events.

As per NSW Department of Education COVID-19 regulations, the 2021 Annual swimming carnival will implement the following changes:

- All students will need to use hand sanitiser prior to getting on the bus, and once they have alighted the bus.
- Students 12 (and over) will be required to wear face masks on the bus to and from the carnival
- All students are asked to wear their swim wear underneath their clothing in order to minimise exposure to public change rooms
- The students will be seated in stage groups.
- In line with current COVID-19 restrictions, we ask that, where possible, no more than one parent / carer attends the carnival per family.

#### Meet the teacher Evening

This year we are running our Meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday 17th February from 6-7pm. Please pop this date in your diary. More information will follow next week.

Please remember this is time for general information about our school and your child's class. If you need to speak to your child's teacher about an individual matter, please make an appointment.

#### **Cub Award Morning Tea**

Congratulations to our Cub Award winners for 2020.

	K-2	3-6
Term 1	Oscar B 1/2F	Remy L 5/6P
Week 2	Laila C 1/2F	William C 3/4T
	William P 1/2F	Sian W 5/6S

Mrs Carol Frith Principal



## How To Access School Information in 2021

## As communication is as only good as the receiver, we encourage all our families to engage with our communication channels for 2021.

#### Newsletter

Fortnightly, (even weeks) will be sent via eNews

Paper copies will be available in the office

Please read the newsletter each fortnight as it will include information regarding upcoming events, notes sent home, school timetable and activity updates as well as important general school information.

#### Website

The school website will be used for organisational purposes that include a calendar of upcoming events, newsletters, whole school and stage notes, general school information, contacts and promotions

#### Notes

All whole school, stage and grade notes will be sent home via a paper copy, on eNews and on the website. Class notes that are relevant to your child's class only will go home via Class Dojo and/or a paper copy will be sent home (please see your child's class teacher to sign up for class Dojo) A note of activities for the term will be sent out early each term

#### Facebook

Facebook will not be used for organisational information. It will include photos of school events, achievements, reminders of upcoming and *previously advertised* events

The school Facebook account allows for community members to private message the school with questions.

The school will respond to messages via Facebook between 9am and 4pm on school days. For emergency queries please contact the school on (02) 47 512208

#### **Community Communication Meetings**

Will occur twice a year in the evening to inform about current events, learning programs and consultation. Invites will be sent home vie eNews and the fortnightly newsletter.

#### **Contact Us**

School email: faulconbri-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

To contact individual class teachers please email the above address and your email will be forwarded to the class teacher or sign up for class dojo for messaging

Phone: (02) 4751 2208

Facebook messenger: (access via school Facebook page)

If you require an interview with the class teacher please contact the school to arrange an appointment.





#### Introducing School Enews at Faulconbridge Public School

#### What is School Enews?

School Enews is a complete communication solution that Faulconbridge Public School ('FPS') has subscribed to, to improve communication between our school and our parent community.

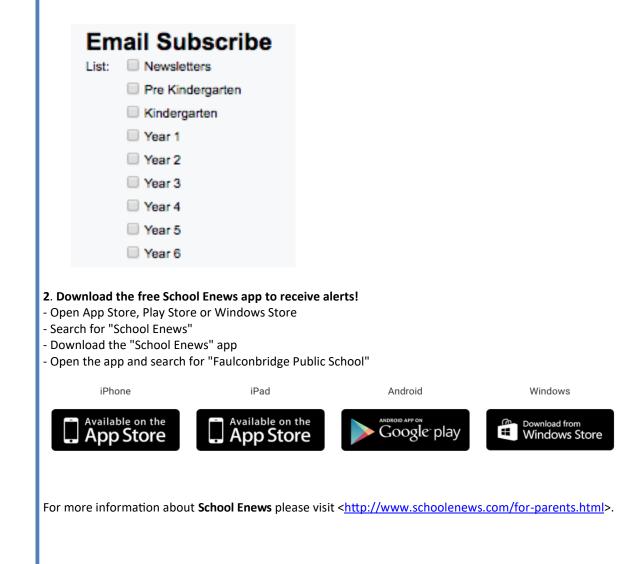
School Enews is a web-based email subscription service and smart phone app communication service that includes a wide range of communication tools including:

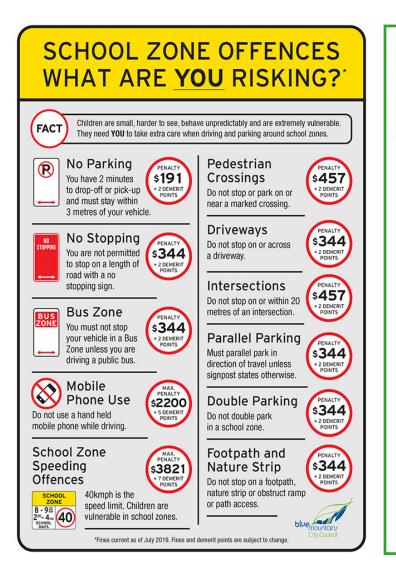
• Email and smart phone/iPad alerts and digital forms such as the Newsletter.

There are two quick and easy ways to setup your subscriptions to, and notifications from, School Enews;

#### 1. Email Subscription

Parents can subscribe to receive email notifications and Newsletters via the FPS website <<u>http://www.faulconbri-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/notes-home</u>>.







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20TH FEBRUARY 168 HAWKESBURY ROAD ENTRY IS 600M PAST THE LIGHTS AT ST THOMAS AQUINAS FOLLOW THE SIGNS GATES OPEN AT 10:00AM FOR COVID REGISTRATION

Learn about Farm It Forward and The Edible Gardens Trail Costa will be running a workshop at 11:30 on how to build a wicking bed from a bathtub Bring a picnic, bring the family and take a tour of our garden Plants and jams for sale Tea and coffee available

## FAULCONBRIDGE NETBALL CLUB

# **Registration Day 2021**

Love playing netball? Want to be part of a team that's all about having a go, having fun and making friends? Then Faulconbridge Netball Club is the club for you!

## JOIN US AT OUR REGISTRATION DAY

WHERE: FAULCONBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL WHEN: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20 TIME: 10AM - 2PM

Seniors - \$210 Juniors - \$190 NetSetGo - \$170

Questions? Don't hesitate to send us an email at faulconbridgenetball@gmail.com/

