Science: This term, we will be focussing on the chemical sciences. This includes not only lotions and potions but also properties of the materials that make up our environment.

PE: Hi everyone, and welcome back to another exciting year in PE. This term we will be concentrating on improving fundamental motor skills which are required to participate in athletic events. Skills such as running, jumping, and throwing will be developed as we look towards the Athletics carnival held at the end of the term. The junior students will have an increased focus on the development and improvement of these skills and all students will undertake activities which will increase their fitness, develop their skills and have a big emphasis on fun! Looking forward to many sunny Thursday’s.

Performing Arts: I am so excited to be back that I just can’t wipe the smile off my face. This term across all the levels we will explore all the elements of music, such as tone colour, texture, rhythm, dynamics, tempo beat and melody. And if the kids aren’t all singing both verses of Advance Australia Fair on Monday morning, I will be surprised.

Prep/1 This term we will be settling into school. We will develop our knowledge of the alphabet and numbers. We will be exploring “All About Me” as well as what makes good learning. We will welcome any Parent helpers at the beginning of March.

Grade 1/2 This term we are focusing on settling the students back into school. We will do the “About Me” program and look into facts about Australia. Throw in there lots of reading, writing and maths and we are in for a busy term.

Grade 3/4 This term we will be focusing on establishing class routines and expectations. We will also learn about multiple intelligences to determine those areas we are really strong in and those we could extend. We will create individual mission statements about our approach to learning and other tasks at school. At the moment we are busy creating our own routes for Reading Around Australia, where every minute we read at home and at school becomes 1 km on our map. Hopefully, we will manage to read all the way around Australia by the end of the year!

Grade 5/6 We have started the term with a bang! Both teachers are impressed with the maturity and the motivation each student is showing. The students are saying they feel as though they are settling in well and that they are pleased with the team teaching arrangement. We have started the year with a review of Maths skills, with a focus on Operations and strategies for approaching a Maths task. We are actively recruiting! If you are able to spare one hour or two a week, or even on a one off basis to come and help the students out with the maths programme we would love to hear from you! The students are working on literacy skills that will assist them as they move forward. It was fantastic to see everyone at last Friday’s assembly and for particularly our new families. We have had a great start to the year, with a real buzz of excitement in the air.

Welcome back to another exciting year in PE. This term across all the levels we will explore all the elements of music, such as tone colour, texture, rhythm, dynamics, tempo beat and melody. And if the kids aren’t all singing both verses of Advance Australia Fair on Monday morning, I will be surprised.

Community Noticeboard

SHROVE TUESDAY
Pancake Tea
17th February
0.30pm. $6 or $16 for a family

Community Garden
It’s time for gathering in the garden this Friday to do some maintenance, harvesting and watering. We gather at 10am till midday and always have a cuppa after our garden session. The Foster Food Swap is this Saturday at 10am in the Manna Communi-Garden. If you have any excess produce you would like to swap, feel free to pop in and have a chat. We are looking forward to a productive and motivated Term.

Gippsland Power Football Club
Will be holding Under 13’s and Under 15’s Grand Finals at Foster Football Ground.
Thursday 12th February 7pm
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
- Publicans
- Fish Creek Post Office
- Foster Post Office
- Fish Creek and Foster Community Garden
- Foster Primary School
- Foster Secondary School

Fish Creek and District Primary School
Telephone: (03) 5683 2271
Urgent Calls: 0427 832271
Email: fish.creek.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Facebook: Fish-Creek-and-District-Primary-School/49804450284215

Fish Creek and District Primary School Newsletter
Term 1, Issue 1

Welcome Back!
Where did those holidays go? I would like to personally welcome everyone back and in particular our new families. We have had a great start to the year, with a real buzz of excitement in the air. It was fantastic to see everyone at last Friday’s assembly and for coffee after that. Every year is different and offers an abundance of newness - new programs, new staff, new students and new opportunities for all members of our school community to grow and achieve together in a happy, safe and welcoming environment because...KidsMatter! As always we encourage and value your input! There are some friendly reminders in today’s newsletter. Please check with the teachers or at the office if you have any questions. Looking forward to a great year!

Welcome new Preps; Riley, Sophie, Lily, Abbie, Cody, Monty, Leticia, Isla, Oscar, Will, Chelsea, Kelly and Indigo. A special mention goes to Oakleigh who is the fourth generation of the Williams family to attend FCDPS.

A warm welcome to Noah and his family. Noah will be in the senior building with Mrs V and Mr Farrell and is in Grade 5.
Parent Payments
A reminder that these are due by next **Friday 13th February**. You may pay at the office or directly deposit the fees into our Bendigo Bank account. If you would like to organize a payment plan please make an appointment to discuss this ASAP. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bus Reminders
Bus stops have been determined based on safety, usage DEECD and PTV guidelines. Students should be using the allocated stops. Failure to do so impacts on other users and bus drivers. Please ensure students are waiting at their allocated stop at least 5 minutes prior to the pick up time. If you are unsure of your time or pick up/drop off stop/time please contact the school. A parent should be waiting for a student when they are dropped off in the afternoon. Yankiie/ Buffalo Bus
Just to let you know that the Yankiie bus may run a little late some mornings as there are road works in the Yankiie township. This started on 4/2 and will continue until the end of term.

School Council
Attached to this week's newsletter is the timeline for school council elections. Please collect a nomination form from the office if you are interested in becoming a parent member on school council.

Chinese
The Waratah Cluster will be advertising for a Chinese teacher this term with the view to beginning the language program in term 2.

Uniform
It’s great to see everyone in their summer uniform. Just a reminder that:
- long hair needs to be tied up and hair accessories should be in school colours where possible.
- nail polish, temporary tattoos, make up and dangly jewellery are not part of school uniform.
- hats need to be worn this term.

Prep Parents
A reminder that all Prep parents are invited to join us for a “cuppa and chat” next Monday, 9th February morning from 9.00am in the staffroom. You will meet your child’s buddy and have a chance to catch up with each other for a chat. We will have a helpful parent on hand to answer any of your questions about the first year at school. Looking forward to seeing you then. Please like our Facebook page to keep up to date.

Signmee
Signmee continues to be our preferred permission system. Please be patient with us as we get it set up for 2015 (some paper notices may come home during this period).

First Aid and Medications
Temporary medications e.g. antibiotics, anti-histamines etc. can be administered when accompanied by a note signed and dated by a parent. All medicines must be in original packaging with instructions and student’s name attached.

Pain relief medication such as Paracetamol, Aspirin etc. is not permitted to be administered as First Aid. It can be administered at school if presented as a Doctor’s prescription or as part of a Medicine Management plan.

Students suffering from asthma or other severe medical condition are required to submit a School Asthma/Severe Condition Management Plan.

PnP first meeting for the term will be held on Monday, 16th February at 9.00am in the staffroom. All welcome.

Thank You
Thanks to the PnP for organising a successful blueberry picking fundraiser and Evan Dwyer for allowing us to run this on his property. We raised over $4000 for our school. Thank you to Col Smith, Mark Standfield and Jeff Buckland for levelling and resurfacing our oval. Also, thank to Graham’s Seeds. It is looking great, we just need a bit more rain before the kids can play on it.

Fish Creek Relay For Life - 21st & 22nd March 2015
Interest is being sought as to the viability of putting a team into the relay from the school. Entry is $20 per person and the Relay runs from Sat 4.00pm to Sunday 10am. It is a great chance to get a group together and work to raise funds for the fight against cancer. The aim is to have at least 1 member of the team on the track at all times. Children are also invited to participate. Remember the more team members the easier it will be! If interested please see Claire Buckland, Kim Williams or Irene Gale.

Friday Assemblies
These will begin on Friday 20th February and everyone is welcome to attend from 2.50pm in the junior building.

School Photos
School Photos will be on Tuesday 17th February. Order forms will go home as soon as they arrive.

Model Planes
The Foster Show is fast approaching and students who are working on their model planes need to bring them along to school by Friday 20th February (as they need to be judged prior to the show).

Changes to Regular Bus Travel
The School must be notified of alterations to normal bus travel. This is best done with a note on the day of change or a phone call to the school by 3.00pm. Any permanent change – i.e. for sport or cubs, also needs to be in writing.

Asthma/Severe Condition Management Plan.
Students suffering from asthma or other severe medical condition are required to submit a School Asthma/Severe Condition Management Plan.

Sports Captains – Karla & Lochie G
On Monday basketball started again at Foster. We have lots of our students taking part in this competition—many for the 1st time. Good luck for the season.

As a school we form, part of the Waratah Cluster. This is a couple of different schools that combine and play sport together. These schools are Tarwin Valley, Tarwin Lower and us. Swimming trials are next Thursday and we encourage students from Gr 4-6 to have a go. Even if you don’t make it through to the next level, you can still say you tried and you had fun.

Swimming Trials
We are holding our Swimming Trials at Toora Pool next Thursday. All students who are at least 9, turning 10 this year, and can swim 50m using the correct stroke technique are encouraged to participate in the trials. A Signmee will go home to any parent whose child has expressed an interest.

KidsMatter Primary
The KidsMatter Action Team met yesterday morning to organise this term’s events and initiatives. Our first event will be the whole school community BBQ on Friday 13th February at school from 6.00-8.30pm. The format will be similar to last year with the school supplying a BBQ with family activities. Prep and new parents will be issued with a welcome bag courtesy of Bendigo Bank. More information will come as we finalise details. Please put this date in your diary. Looking forward to seeing you all! Speaking of dates, attached to this newsletter is a calendar of events for Semester 1. We hope this will help families plan for things as they will have the dates in advance. We are also organising two parent information sessions for this term. The first will be a chance to visit the classrooms and meet the teachers whilst finding out how each classroom operates and an opportunity to ask questions. This will be held on Wednesday 25th February. The second session will be a KidsMatter information session for parents and we have been extremely lucky to have secured Terry Guilford as our guest speaker. This will be held on Wednesday 25th March.

For more information about KidsMatter Primary see their website and Facebook page.

http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/

https://www.facebook.com/#!/KidsMatterForFamilies