



# Farrer Newsletter

Term 2, Week 6, 5 June 2008



Established 1970 - 38 Years of Quality Education

Education and Training

Farrer Primary School acknowledges the traditional owners of Ngunnawal Land

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Principal: Wayne Prowse

Business Manager: Gay Gallagher

## IMPORTANT DATES

### June

- 5: "Too Hot To Handle" performance @ school Stage 2 & 3
- 5: World Environment Day
- 6: Short Day Preschool photos
- 9: Queen's B'day holiday
- 12: Wakakirri Parent Meeting 7.00pm in the Staffroom
- 12: UNSW Writing Competition
- 13: Book Club due back
- 16: P & C Meeting
- 20: Combined Band Practice Yr 6 Curtin Primary School

### Contact Info

#### Coordinator - Stage 1

Joanne Lees

#### Coordinator - Stage 2

Bob Bannister

#### Coordinator - Stage 3

Trish Lentfer

### Next Board meeting

3 July 2008

4.30pm - 6.00pm

### P&C

President: Mr. John Alley

Term 2: 16 June

Term 3: 4 August and 8 September

Term 4: 27 October and 1 December

### Next P&C meeting:

Monday 16 June 2008

### Band times

#### Year 5

Monday 11.00am-11.45am

Wednesday 11.00am-11.45am

#### Year 6

Monday 11.45am-12.30pm

Wednesday 11.45am-12.30pm

### Practise Times

#### Year 5

Friday Lunch 12.40pm-1.05pm

#### Year 6

Friday 8.30am-9.00am

### Gymnastics

Wednesday 12.30pm-1.25pm

### Newsletter deadline

Please submit all items for the newsletter before 9.00am Wednesday morning.

## Principal's message:

### Capital Kids Leadership Event Round up:

After a very successful day last week at this leadership forum for senior primary students. Our team of budding reporters, has written about their perceptions of the day and included the article in this newsletter.

### Jigsaw performance this Thursday: Too Hot to handle.

After undertaking consultation within Farrer School last year, the Jigsaw Performing Arts Company will be performing the environmentally flavoured *Too Hot to Handle* for our students. We are looking forward to the performance and of course our students' responses to the show. Times etc

**This week's *How it Works* explains** how the school *Reports Student Progress*. This outline describes the purpose and extent of end of semester reporting for Kindergarten to Year 6 at Farrer including A-E reporting for Year 1 to Year 6 students.

**Year 6 Senate meetings:** On Monday of this week I met with year 6 Senators (all Year 6 students) to discuss their first class meetings with their constituent classes. We have begun to prepare our responses to requests and advice from each class so that the Senate Captains can provide feedback to the school at this week's assembly.

**This week's assembly** will be conducted by Kindergarten. As usual the assembly will commence at 11.45 and run for approximately 45 minutes.

*Wayne Prowse*

## How it works: *Reporting Student Progress*

The *How it Works* section aims to further inform parents of some of our positive practices and interventions at Farrer Primary.

**Reporting requirements for all ACT schools:** Due to recently introduced Australian Government requirements, schools are to report on Year 1–6 student progress using A-E grades in each of the eight prescribed learning areas. Schools are also required to report on the number of students in each year level who attained each of the A-E grades. Whilst schools are required to report against what is known nationally as the *Key Learning Areas (KLAs)*, most primary schools integrate aspects of their curriculum to ensure real world contexts for learning.

**How we organise our learning programs:** Our programs recognise the significance of Literacy and Numeracy in the development of each child's learning. We use effective whole-school strategies that inform each child's teacher and parents, of the abilities and progress of the individual.

In addition, our curriculum encompasses learning in the broad areas of:

- Integrated units: Environments and Technologies (KLAs: *SOSE, Science, Technology*)  
Heritage (KLAs: *SOSE, Arts*)  
Civics and Citizenship (KLAs: *Health, SOSE*)
- Physical Education and Sport
- Japanese (Also referred to as *LOTE*, or *Language other than English*)

Our Arts programs include experiences in visual and performing arts integrated within our learning areas. Similarly, ICT (Information Communication Technologies) is integrated across most areas of the curriculum.

**Outcomes reporting:** For many years most ACT schools, including Farrer Primary, have reported student learning progress using *Outcomes Reports* with the aim of identifying specific student strengths and weaknesses within each learning area. In order to continue to provide this valuable information, Farrer Primary has included *Outcomes Reports* for students in Years 1 to 6 as well as the required A-E reports.

**How our teachers determine grades for students in Years 1 to 6 :** As we continue to plan, assess and report against learning outcomes, teachers use these outcomes along with the prescribed A-E reporting criteria to determine student A-E grades at the end of each semester. For example a student who has been **Achieving** at year level for most outcomes would receive a **C grade** for **Sound Achievement**. Similarly, a student who has been **Extending** beyond year level outcomes for a significant majority of the aspects of English would receive an **A grade** for **Outstanding Achievement in this area**.

With each class undertaking up to four major integrated units each year, a grade may not be awarded in a particular Key Learning Area (KLA) that has not been explicitly covered during the reporting period.

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**Capital Kids Leadership Event Round up:** On the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 16 students from Farrer went to the Capital Kids Capital Leaders Day at the Hellenic Club.

When we got there we waited patiently at our tables for our speakers. The first speaker who spoke was Andrew Fuller. We had to answer True or False questions on an overhead projector, we also completed a survey. We had a short break for recess.

We went back into the Olympus room after we finished our recess, to listen to the next speaker, Lauren Burns. She is an Olympic Gold Medalist for Tae Kwon Do. She won the first gold medal in Tae Kwon Do. She taught us that you don't have to be naturally good at something to succeed. She also taught some excellent Tae Kwon Do moves.

After Lauren Burns finished, we then answered some more True or False questions from Andrew Fuller. We then wanted to get some fresh air so we went outside for lunch. When we came back in we listened to some cool music.

The last speaker for the day was a judge. She told us a lot about the cases that she has dealt with. She taught us that it is okay to say no and not to hang out with the wrong crowd. After she finished talking to us, we were allowed to ask questions. Once everyone had finished asking questions, we were told to write down on a piece of paper three acts of kindness that we could do in the next week. After that we thanked our teachers and speakers, and went home and shared the great experience with our families.

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## P & C News

### Uniform Shop

Size 6 short sleeve polos have arrived. If you have ordered and paid but have not received your shirts please contact me.

Pre-loved items are on special this term, \$1.00 per item. We have many sweatshirts and trackpants available.

For your convenience order forms may be emailed directly to me ([caroledwards@aapt.net.au](mailto:caroledwards@aapt.net.au)). Orders will be delivered to your child's classroom or can be left at Front Office reception for collection.

Regards, Carol Edwards.

### Notes sent home this week

Canberra's Child Magazine (Yr 5 & 6)

Wakakirri Parent Meeting Note (Stage 3)

Combined Band Practice Note (Yr 6)

## Community News

### Galilee Family Placement Scheme

Babies and children from 0 to 14 years old are currently in need of people to care and provide them with a home, sometimes for a weekend, a few weeks, a few months or a lifetime. If you have time and space in your life and home for a child please give Galilee a call on 6290 2191 or email [galilee.inc@webone.com.au](mailto:galilee.inc@webone.com.au) to find out more.

Galilee is a not-for-profit community organization that really values and supports their carers. Training, support and financial reimbursement are provided. Carers come in all shapes and sizes, but have in common an interest in kids! If this sounds like you, give us a call.

### Help Red Cross Help Others

Red Cross has a number of clients living in the community, who would love the company of a regular visitor. If you are interested, 18 or over and available for an hour a week or fortnight **on a weekday**, please call us as soon as possible. We are also aiming to double the number of trained volunteers to assist during an emergency or disaster.

For further information please contact:

Candice on 6234 7633 or Paula on 6234 7632.

### Volunteer Recruitment Officer

Red Cross House, Cnr Hindmarsh Dr & Palmer St, GARRAN ACT 2605

**Tel** +61 2 6234 7633 | **Fax** +61 2 6234 7650 | **Email** [ccrawford@redcross.org.au](mailto:ccrawford@redcross.org.au)

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