

# FOCUS NEWSLETTER

*Wisdom, Respect, Courage*



Issue # 76

## ***Welcome to Freshwater Bay FOCUS Newsletter***

*Modern life and modern education are focused on external goals – peace of mind concerns the mind within.*

Dalai Lama

April 7, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had an exceptional 10 weeks even with all the uncertainty of the restrictions surrounding COVID. As a result of much planning and tweaking within constantly shifting goalposts we succeeded in holding all our planned school events. This resulted in our students and parents experiencing what school is all about - the joy of sharing learning and precious memories.

Through your support and staff diligence our number of COVID cases have dwindled down each week. There will no doubt be changes to COVID protocols over the school holiday break. An update will be distributed in the second week of the school holidays. **You do not need to report any COVID positive cases to the school during the holidays.**

### **Edu Dance**

It was so exciting to witness our students all smiles and letting their hair down this week at our EduDance concerts. What an amazing culmination of nine weeks of lessons that certainly contributed positively to our physical and mental health this term! The whole community was thrilled that we were able to share these performances in 'real life' - such a triumphant send-off before our well-deserved school holiday break.

Thank you to our audience, your respect of the parameters in which these concerts were performed was much appreciated. Thank you also to our Year 6s who set up the undercover area and filmed the concerts for all students to watch in class.



### **Inter-school Swimming team**

Our school competed in the Interschool Swimming Carnival this week at Challenger Stadium. We are very proud of students as they competed with enthusiasm and determination. There was a strong team spirit and genuine pride in representing Freshwater Bay. We competed hard and came a credible

I want to thank the following parents who ran before school training Deb Smart, Melissa Licari and Arron Chin and the team of parents who put together the breakfast bags and volunteered on the day. Thank you also the Tara Grant for her organisation and Scott Trenorden, Ben Turner and Jarrod Dougan for their support on the day and motivating the students.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

As a result of the restrictions that have been in place for COVID 19 parent teacher interviews will not be going ahead. If you wish to make contact with your child's teacher, please make a personal contact with them and arrange a time to meet with them either on site or by phone.

### **Year 6 Jackets**

Today Gordon Jeffery, P&C President and I presented the year 6 students with their 2022 Leavers Jackets. They were all very excited and were very proud to put them on. They have been wearing them with pride all week. I would like to thank the P&C for generously donating the jackets and Sarah Cunningham, Deb Smart, Liz Jeffrey and Fiona Isbister, who did all the organising to make it happen.

### **Head Boy and Head Girl**

Xavier Hinkley and Fenella Reed presented their report to the Board at the recent meeting. They did an exceptional job in what is a daunting job of speaking to a group of adults about themselves and report on their role and what they have achieved this year. All members of the Board congratulated them.

### **Courtney Woodward**

Courtney leaves Freshwater Bay PS this week to embark on a wonderful new chapter in her family's life. We will miss having Courtney in our school and community. She has given graciously to this school for over 10 years and has left an indelible mark. Courtney is an exceptional teacher and we have been very fortunate to have her as a colleague, teacher and friend. We are sad to see her go and wish her well.

Annette Hodder will replace Courtney for the remainder of 2022. We have been extremely fortunate to have been able to employ Annette into our school. Annette joins us from Shenton Park PS (?) and is a talented and experienced teacher who will bring a wealth of experience to the Year 1 role.

### **Running club**

Will run every Wednesday throughout the year 8am – 8.30am for Years 3-6 and will also run on Fridays in Term 2. In Term 3, Fridays will be used for athletics training.

**Freshie Farmer Market** – Open this Saturday 8am – 12noon. It will be closed on Easter Saturday, giving Shelley and Ernst a well deserved break!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our community a very safe and happy Easter and holidays break.

Kind regards,  
Simon Reid