

FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Wisdom, Respect, Courage



Issue # 66

Welcome to Freshwater Bay FOCUS Newsletter

29 July 2021

Happiness may well consist primarily of an attitude toward time.

Robert Grudin

Dear Parents & Guardians,

EVERY CHILD NEEDS TO MAKE THEIR BED EVERYDAY.

It has been a mantra of mine in the school for a couple of years now. We want every child in our school to make their bed every day. Children in the early years may need help from a parent. If you make your bed first thing every day, regardless of how your day goes from then on you know that you have successfully achieved something and will be able to climb into a bed, made by you at night. It sets the stage for a positive day.

The students will have something similar to do when they start their school day to have the same positive feeling of accomplishment. In essence it is a focus on the 'Little things that can change your life'. The importance of personal leadership and discipline cannot, in my opinion be underestimated. I also believe that it is not something that is naturally innate to us, it must be taught implicitly and explicitly. Implicitly by the role modelling and environment and explicitly through expectation and direct teaching.

Students who are successful in year 12 are not always the most intelligent students, they are the ones who have the ability to stick at it for longer and have grit to do the work. They realise they need to make a commitment to having a schedule / routine to assist them to achieve their goals. The habits for this can start in primary school.

Thank you for your support as a community on this.

Alliance Francaise Poem Competition winners

Congratulations and well done, we are so proud of our Year 5 Students who took out the following places;

- **1st place** Rhianna English
- **2nd place** Fenella Reed
- **3rd place** Sophia Dunthorne

COVID-19

Unfortunately, the situation in the Eastern States continues to be uncertain. We are prepared in the event we are forced into a lockdown. It comes as a reminder that we need to maintain our vigilance.

- **Physical Distancing** is something that we all need to be mindful and as a school we are managing. Parents are always welcome on site, we need your support and ensure you remain vigilant about physical distancing.
- **Before School** This means that **Drop off of children. I must stress that children parents are not to enter the school grounds before 8.30.** I encourage all parents to support the school with maintaining the before school routines.
- **Personal Hygiene** School staff will continue to encourage students to wash their hands before and after recess breaks, before eating and before and after using any shared equipment.
- **If your child is unwell**, please ensure they remain at home until any symptoms have ceased.

School Development Days

The first two days of Term 3 saw our staff engaged in professional learning presented by teacher leaders and health experts to support our students' academic, social-emotional and medical needs.

Alex Soutar shared observations and learning from her visit to a Teacher Development School achieving incredible student outcomes through their structured play-based curriculum in K through Year 1.

The early years *Letters and Sounds* literacy session was facilitated by our trained teacher Jessica Markou, and *Seven Steps to Writing Success* for the upper years was led by Kim Watson.

Stephanie from Ronald MacDonald House upskilled our teachers and education assistants on supporting students with medical conditions. Our school nurse presented the practical component of EpiPen administration, completing every staff member's online Anaphylaxis theory training. Tara Grant and Graham our school psychologist continued the roadmap of implementation of the Friendly Schools program. Our teachers also collaborated, modified, and planned together across year levels for Semester 2.

Upcoming Parent Seminar Opportunities

Our resident school psychologist Graham will be presenting two free seminars on supporting parents raise resilient children. We look forward to you joining us.

Triple P Fearless (6-14yo)	Tuesday 3 August 5 - 6.30pm Freshwater Bay PS	Learn to support your child to manage anxiety effectively.
Triple P Power of Positive Parenting (early years)	Wednesday 18 August 9 - 11am Dalkeith PS	Raise happy, confident kids and encourage positive behaviour.

Please contact Lisa Mitchell for further information lisa.mitchell@education.wa.edu.au



Congratulations to Gabriella Syme who competed against 1100 other entrants to win the Shaun Tan Art Award for Upper Primary with her triptych 'Traveller' which took her a month to complete. Well done Gabriella!

POINTS OF NOTE

- **Athletics Carnival** It will be the same as last year. Year 3 – 6 will have the running, jumps and throws events on Thursday August 19 at McGillivray Oval. Students will bus there and back.
- **Whole school Athletics** carnival will maintain the family community feel that we have always had. It will be on Friday August 20. PP – Yr 6. PP- Yr 2 will have one race. PP will have a Tabloid of activities. Whole school will have the team games. The event will begin at 11am after Recess and conclude between 2.40pm and 3pm.
- **State Cross Country Championships** We will have a team representing our school on Thursday August 12.
- **Practice for Carnivals** – Tara Grant has been doing a wonderful job. To support the students, the school has morning fitness and they have started to do their run offs for events.
- **Parents please note**
 - Running Club each Wednesday at 8am - 8.30am
 - Athletics practice on Fridays 7.45am - 8.30am
 - (Any parents happy to volunteer to help on a weekly basis with the Aths training please contact Tara Grant)*
- **Kindy Enrolment for 2022** Students are being enrolled every day and classes are filling quickly. Many first time parents are unaware of the enrolment timeline. Some in the past have missed out on a place even when in boundary. If you know any first time parents, please remind them to enrol.
- **School Survey** In the coming weeks we will be distributing a school survey. It will be a short survey. I know that it is not always something that is high on your list of things to do and they can be onerous. I can assure you that the information we get does make a difference to our decision making. We will also be gathering information from staff and students. The triangulated data will give us information about 'how far we have travelled down our path', 'where we are right now' and 'what changes we might need to make to achieve our goals'. Thank you for your time and support with this.

LIBRARY– BOOK WEEK HELD ON WEEK 6

Book Week is an event which the whole school looks forward to. Our Librarian Jo Moore works hard to have our Library looking so amazing and she co ordinates a group of inspiring authors to visit the school during the week. The theme for Book Week this year is.... Old World, New World, Other Worlds. On Friday August 27 Kindy to Year 6 Students dress up in the theme and a parade will be held at the Friday morning Assembly.

Kind regards,

Simon