

# FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Wisdom, Respect, Courage



Issue # 43

## Welcome to Freshwater Bay FOCUS Newsletter



*Offer friendship and a helping hand to others  
and so be a beacon of harmony, happiness, peace  
and calm.*

### Science Day

What an exciting day last Thursday was! Tara Grant our Science Specialist created a wonderful day of inquiry and learning. The excitement of the students was fabulous and something special to behold. The language that was being used and the learning being articulated demonstrated the wonderful teaching all the teachers were doing. The students weren't talking just about the activity they were doing, but the concepts they had learnt. This was very high level.

Great experience all round, high level organisation and high level teaching by all the teaching staff.

### Outstanding Result

Well done to our Swim Team, we came fourth overall, a terrific accomplishment given it was our first year in the A Division. There was great spirit and drive to do their best, individually and collectively. Many of our team swam personal best times which was a wonderful result and a true reflection of the hard work and training the students put in leading up to the carnival. A big thank you to all the parents who have helped the students in supporting their training and also providing them with breakfast when they came back to school.

It was not only our first time in the A Division, it was our responsibility to run the carnival. Well done to Jarrod Dougan for the smooth operation of the day and a big thank you to the parents who volunteered on the day.

## **Parent Teacher Interviews**

Thank you to all the parents who came to the Parent Teacher Night on Thursday. There is always a great deal of preparation by the staff to be able to report on every child. Thank you for your support and appreciation of this work and the team here at Freshwater Bay. There is certainly a strong team approach between all of us.

## **The new Qkr! App**

Invoices for 2019 have been posted out a couple of weeks ago. We ask that you please understand the importance of paying the voluntary contributions which directly benefits every single child in the school, allowing us to purchase more learning tools / materials.

We wish to encourage you all to please download the new Qkr app (pronounced 'quicker') on your mobile phones to make payment of your statements so much quicker and easier for you, moving forward. It is a secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone.

## **ANZAC Assembly**

We will be having our ANZAC assembly on the first Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> next term as it falls during the school holidays. It is a very important day in our calendar and it is essential for our young to understand and recognise ANZAC. Please feel welcome to come along and support the students and school to acknowledge the symbolism and importance of this day. Personally I feel it is a good day to reflect on how fortunate we are to be living at this time in Australia.

## **Strategic Direction**

Thank you for reading our 10-year strategic direction. Your feedback has been noted. All the feedback was supportive and constructive. The wording of the plan will be tweaked and the feedback that had operational components to it will be built into the operational plans.

The following has been undertaken in the school this term;

## **Education**

- Professional learning on writing and a strategic plan has been developed for teachers to follow.
- Implementation of intervention strategies for students at risk in year 3 and has been staffed with additional teacher time.
- All students between Pre-primary and year 2 have been assessed using our On-Entry tool. This will enable us to monitor student and identify students not making progress and allow us to implement early intervention.

## *Issue requiring support*

*As part of our curriculum audit this year it has been very evident that we are very short on reading books at each level and hands on maths resources. Remedying this will be a focus in the short and medium term.*

## Safety

- All staff are implementing the 'Friendly Schools' program. It is an evidenced based whole school program that focuses on building students social skills and create a supportive environment.
- A value each fortnight which is introduced by the School Student leaders at the House Assemblies which are the values we have covered this term being; **Kindness, Honesty, Sportsmanship and Friendliness.**
- Strategy to limit access to Claremont Park path. We are working with the Claremont Council on a strategy to close it off during school hours. There is a joint agreement with the Council for this to happen, however because it is not school land there are some hurdles in regards to approvals that need to be granted by several Government Departments first, before we can take it to the community for comment and approval. It will take some time, however we are optimistic and the processes have commenced.
- Quotes are being sought to replace existing fences with new fences with an increase in height.
- A plan to have CCT cameras installed on the school grounds. This will have to be budgeted for.
- We have quotes for the installation of a bike cage and will be acting on this as soon as the contractors are able commence.

## Community

- Focus on communication processes – policy and procedures are well advanced.
- A new website has been constructed and policies have been approved and uploaded.
- Review and finalisation of 10 year strategies.
- Supporting documents have been developed to implement strategies.
- The P&C Sundowner was another positive night.

## Facilities

- We have negotiated and have an agreement with the Department of Education to have toilets installed in Tangney Hall. We are at the design and feasibility stage.
- Installation of Solar Panels is well advanced. This will result in \$14,000 saving for the school each year.
- Planning for the commencement of the Claremont Farmers Market (run by the school) is well advanced. Once we have power installed it will be open to the community.

## Easter

Although this is a Christian festival of celebration, it is also a very positive time in Australia. There are many messages that revolve around Easter, all of us have varying degrees of belief and understanding, but there is one thing that we can all agree on, it's a great time to connect and spend with family and friends. In a school community sense it is truly a time to be grateful for being parents and teachers and having such an powerful and important role in the lives of all of our children here at Freshwater Bay.

Have a wonderful Easter and eat lots of chocolate. I am told its ok to binge every now and then. Seriously, have a lovely break and we will look forward to seeing you all next term.

## **NOTES FROM OUR LEADERS....**

Term One at Freshwater Bay P.S. has been filled with exciting events.

A summary by Eliza and Harry – your Student Prefects.

### **Swimming**

In Week 4 we had an amazing Inter-House Swimming Carnival. Sutton won overall. Well done to all the participants and house cheers.

For the last four Mondays, a squad of students from Years 3 to 6 selected for the interschool swimming team have been at Claremont Pool early in the morning, training and practicing techniques for our upcoming Interschool Swimming Carnival. This has been with the help of some parents. Thank you to everyone who has helped organise these wonderful events including the yummy breakfast waiting for us at school.

Go Freshie.

### **Crazy Hair Day**

In week 5 we had a Crazy Hair Day Parade and some very creative hairstyles.

In total our school raised \$730. This money was donated to the Smith Family - a national, independent children's charity helping disadvantaged Australians who are living in poverty. The money is used for these families to get the most out of their education, so they can create better futures for themselves.

Thank you to our Community Leaders, Sophie and Ava for organising a great fundraiser.

Last Friday was national ride 2 school day, lots of students around the world walked, rode or skated to school. At Freshwater Bay P.S. the students that participated received a sticker on entry.

## **Leadership Conference**

Last Wednesday all the Freshwater Bay School Leaders caught the train to the Perth Convention Centre to attend the GRIP Student Leadership Conference. Here we learnt about leadership skills and qualities, to use throughout this year. We learnt how to make a difference to our team, school and society. We also learnt that leadership is about people not position or power and the CORE character traits of a leader.

## **Science day**

Science day was held last Thursday. Every year group got to make lots of different objects and buildings from the Eiffel Tower to moving bulldozers using Lego. This was care of the incursion Bricks for Kidz.

Every year group conducted 3 experiments with their class teachers, some of which were;

Wizards brew (PP),

Skittles and M&Ms in water (PP, Yr 1, 5/6),

Lava lamps (PP, Yr 4),

Oobleck (Yr 1),

Rain clouds (Yr 1),

Water pollution (Yr 2),

Mentos in coke (Yr 2, 3),

Egg drop (Yr 3),

Land scapes (Yr 2),

Sherbet (Yr 3),

Bird seed mining (Yr 4),

Balloon hover craft (Yr 4),

Boats (Yr 5/6) and

Balloons across a string (Yr 5/6).

Thank you Ms Grant for a great and very “professor-nale” Science Week!

## Music

Next term the Freshie choir are performing at the ANZAC service Assembly on May 1<sup>st</sup>

Mrs Brown would love to get everyone participating in the Freshwater Bay choir.

Anyone in Year 4 to 6 is welcome to join the choir, every Wednesday morning for practice.

## French

Some students from Year 4 to 6 are learning French poems on a Thursday at lunchtime. They will enter the Alliance Française competition, sending a video of themselves to the judges of them reading a poem. The finalists will then perform the poem in front of an audience later in the term.

## Art

In art this term the classes have been making mushrooms and cutting out silhouettes from the Paper Bag Princess book, for **ART TRA** light festival which was held last weekend in Claremont Park. To view images captured over the event please visit our Freshwater Bay Facebook page. [www.facebook.com/freshwaterbayps/](http://www.facebook.com/freshwaterbayps/)