PRINCIPAL’S NEWS—Sue Gibson

DANGER - There is an area roped off at the front of the school. This is due to a dangerous tree. An arborist will be in within the next couple of days to rectify this problem. Please ensure that all parents, children and community members keep out of this area. Thankyou.

PBL

Our PBL focus for Week 7 is “Show Respect”. This focus is relevant to everyone no matter what age or occupation. Our students at Fassifern understand that it is important to show respect to not only their parents and teachers but to their fellow classmates. Showing respect is very much reciprocal- if you show respect to others, you will gain respect from others.

SCHOOL BANKING

It was fantastic to have a visit from the Commonwealth Bank and their character “Cred” at our school assembly last week. For those interested students and parents remember school banking will operate on a Tuesday with the office coordinating.

Harmony Day and Earthen Rhythms Performance

As included last week we have successfully booked an African Drum and Dance workshop for Harmony Day Friday 20th March. Earthen Rhythms will be operating two workshops, a junior from 11.40-12.40 and a senior from 12.40 -1.40 at a cost of $7.50 per student. This represents a significant discount from the usual $10.00 min charge per student. To also help celebrate Harmony Day students are asked to come dressed in costume representing another nationality and to contribute a plate of food representative of their chosen culture. Children will be invited to participate in this food sharing during Recess 1.40 -2.10 and will then parade their outfits to the school at an assembly from 2.20. If you are able to contribute a plate of food for sharing, could you please advise your child’s teacher.

ROAD SAFETY

Recently we had the Road Safety Education Officer attend the school and observe the afternoon routine of parents and students at the end...
of the school day. We are pleased to say that she will be attending the P and C meeting this Thursday 12th to address any concerns that parents/carers may have and also to offer her suggestions for making our school community and children safer. Please come along and share any concerns you may have.

**P&C AGM**
The next P & C meeting to be held Thursday 12th March will be the AGM where new office bearers are to be selected for 2015. The role of the P&C is to provide very valuable support to the school and becoming a P&C office bearer is an excellent way for parents to become more involved in the school. If you are interested and need more information please go to the P & C Federation website (link following) where you can download information sheets on all aspects of the P & C.

http://pandc.org.au/

All parents are very welcome to attend P&C meetings, whether or not they hold a position on the committee.

**Harmony Day**
There are some fascinating statistics about Australia’s diversity. Did you know:

- around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was
- 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia
- apart from English the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi
- more than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia

We look forward to seeing the culture you have chosen to represent next Friday !!

**4/5/6 News**
Every day in 4/5/6 we watch a children’s news program called Behind the News (BTN). Last week students were inspired by a news story on ‘upcycling’.

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The community acknowledges traditional custodians of the land on which the school is located.

We are a proud Pondee Konara Community
Upcycling is where you turn trash into treasure, or something that was getting thrown out into something useful again. Students came up with some amazing things such as a watering can from a milk bottle, cup holder from a cereal box, and so much more. Below you can see some of the wonderful upcycling ideas!

Miss Dedman

2/3 News
In 2/3 this week, we have been learning about 3D shapes. Here are some of our creations. Mr Toole

K/1 News
In K/1 this week we have been exploring different containers and finding out how much water they can hold. We had some fun experimenting with different containers as you see from the photos.

We are also completing our Pamela Allen unit. Here is a picture of our author wall that we have been adding to each time we have read one of her wonderful stories.

Miss O’Neill

Office News
Following a recent parent enquiry, we have investigated the bus routes relating to our school and have attached a copy of the timetable and map with this newsletter. A hard copy of the timetable and bus route map are available at the front office window (with the notes and pamphlets). Please see the office staff if you would like a bus application form or if you have any questions regarding school buses.

Julie Broome

P and C
The Pie Drive due date is 20th March (sorry, no late orders can be accepted). The delivery date is 27th March times will be notified closer to the date.

AGM 12th March 5.30pm followed by the normal meeting.
Volunteering at Schools

Parent volunteers

As with other state and territory models, the NSW Working With Children Check allows parents to volunteer in activities that involve their own children without needing a Check. However, this is NOT a blanket exemption for all parent volunteers. If the work is part of a formal mentoring program or involves intimate personal care of children with a disability, the parent volunteer must get a Check.

There are only two exemptions for parent volunteers:

I) Volunteering by a parent or close relative of a child in activities for the child’s school, early education service or other educational institution

II) Volunteering by a parent or close relative, with a team, program or other activity in which the child usually participates or is a team member.

If the volunteering work fits either of these descriptions, the parent does not need to get a Check. For more information, see the Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013. http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au

If you are volunteering at our school, A Working with Children Check - Declaration for volunteers and contractors form will need to be completed to meet Department of Education Working With Children Check Policy dated 15 June 2013. These forms are available at our office.

Sensory Movie Day - Tuggerah
Inclusive Event for families with special needs
Children are free to move around,
Lighting on dim, Sound Lowered.
Fire exit Doors monitored by volunteers
"Penguins of Madagascar"
11am Sunday 15th March 2015
Tickets: $8each
Children 2yrs and under are free
Companion I.D. cards accepted
Siblings and extend family welcome
Tickets can be purchased on the day

We would like to thank the volunteers within this school community and we look forward to having some more join us!!

Breakfast Club
830am to 8.45am
MONDAY - Kaylene  TUESDAY- Aleese
WEDNESDAY - Rachael  THURSDAY - Alena
FRIDAY - Paula