

Forbes Public School Newsletter

5th February 2021

Term 1 Week 2



Lachlan Street
FORBES NSW 2871

Tel: 02 6852 1934

Fax: 02 6852 2534

Website: www.forbes-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Email: forbes-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone back to our 2021 school year.

We are excited to be welcoming new staff, students and their families as well as welcoming back continuing staff, students and their families to what I am sure will be a year filled with plenty of fun and learning opportunities.

Over the holiday break, tradesmen continued to carry out major works across the school including the installation of split system air-conditioning units into every classroom, replacement of rooves, and new carpet. We have had most of the school repainted over the duration of last year and hope to continue our school 'upgrade' over the coming year, with the purchase of new furniture and other works.

Covid-19 Update: Thank you to all of our families who have been following the COVID-19 procedures, using the QR code and signing the COVID Declaration form as you have entered our school. From Term 1 2021, all NSW public schools will use the Service NSW COVID Safe Check-in External Link and we ask that all parents look for the COVID Safe QR code posters when you enter our school. Be sure to sign in at the school administration building where our admin team will provide school's visitor guidelines for signing in. Parents and carers who are only dropping off and picking up students do not need to check in using the Service NSW QR code. Parents are also reminded that during school pick up and drop off times to physically distance from one another. Our infants and Primary pick up points will continue this term in support of the COVID guidelines. Further information is available here: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

We have so many wonderful opportunities to look forward to this term, one of them being the Primary Swimming Carnival to be held next Friday the 12th February. Parents are welcome to attend providing they follow the Forbes Olympic Pool COVID Guidelines and remain seated within the grandstand area if not helping with an assigned role. Our staff and students are excited that this school event can take place as it is always a wonderful day.

Our P&C AGM will be held Wednesday the 17th February at 7pm, and we welcome members of our school community who wish to be part of the P&C to join us. Even if you cannot commit to every meeting it is a great way to connect with the school and meet new people.

We are all looking forward to a productive year and have enjoyed setting a positive school tone during our first week back together. The playground is buzzing with excitement and staff have enjoyed getting to know their new classes. There is so much to look forward to this year and I just know that this term will be the start of what will be a fantastic year at FPS!

Meg Staples - Principal



"Maintaining A Tradition of Excellence"

OFFICE HOUSEKEEPING

Change of Routine

If your child has a change of routine a note must be sent to the class teacher that morning.

Sometimes changes are unavoidable and parents need to ring the office. If possible all messages should be phoned in by 2.00pm to ensure your child receives the message.

Money

Money that is sent to school for visiting shows, sport, excursions etc. needs to be in a sealed envelope or snap lock bag with child's name, class and what it is for.

Visiting shows must be paid as early as possible to avoid your child missing out. Pre payment accounts will be sent out shortly.

Appointments

Parents wishing to speak to teachers must make an appointment at the office. Teachers are not available during class time.

Property

Please label all clothing and property with your child's name. The school endeavours to return all lost property to its rightful owner.

Toys and valued items are not the responsibility of the school and are not encouraged.

Late Arrivals

Students arriving late to school must enter through the front office and receive a late pass. Parents need to send a note with their child explaining their lateness.

Permission Notes

Permission notes for Town Excursions, Medical Information and Permission to use Photographs were sent home this week. Could you please return these notes to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Student Absences

Forbes Public School, like all DEC schools is required to record partial and full absences for all students.

Please ensure if your child is away an explanation is sent through as soon as possible. Our 'Absence Cheque Books' and School Stream App are to help with this process.

Our School Stream App has a section under forms to report an absence to the school. The absence explanation will be emailed directly to our school.

Our cheque book contains 10 slips that provide a space for the family to record and keep the absent details and a cut off section that can be completed containing all the information we need for our records. If you would like one of our cheque books you can pick one up from the office or send a note to your child's class teacher.

If you need to take additional holiday time during the school year, the Department of Education requires students to complete an application for extended leave. These forms are held in the office and need to be completed and returned to school for approval. Please contact the office if you need one.



School Photos

School photos will be taken on Tuesday, 23 February 2021.

Photo envelopes will be sent home when they arrive. All photos are on a prepaid basis.

Money cannot be taken before this and needs to be sent with your child on the day.

Family photos will be available for **siblings attending our school** (sorry no parents or babies etc.)

Full summer uniform will be required so a casual day will be held on Monday, 22 February to ensure uniforms are available for Tuesday.

WWCC for Volunteers

As part of the processes involved in supporting students across our school, Parents and Carers who assist in any way are required to complete the Working With Children's Check (WWCC) for Volunteers.

This can be completed online and then finalised at a Service NSW RMS registry. A WWCC number is then generated and we ask you to please bring this into the office for our records.

Welcome to our new staff members.



Mr Sankovitch
Teacher of 2/6S

I am originally from Ohio, in the United States, where I earned a master's degree in elementary education. I taught for 17 years in Florida (USA) before moving to Australia with my Aussie partner in 2019.

We lived in Port Macquarie before moving to Forbes. We have two cats, Gozer and Miss Venkman (who also goes by "Mama.").

In my spare time, I enjoy playing tabletop, card, and computer games. I have a small business painting miniature figurines.

With hard work and a bit of luck, I hope to have a long career here at Forbes Public School.

Mr Macpherson, Sports Skills Teacher

I have been wanting to return to the country for some time now, so when Forbes Public School offered me this opportunity, I took it without hesitation.

My family herald from the country town of Scone, where we did everything that a country kid on a farm normally does. Somehow, we miraculously survived our trials with snakes, spiders, quad bikes and the like, only to later in life, move to Sydney...a very different wilderness. I have spent the last decade in Sydney, living with my two siblings, who kept me honest - always. During this time, I learnt a good many things, on top of my usual studies to qualify as a teacher and graphic designer. I learnt how to survive with no money, by cooking meals that would not normally register as edible. I also learnt how to drive with care and balance road rage, while learning to navigate no right turns.

Yet, it was not all so bad. My brother and I, both were drawn by Sydney in order to train with a squad for distance running, and have since participated in multiple events of varying levels. Our interest in this sport stems from our father, who coached us from the moment we were able to race him. It is this farm background that has drawn me back. I have truly missed the freedom of the country and the warmth of the communities that drive them. I greatly look forward to working with this community and this school, to better children's futures and hopefully give them the exposure and passion I have had provided in my own life.'



Miss Limbert, School Counsellor

Hello, my name is Sophie and I am the new school counsellor at Forbes Public School. I am originally from the Blue Mountains, however I have lived in a range of places. Some of my adventures include working as a governess on an outback station five hours from Broken Hill, spending a summer lifeguarding at a summer camp in Pennsylvania USA, studying at the University of Bologna in Italy and much more!

In more recent years I have been busy finishing off my psychology degree in Sydney as well as working in this sector in a variety of different ways.

A few fun facts about me are that I speak Italian, I have two corgis (who are sadly still living in the mountains!), I love to read and I have spent my first two weeks in Forbes hunting the best coffee in the area!

I am looking forward to working closely with both the students and community in Forbes in order to assist with a successful schooling experience for all.

Stay tuned next fortnight as we introduce two more of our new staff members

2021 F.P.S Swimming Carnival

Friday, 12th February, 2021

Details

Who: All Students in years 3—6 and students who are turning 8 or who have turned 8 in 2021. *These students must all be able to swim 50m unassisted.*

Where: Forbes Olympic Pool

Time: 9:30am – 2:30pm

Events: Please note that there will be a digital version of the program available on the school website. In addition to this, there will also be printed programs available on the day for those attending.

The sequence of events will be as follows;

Open 100m freestyle, age races 50m freestyle, junior and senior 50m backstroke, junior and senior 50m breaststroke, junior and senior butterfly, Open 200m medley and finally relays.

There will also be 25m races run during a break for those students who cannot swim 50m, in addition to swimming activities in the smaller pool for the non-swimmers.

Parents: Please ensure that your child/children have returned their permission note, medical form and nomination form (strong swimmers only). This should be accompanied by their fee to enter the pool (\$2.00 or season pass number).

On the day, if you could assure that your child/children have their water bottle and regular healthy food for the day, that would be great, thank you parents.

Those of you who would normally order lunches from our canteen, these will still be available to order online or deliver to the canteen in the morning.

If you wish to take your student from the pool, there will be a sign in and out designated area at the pool on the day. **Please do not leave without signing your child/children out.**

Students: Make sure you are dressed in your house colours on the day (no streamers or hair dye). Please, please bring a hat and sunscreen if you have it. If you do not, there will be sunscreen available on the day. Mr Macpherson will also have Zinc in each house colour if you wish to use it. Otherwise, be ready to cheer, swim your hardest and bring your very best to the pool. Good luck to you all!

Volunteers and Food donations: Many of you have begun returning your notes and putting your hand up to help on the day, which is much appreciated. There will be limited formal roles available on the day but all the help we can get is valued so much, even if it is just helping the kids cheer and encourage those around them. If you do want to help, please return the form that was sent out and contact will be made either on the day or before-hand to inform you of your role.

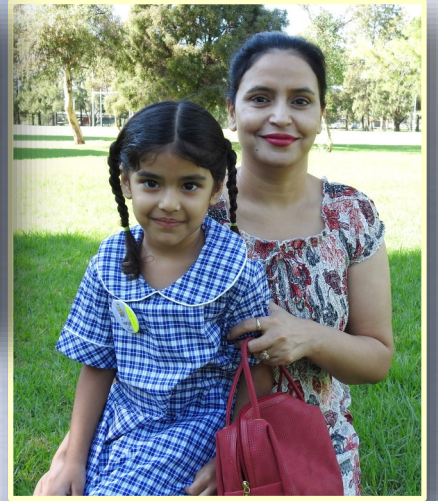
In order to feed this small army of helpers, if anyone who is a helper or parent etc would like to drop easily distributed food to the pool, that would help dramatically. There will be eskies to place this food in on the day but please do not pack anything with nuts or that is likely to melt otherwise.

Representative Opportunities: The top 2 swimmers of each age and 4 fastest overall swimmers of both the junior (8,9,10) and senior (11,12,13) will be selected to compete at the Lachlan level Swimming competition (26th February, Condobolin Olympic Pool).

We're all really looking forward to this carnival. Best of luck and see you there!

Welcome to our 2021 Kindergarten students and their families









FORBES PUBLIC SCHOOL

P&C AGM

get involved

WEDNESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2021 7PM
FORBES PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY

ALL POSITIONS VACANT

ALL WELCOME

FORBESPUBLICSCHOOL@PANDCAFFILIATE.ORG.AU

