

Freemans Reach Public School

NEWSLETTER



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Established: 1867

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Principal: Cheryl Walker

From the Principal's Desk ...

Good afternoon families and friends,

Welcome to the exciting last few weeks of Term 4! This is the time of year when we think to ourselves how little time we have to go until Christmas, yet how much learning, celebration of education and fun we have to fit in to that small amount of time before enjoying a well-earned break with family and friends.

Planning for 2020 – Planning for 2020 classes is well underway and will be finalised as the term progresses. The number of classes in our school is determined according to the Department of Education's staffing formula. Class groupings are constructed based on this allocation, the number of students in each grade and the needs of all students across the school. Our best laid plans often need to be amended if our numbers change at the beginning of the year.

Teachers will be collaboratively placing students in classes, taking many factors into consideration such as academic ability, attitude and commitment towards learning, as well as emotional and social needs. Student friendship groups are one of many considerations. As you would be aware, class time is learning time and our teachers want the best possible learning environment for your child and all of the children in each class.

Forming classes is a thorough process that involves considerable time, sensitivity and care. It is not a process about one child; every child is important. Every child is placed in reference to a bigger plan of how students, classes and teachers come together for optimal learning, all bound by the Departments' staffing allocation and the number of classes in our school. I know that many of you value the hard work and time that goes into this process.

From the Principal's Desk ... Cont'd

Please be aware that requesting a particular teacher that you would like your child to have, or not have, will not be necessary. We are yet to finalise the classes/grades that teachers will be taking next year, and teachers will not necessarily be teaching the same grade/s as they are currently teaching. All of our teachers work very well together, undertake extensive professional learning each year and collaborate with one another to develop effective and differentiated teaching and learning programs for our students.

Professional Learning – Recently, our staff have begun their journey plotting our school against the School Excellence Framework as part of the External Validation process. All schools undertake this process every few years, and midway through 2020, Freemans Reach PS will complete this self-evaluation journey. As you can imagine, a great deal of effort will be expended documenting our stories, achievements and evidence of learning, ultimately leading to a better understanding of where we can set targets for further improvement as well as celebrate current successes. Staff have also been looking at ways to improve their programming of Mathematics over the past couple of weeks and will continue to maintain a strong focus on curriculum development in all Key Learning Areas as we head into the new year.

Christmas Disco – Last Friday November 29, our school held our annual disco, and what a terrific evening we had! Our students (and staff!) enjoyed an array of fun and engaging activities such as chocolate coin toss, face painting, hair spraying, photo booth and of course dancing. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff and families who worked so hard to make this a truly successful evening.

Junior Citizenship Awards – Two of our Year 6 students, Layla and Paige were last week honoured at the annual Richmond Rotary Junior Citizenship Awards at Hawkesbury Racecourse. Schools from throughout the Hawkesbury attended this event, and myself, Mrs Mitchell and Miss Ayoub were honoured to share this event with these students and their families. Well done and we're proud of you girls!

Good Kid Awards and Pizza – During Week 10, we will be having our bowling day, where students are able to celebrate their year of learning during our last few days of the term. A couple of weeks ago, I set all students K-6 the goal of filling up the "Good Kid" awards box, with the aim of Mr Ison shouting Pizza to celebrate this day. In no time flat, our kids have risen to that challenge and the box is dangerously close to full already! A note will be coming home soon to gauge preference of flavours in preparation for placement of our order. I happily admit defeat and feel proud that our children have risen to the challenge in their settled and positive behaviour.

Holiday works – Over the next couple of weeks, we are working hard to have the refurbishments to our office area completed and ready for the new year. Also in the holidays, we will be having the roofing of the administration block and KO, 3/4C and 1J classrooms near the canteen replaced. This will be quite an extensive project, and we are aiming to have the classrooms operational for students to return on January 28, 2020. While we may have to make some adjustments such as accommodating working areas in the short term, long term we will be providing improved learning facilities for our students. Further to this roofing work, we are having the new play equipment/covered area work undertaken throughout the summer break. As you can imagine, there will be a hive of activity throughout this period and we thank you for your patience as we undergo these improvements.

Looking forward to an action packed and highly educational final two weeks for our students!

Mr Allan Ison
Relieving Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 4

DECEMBER

- Mon 9th Dec Presentation Day,
arrive at 9am for a 9:15am start
- 10th-17th Dec Intensive Swim Scheme
- Mon 16th Dec Year 6 Farewell @ 6pm
- Wed 18th Dec Last day of Term for students
Tenpin Bowling Day

TERM 1 2020

JANUARY

- Tues 28th Jan Staff return to school
- Wed 29th Jan Students in Years 1 – 6 return to
school
Kindergarten Best Start Assessments
begin
- Fri 31st Jan Kindergarten Best Start Assessments
conclude

FEBRUARY

- Mon 3rd Feb Kindergarten Students First Day,
Kindy 1st Day Starts @ 9:15am

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

KO – Aidan T, Thomas F,
Arcadia B and Tahlia M

1J – Lockie M, Immogen T,
Madison C, Madelin G and
Charlie E



2/3R – Brendan S, Reece W, Lara M and Max R

3/4C – Lucy R, Isabella S, Ruby S and Lachlan S

3/4L – Bernadette A, Isaac X, Luke A and Patrick M

5/6A – Emily P, Ross E, Kahlee A and James S

5/6M – Mia C, Alexis G, Eva G and Phoenix S

Mathletics Awards

Silver - Bernadette A, Jack A, Madi C and Isabella S



MERIT AWARDS

Bronze – Daniel T

Medallion – Sebastian W and Nathan H

P&C UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

Our Uniform shop opening hours have now been confirmed. The uniform shop will now be open on Friday mornings until the end of the year.

The Uniform Shop is open from 8:15am – 9am every Friday.

Freemans Reach P&C

Our P&C meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the months that occur in the school term.

Meetings start at 6:30pm in the school staff room and everyone is welcome to attend.

If you would like to contact the P&C with questions, concerns or information about the canteen or uniform shop, their email is:

freemansreachpandc@hotmail.com



P&C ASSOCIATION

UNIFORM SHOP

BUS PASSES FOR 2019

We have been advised by NSW Transport that School student bus pass applications for 2020 open from Friday, 11 October 2019. Further information from NSW transport is below:

Students progressing to year 3 and year 7 **do not** need to re-apply if they:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.

Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/update> [Details](#)

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2019 to ensure student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2019, the system will automatically cancel a card and a new one will need to be issued.

For further information visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts>

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2020.

FEES & ACCOUNTS

The office has now started their end of year tasks. One of these tasks is the chasing up of overdue and unpaid fees. **Account statements for overdue fees have now been sent home.** Please start to finalise your child's accounts/fees for the end of the year.

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Recently, we have had a number of parents driving into the staff carpark to drop off and/or pick up students. Obviously, this is a concern as the safety of our students is paramount. They are our most precious asset and the patience associated with the few extra minutes to deliver them safely to school in the correct areas seems a small price to pay for their safety.

The staff carpark is a shared space for Hawkesbury High School and Freemans Reach Public School staff only and if car spaces are unavailable, this may affect teacher supervision. Please use the parking areas available on Kurmond Road for dropping off and picking up students and be aware of the bus zone time restrictions. I thank all parents for their diligence in this effort to deliver our children safely to school.

Hawkesbury School Sports Association



Join our Hawkesbury area PSSA Facebook page for the latest information regarding event details, upcoming competition dates and results!

Search Hawkesbury PSSA on Facebook to stay up to date with the latest information!

Our Website also contains lots of useful information

<https://hawkesburypssa.schools.nsw.gov.au/>



HAWKESBURY HIGH SCHOOL

As we work in partnership with our local high school I wanted to share with you Hawkesbury High School's website which also gives you access to their newsletters. Please take time to share the wonderful achievements and events of our partner school where many of our past students are now attending

<http://www.hawkesbury-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

SCHOOL ENEWS



Thank you to all families who have subscribed to School ENews. You should now be receiving this newsletter direct to your emails or direct to your mobile device. If you know of people who are not receiving the newsletter, please encourage them to contact the office to be signed up for ENews.

Remember that this is our main source of communication in an emergency along with our Facebook page.



CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Please share and tell your friends. It is a great way to keep informed of school events, successes and achievements.



School Community Charter

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- to be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- to be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

We treat each other with respect

We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work together with the school

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.



We create
collaborative
learning
environments

We
all play
a part

We work
in partnership
to promote
student
learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process: education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.



Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



Collaborative.
Respectful.
Communication.

School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au

Freemans Reach Public School

Presentation Day

2019



Family and Friends

*You are cordially invited to attend the annual
Freemans Reach Public School Presentation Day
to be held:*

**Monday 9th December 2019
Hawkesbury High School hall**

(The entrance to the hall is on Kurmond Road, Freemans Reach)

Commencing at 9.15am

Please arrive by 9am

**All Kindergarten and Year 6 students will be receiving their graduation certificates at this
Presentation Assembly.**

**All Class and Major Award winners will receive a separate confirmation letter informing
parents that their child will be receiving an award.**



Inside The Lines
We Love Tennis

Inside The Lines Tennis Academy Pty Limited

ABN 32 608 046 297

Richmond Tennis Centre

Windsor Street | Richmond | NSW | 2753

Phone: 457 88 999

Email: tennis@insidethelines.net.au

Online: insidethelines.net.au

Social: facebook.com/InsideTheLinesTennisAcademy/

Tennis Lessons!



- Suitable for all ages
- \$10 per Child per lesson
- Racquets available

Thursday's
7:50am
and
8:20am



**If you are interested in Tennis lessons here at school, please call
Gavin on 4578 8999**

LOWER PORTLAND FERRY

Temporary Closure from

1 October 2019

Approximately 12 weeks

Ramp reconstruction and overhaul

Alternate routes available

Sackville Ferry

Webbs Creek Ferry

or West Portland Road

