

Freemans Reach Public School

Newsletter

Term 2 Week 10

30 June 2020



Upcoming Events

TERM 2

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 1 July | School Cross Country
SRC Sports Mufti Day
(Gold Coin Donation) |
| 3 July | Last day of Term 2 |

TERM 3

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 20 July | Staff Development Day |
| 21 July | Term 3 commences |
| 28 July | Stage 2 Brewongle
Excursion |
| 24 Sept | School Photos |

NOTES & MONEY DUE

Stage 3 Fundraising Chocolates

Stage 2 Brewongle Excursion



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Relieving Principal: Lisa McGrath

From the Principal's Desk ...

Dear Parents and Carers

As Term 2 draws to a close it is important we reflect on what we have achieved over the first six months of 2020. We have faced unprecedented challenges and waded together through uncharted waters. Our wonderful school community supported and cared for each other during the uncertainty of COVID-19 and in a great partnership we paved the way forward, putting procedures and strategies in place that have benefited and supported our students.

We have experienced community in a different way these past two terms. We would like to take the opportunity to thank our P&C, our uniform committee and all parents, carers, and families for their cooperation, patience, and kindness during Semester One. The support and assistance you gave your children and our staff, particularly during the remote learning period, certainly made a difference and had a positive impact on all. We all agree that Freemans Reach's teaching team, office staff and support staff are amazing! They embraced change and responded with incredible creativity and innovation to maintain the continuity of learning for all students. The staff displayed professionalism, resilience, and adaptability as they adjusted their teaching and learning programs for remote delivery and then had to swiftly adjust back again to face-to-face teaching. Teachers have been very busy finalising Semester One reports and planning their Term 3 teaching and learning programs. Thank you to my hardworking staff for their outstanding work this semester.

We are also very proud of all our students who have displayed incredible resilience and maturity, during these tricky times. The students have appreciated being back at Freemans Reach PS with their friends and teachers. They are having fun with our playground improvements, and soon will be enjoying the winter sun on brand new seating that I have planned near the flag poles. We are also designing a passive play area near the entrance of the school for quiet reading and stationary games, this will be ready for the start of next term.

Whilst you may have noticed many physical things around the school have changed, our goal will always remain the same - provide the best possible learning programs, ensuring all students are cared for and feel valued. Connecting with our community is as important as ever and we believe we have become a stronger community in the past months.

With the easing of some restrictions, it is important that we do not become complacent. We will continue to follow all guidelines and directives of the NSW DoE and the current NSW Health advice. Enhanced cleaning (middle of the day touch zones and an extra 2 hours for our usual morning and afternoon cleans) will continue at our school for all of Term 3.

Our current morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up procedures will continue until further notice. For those families waiting in the designated area to pick up your child, I appreciate you making the effort to leave the school grounds promptly at 2:53pm (as the music plays) with your children, so we can get students onto buses at 2:55pm safely.

Term 3 will see the return of Karate in the school hall on Wednesday afternoons, adhering to the guidelines and directives of the NSW DoE and NSW Health. All non-essential visitors (this includes parents and carers) continue to not be permitted on-site without specific business with the front office or scheduled with a teacher.

Safe

Respectful

Environmentally Friendly

Learner

Please keep your children home if they are sick - no matter their condition they must stay home from school. The health and safety of our students and staff continues to be a priority. If your child is unwell with respiratory illness they should remain at home until symptoms (eg: coughs, sniffles, and sneezes) clear up. We know this may be difficult for some parents and carers but this is our new normal and we need to do everything we can to keep everyone safe and healthy. If any student displays any signs of sickness at school, parents and carers will be called to collect them immediately. Please inform the school as soon as possible, if you are keeping your child at home. As we can no longer accept verbal reasons for an absence, we require a written form of communication explaining your child/dren's absence and this could be a hand written note, absence form, email or response to school text message.

This is our last newsletter for Term 2. On behalf of the staff at Freemans Reach PS, we wish all families a very happy, safe and restful term break. I have been asked to stay on as your Relieving Principal for the remainder of 2020. Whilst it has been an unparalleled year in education, and of course in many areas of our lives, I am truly enjoying my time here at Freemans Reach PS. I will consult with our community later in the year regarding our educational directions for 2021, and of course, the substantive principal position. We look forward to seeing all students back at school on Tuesday 21 July for a busy and productive Term 3.

Stay safe and connected.

Kind regards
Lisa McGrath

FIRST DAY OF TERM 3 IS TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2020

We look forward to seeing all students, Kindergarten to Year 6 return on this day. Teachers and non-teaching staff will return on Monday, 20 July 2020 for professional learning and collaborative curriculum planning.

SEMESTER 1 ACADEMIC REPORTS

Semester 1 Academic Reports have been finalised and went home with students yesterday. I have really enjoyed reading every student's report, as it has given me greater insight into their effort and academic progress at school. Teachers have prepared a simplified academic report for each of their students which identifies achievements and future learning goals. Please refer to my previous newsletters for explanations of our modified reports.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will take place in Term 3 (Week 10) on Thursday 24 September 2020 for all class, groups and individual photos. Students must be in summer school uniform (this includes black shoes). More information will come out as we approach this date.

2021 ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

We are now currently accepting 2021 enrolments, please feel free to contact the office for more details. Families who currently live out of area who anticipate enrolling a child in Kindergarten in 2021 on the basis that an older sibling currently attends (or previously attended) Freemans Reach Public School should

carefully read the [NSW DoE's Enrolment Policy - Information for Parents document](#). To find your local public school - please utilise the NSW DoE's School Finder Tool.

<https://my.education.nsw.gov.au/school-finder>

STUDENT WELLBEING

Dr. Carol Dweck defined the terms fixed mindset and growth mindset to describe the beliefs that people have about learning and intelligence.

A '**fixed mindset**' assumes that our character, intelligence, and creative ability are static and cannot change in any meaningful way. We may strive for success and avoid failure at all costs.

A '**growth mindset**' thrives on challenges and sees difficult situations as a way to grow and stretch our existing abilities.

When we believe that our brains can grow, we behave differently! Why not try replacing some "fixed mindset" phrases with a "growth mindset" approach? See some examples in the image below. I have tried this with my 17 year old son, who lucky for me, knows everything... I find it works well with big kids and little kids!

Resource for parents: How to Teach Growth Mindset to Kids and Teens

<https://biglifejournal.com/blogs/blog/teach-growth-mindset-kids-activities#:~:text=A%20growth%20mindset%20is%20believing,will%20get%20better%20at%20something>



SCRIPTURE CLASSES

We are currently experiencing a shortage in qualified scripture teachers. If you or someone you may know is qualified or interested in becoming a scripture teacher, please contact the school to discuss. Unfortunately, this means Year 5 and 6 Catholic Scripture Classes will not run until further notice.

<https://www.parracatholic.org/ccd/>

<https://sydneyanglicans.net/news>

WATER BOTTLES

Please remember to send your child/ren to school with a water bottle. At present, all bubblers are not in use. Water bottle refill stations are available to all students.





KC – Bonnie S, Dominic B, Ariana E, Jayden W

1J – Emily N, Katielee H, Aidan T, Lucas B

2C – Lockie M, Madelin G, Isabella A, Lily B

3/4R – Lara M, Lochey J, Alyssa J, Xander F

3/4L – Jazmyn R, Lucas S, Mahalia O, Jayden M

5/6A – Lucius W, Sharni C, Rhys N, Kahlee A

5/6M – Evan S, Eve B, Jordan T, Tyler R

UNIFORM SHOP WINTER WARMERS

Please contact the Uniform Shop on freemansreachpandc@hotmail.com before purchasing jumpers to confirm availability.

- Polar fleece scarfs (one size) - \$8
- Polar fleece beanies (one size) - \$8
- Jumpers with printed logo - \$8 (sizes 4, 10 & 12 only and limited stock)

Beanies and Scarfs are available to look at in the office.



SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking will resume in Term 3. Please bring your yellow banking books into the office on **Friday mornings** for processing. Students can place their bank books in the yellow student banking box in the foyer.



BIRTHDAYS

July

Charlotte F, Cooper E, Sheridan V, Jarrod H,
Riley B, Eve B, Ruby S, Abbi E, James V,
Immogen T, Avah E, Shelby W, Evelyn N,
Harmony F, Harper M, Lucas C

GARDEN FUN



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