



## School Rules

### Be Safe



### Be Respectful



### Be a Good Learner



The West Express

Fairfield West Public School  
Palmerston Rd, Fairfield West. 2165  
Phone: 9604 5568

Email: [fairfieldw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fairfieldw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Thursday 22 October 2020

SkoolBag 

Fairfield West Public School has Skoolbag App. Newsletters, dates and important messages can now be delivered straight to your smart phone. For instructions on how to download the app visit our School Website.



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**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

<https://fairfieldw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

# News from the Principal ~ Genelle Goldfinch

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome back to a busy and exciting term 4.

## **Staff**

Congratulations to Ms Compton who was successful through Merit Selection in gaining the position of Assistant Principal at Fairfield West PS, replacing Ms Turnbull who retired at the end of term 2. Ms Turnbull still works on a temporary contract two days per week at Fairfield West PS and oversees Student Attendance.

Congratulations also, to Ms Merheb and Ms Sharne who have both been made permanent teachers at Fairfield West PS, through the long term temporary initiative.

## **Book Week 2020, how exciting!!**

Students are invited to come dressed up as a character from a book on Thursday 29 October and take part in fun filled activities with their teacher and peers, to celebrate book week.

This year's theme is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'.

Unfortunately, due to COVID 19 restrictions, we cannot have parents on the premises as per our usual arrangements for celebrating Book Week.

## **Student Attendance**

Teachers at Fairfield West Public School value your child's education and have high expectations for all aspects of school life. Regular attendance at school is essential and provides your child the opportunity to achieve their educational best, increasing options for their future.

The Department of Education policy states that; 'Parents of children from Kindergarten to Year 12 must ensure their children attend school every day. Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7 day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's attendance record.'

If your child is absent for a day, or expected to be absent for more than one day you can notify the office on 9604-5568. If you choose to call, a written explanation is not required, but a medical certificate can still be handed to the teacher on your child's return to school.

If your child is absent for more than two consecutive days and an explanation has not been received, your child's classroom teacher will phone you requesting a reason for your child's absence. If the teacher can't make contact and your child returns to school without an explanation for their absence, your child will be issued with an Absentee Slip. The Absentee Slip needs to be completed by you and returned to school with your child.

With regular attendance, children engage in more learning, as well as, build and maintain friendships with other children. 2020 has been, and continues to be a very challenging year, please assist us in keeping accurate rolls and by ensuring that your child is regularly at school when feeling well.

## **Road Safety**

Traffic flow on the roads surrounding the school is particularly busy before and after school. That's why you need to take extra care in school zones.

# News from the Principal – Genelle Goldfinch

We are repeatedly observing parents/caregivers double parking along Palmerston Road as well as allowing their child/ren to exit the vehicle from the rear driver's side seat. **This is extremely dangerous and needs to stop.**

**Did you know that double parking attracts a \$268 fine as well as 4 demerit points?**

Attached to the end of this newsletter is a Road Safety Rules Guide issued by the RMS with a few tips on driving and parking safely near schools. For further information on keeping our kids safe around schools please go to the department's Road Safety Education Program at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/road-safety-education>

<https://education.nsw.gov.au>

## **Lost and Found**

Uniforms are costly and need to be clearly marked with your child's name.

If your child has lost their jacket or jumper, please ask them to go to the Lost and Found crate in the Kindergarten Quad to look for it.

The ten jumpers that were labelled with children's names were returned to their owners, but unfortunately there are still forty items of clothing in various sizes that are looking for a home.

## **2021 Kindergarten Enrolments**

**The time is getting closer!!!**

If you have a child who is turning five or six next year, please contact the front office to collect an enrolment form. **Kindergarten Transition will be occurring in a different format** to comply with COVID restrictions.

So, we encourage enrolment as quickly as possible to avoid missing out on this valuable transition.

The families who have already enrolled a child and have completed paperwork will be contacted to advise of the new transition plans. If you have neighbours or friends living in the area with children who will be attending Fairfield West Public School in 2021, please advise them to contact the school office on 9604 5568 to enrol their child. We will bill conducting an orientation this term. We would be so disappointed if a child missed out on orientation due to them not being enrolled.



## **STAFF LEARNING**

Not only do the students spend their days learning, but so do all the staff at FWPS. Over the past two weeks staff members have participated in the following professional learning opportunities, mostly remotely:

- Half day Language, Learning and Literacy – three stage 1 teachers
- Two hours Leadership Mindsets – Principal, three Deputy Principals and four Assistant Principals

All staff professional learning ensures that the highest quality of education is provided to all students at FWPS.

*I hope you enjoy a restful and safe holiday!*

*Genelle Goldfinch*

*I respect and acknowledge Aboriginal People as the traditional owners of the land on which I work, live and visit.*



# Student Learning

## Learning in 1K

It's been a fun-filled and busy start to Term 4 in 1K. We have enjoyed participating in a variety of literacy activities, maths groups and investigations. This term for writing we are looking at imagination and so far we have written about some interesting characters and can't wait to see what else we will do.

In 1K we enjoy hands on learning and love lessons that involve moving around! Catch us in action below...



# Student Learning

## K/6M Newsletter

Welcome back to Term 4 2020! It has been wonderful to see all the students after an enjoyable couple of weeks' rest.

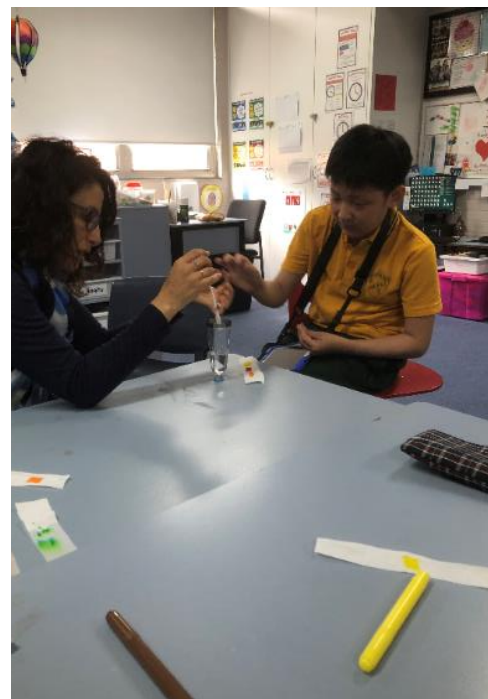
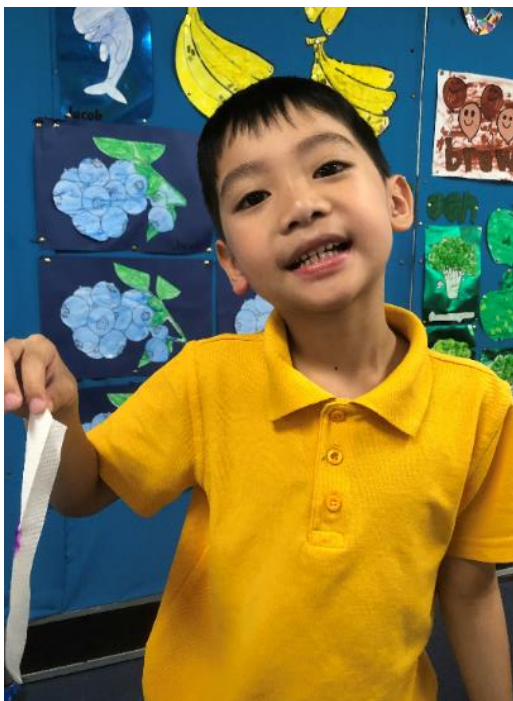
K/6M have got right back into the swing of their learning. Our most recent "Letter of the Week" has been the letter Q. Students have been learning to read and write sentences using words that start with a "Q". We even made a crown fit for a "Queen" which the students proudly wore as they performed their regal learning duties.

In Science, students have been doing a different experiment each week. This week's lesson was about observing how water moves upwards through paper, defying the pull of Earth's gravity, and watching how it disperses the ink drawn on the paper's surface.

Thanks for reading a little of what we have been doing in K/6M.

Best wishes

Mr Mah Chut



## Selective high school placement process in 2020

Applications for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2022 are now open. Applications will close on 16 November 2020.

Parents can apply online at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>.

All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday 11 March 2021.

The department has introduced a new application system that will give parents a more interactive experience. The new system enables parents to make updates and add attachments even after an application is submitted. Parents can also communicate directly with the High Performing Students Team through the system's new 'messages' feature.

Anyone experiencing difficulty completing or submitting an application, can contact the High Performing Students Team on 1800 880 367 or email [ssu@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ssu@det.nsw.edu.au)

Keep updated on the selective high school placement process at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/publicschools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>.

## Multicultural Perspectives Speech Competition

Every year, Fairfield West Public School enters Stage 2 and 3 students in the Multicultural Perspectives Speech Competition. This year's event was organised differently due to COVID.

Thomas was chosen as the winner of his class as well as year 6. Instead of going into schools and presenting his speech, Thomas needed to submit a video entry. The video was then sent to a panel of judges who viewed all the submissions.

I am extremely happy to announce that Thomas of 5/6M has reached the 2020 Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking regional finals. Congratulations Thomas!

#AIMHIGH

Mr Hormis  
Public Speaking Coordinator





## Drive and park safely near schools



### ROAD SAFETY INFORMATION

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY WHEN THEY ARE TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL.

## Drive and park safely near schools

The beginning and end of the school day are busy times for pedestrians and drivers outside schools.

**You can help keep children safe by remembering the following:**

- drop off and pick up children on the school side of the road
- never call out to children from across the road – it is very dangerous
- always take extra care when driving in 40km school zones
- follow all parking signs – these help keep children as safe as possible
- park responsibly even if this means you have to walk further to the school gate
- never double park – it is illegal and puts children at risk
- never do a U-turn or three-point turn outside the school as it puts children at risk of harm
- model safe and considerate pedestrian and driver behaviours to your children.

#### For further support

Go to the department's Road Safety Education program at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/road-safety-education> or visit <https://education.nsw.gov.au> and search for road safety education.

#### When travelling in a car ensure your children:

- use a booster seat if they are aged between 4 and 7 years old – it's the law
- are correctly buckled up in their seatbelts
- always get in and out of the car through the 'safety door' – the rear door on the footpath side of the car
- are never left alone in the car.



**Up to 6 months**  
Approved rear-facing  
child car seat



**6 months to 4 years**  
Approved rear- or  
forward-facing child  
car seat



**4+ years**  
Approved forward-  
facing child car seat or  
booster seat



**145cm or taller**  
Suggested minimum  
height to use adult lap-  
sash seatbelt



# Indigenous

## Apprenticeships Program 2021

Apply for an apprenticeship with a government agency and set yourself up for a great career in the Australian Public Service.

- It's full-time work with a competitive salary, great benefits and on-the-job training.
- The apprenticeship runs for 12 months.
- You get to complete a nationally recognised certificate or diploma.
- There are jobs in capital cities and most regional areas across Australia.
- You'll be supported by an Indigenous mentor.

Apply to make a difference in the lives of everyday Australians.

You don't need a degree or any work experience to apply.

*What will your story be?*

**Applications open on 12 October and close 20 November 2021**

To apply or for more info, visit [servicesaustralia.gov.au/IAP](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/IAP)



Australian Government

# Community News



Start School Strong in partnership with Fairfield/ Liverpool Supported Playgroups invites mothers, fathers, carers and grandparents to participate in the Bringing Up Great Kids 4-week parenting program for children up to the age of 10 years.

Join Fairfield City Council's **Dina Greenland** from Start School Strong, and early childhood educator **Debbie Nguyen** as they discuss ideas of mindfulness and reflection to support parents' interaction and connection with their children. A positive relationship and strong connection with your child is the starting point of your child's future happiness, confidence and smooth transition to school. The sessions will cover:

- Parenting styles and the importance of building self-esteem in children
- Brain development in children and its influence on their thoughts, feelings and behaviour
- Important messages that children communicate to their parents and how they do this.

**Monday 16, 23, 30 November and 7 December 2020**

*(please note you must attend all four sessions)*

**5.30pm-8pm**

**Fairfield City Council Administration Building, Avoca Road Wakeley**

*(Park at the front of Council's Administration Building off Avoca Road near the fountain. A facilitator will meet you at 5.15pm)*

**For bookings please contact Start School Strong 0407 708 626.**

*Child minding will be not be available for this program.*

Due to COVID restrictions, registration numbers will be capped to 10 participants. Hand sanitiser will be available and social distancing rules will apply.

Refreshments will not be provided but you are welcome to bring light refreshments along to have during a short break.

The Start School Strong program provides early learning and development support to mothers, fathers, grandparents and carers living in the Fairfield, Liverpool and the former Bankstown local government areas.

Proudly funded by



Start School Strong is a program of Fairfield City Council funded by the NSW Department of Education

# School Photo Day

FWPS School Photo Day: 02/11/2020

Keep an eye out for envelopes being sent home next week!

# SCHOOL PHOTO HELP STATION



## HELPFUL PHOTO DAY INFORMATION:

1. If you are placing an order please ensure each child has their own envelope.
2. Do **not** place another child's envelope inside their siblings envelope.
3. Please collect a family envelope from the school office if you wish to have a family photo taken.
4. All children are photographed regardless if you are paying or not. This is for the schools records.
5. When the photos are returned to school, those who did not place an order on the day will be given a second chance to order via a new form distributed when photos are returned to school.  
**You won't miss out!**
6. The school does not give change nor do the photographers.  
**PLEASE** ensure the correct money is enclosed.
7. If you lose your envelope the photographers and the school carry spares.
8. Only parents who are paying on the day and requesting it will have a family photo taken.
9. Ordering online is the only way you can pay with credit cards.
10. We do not have control over the way your child's name appears in the photo - any changes or requests are strictly handled by the school.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**DIRECT PHONE: (02) 9870 7570**

**NEED HELP?**



SCAN THIS BARCODE  
to view our online  
ordering help video!



[WWW.LEADINGIMAGE.COM.AU](http://WWW.LEADINGIMAGE.COM.AU) | [INFO.SYD@LEADINGIMAGE.COM.AU](mailto:INFO.SYD@LEADINGIMAGE.COM.AU)