



## SCHOOL RULES

### Be Safe



### Be Respectful



### Be a Good Learner



Term 4 - Week 6 - Friday 18 November 2022

## WHAT'S ON

Wed 23 November	Kindergarten Transition 9.00am
Tues 29 November	High School Orientation Day
Mon 12 December	Yr 6 Graduation
Mon 12 December	Yr 6 Farewell
Fri 16 December	Picnic Day



The West Express

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**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

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



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@FairWestPS

# News from the Principal ~ Genelle Goldfinch

Dear parents and carers

## Kindergarten Transition

We were elated to welcome the 2023 Kindergarten to their first transition session on Wednesday 16 November. They appeared to enjoy themselves and were excited to see the classrooms and participate in activities. If you have a child who is able to start Kindergarten in 2023 because they turn 5 before July 2023, please make sure you have enrolled via the front office.

## School hats

As the weather is warming up, it is extremely important that students are wearing a **school hat** during recess and lunch. If students do not have a school hat, one can be purchased at the school office or they can play under one of the many covered playgrounds. Students will not be allowed to play on the oval or out in the sun without wearing their school hat.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MERIT SELECTION PANELS

When a permanent position becomes available a Merit Selection Panel is formed. The Department of Education advertises staff positions that require the staff member to apply with a written application and interview. This process involves a Merit Selection Panel that consists of staff members and community members. If you are able to volunteer for this process, please contact the school office on 9604 5568.

## Acrylic Nails

It has been observed in recent weeks that some students are wearing acrylic nails to school, especially in the lead up to significant events such as weddings or christenings. Acrylic nails are NOT to be worn at school as they present a safety issue. Students with acrylic nails may scratch the skin or poke the eyes of other students. Students with acrylic nails are also unable to complete their schoolwork effectively as they experience difficulty typing or holding a pencil. Please assist us by ensuring that acrylic nails are not worn to school.

## Results from Eye-Examinations



Earlier this year, all FWPS students were given the opportunity to have a free eye check-up by Sydney Eyecare Services. Each student received a testing report which outlined the results of their eye-exam and whether they needed glasses or further testing. It has been observed that quite a few students have obtained glasses following their script from the optometrists. As a result, staff members working with these students have noticed significant improvements in their learning and concentration.



# News from the Principal ~ Genelle Goldfinch

## **COVID-smart measures in Term 4**

In Term 4 2022, Fairfield West PS will operate with a number of COVID-smart measures that have been developed with NSW Health to minimise transmission and keep schools open.

These key measures include:

- **students and staff should continue to stay home when sick.** Students, staff and visitors should only attend school when they are symptom free. We strongly encourage all students, staff and visitors to follow the guidance issued by NSW Health. We will continue to send home students or staff displaying symptoms.
- encouraging mask-wearing particularly when indoors and/or physical distancing is not possible.
- rapid antigen testing (RAT) of students and staff who have COVID-19 symptoms.
- strongly recommending staff and students keep up-to-date with their vaccinations.
- maximising natural ventilation.
- encouraging regular hand washing.
- boosting enhanced day cleaning of schools.
- assessing risk and applying appropriate safeguards across activities and events.

In certain circumstances, NSW Health and the Department of Education may advise that additional COVID-smart measures be temporarily reintroduced at our school. We will provide further details of any changes to COVID-smart measures at our school, if/when required.

## **Rapid Antigen Test Kits**

Every child in the school will be provided with 5 RAT kits on Friday 18 November so that families can test prior to attending school if required.

## **Staff Professional Learning**

In the past two weeks staff members have participated in the following professional learning opportunities, mostly remotely:

- 2 hours school finance – Principal, Deputy Principal, Business Manager and School Administrative Manager.
- 2 hours Work Health and Safety – Deputy Principal and Business Manager
- 2 hours High Potential and Gifted Education – Assistant Principal and five teachers
- During Term 4 all teachers are completing weekly sessions on the new K-2 English and Mathematics syllabus document.

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



# News from the Principal – Genelle Goldfinch



I would like to congratulate Madeleine Costello for receiving a Metropolitan South and West School Performance Directorate Principal Network Award for Excellence for Early Career teachers. I would also like to congratulate Kerry Joiner who received a Fairfield Principals Network Award for School Administrative staff, Kristee Manosin who received a Fairfield Principals Network Award for teachers and Tracy Funnell who received a Fairfield Principals Network Award for School Executive. These awards are given to acknowledge the dedication and hard work these staff members have to the students and community at Fairfield West Public School.



*Have a lovely weekend!*

*Genelle Goldfinch*

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





# Class Report - Support Unit

## Dance

K/6A and K/6G have been doing dance this semester to help improve their motor skills. The students love to sing and dance with their friends and show off their new talents to their teachers.



## K/6G - Arts & Craft

Students in K/6G have been exploring various techniques during their Visual Art lessons. Students enjoy painting and love to show off their artworks to their peers. Here are some photos of students during a dot painting lesson.



## K/6A- Lego Challenges

Students in K/6A have been exploring different Lego challenges during STEM. Students enjoy creating different designs and building high towers. Here are some photos of student creations.

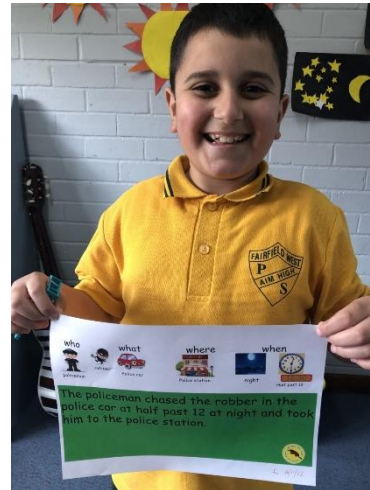




# Class Report ~ Support Unit

## Writing

Some students in K/6M have been using the computer to help them build a sentence. First, they select the pictures they would like to write about, write out their sentence and then type it on the computer.



## Life Skills

K/6M has been practising recognising and counting money to buy toys from the shop.





# Class Report ~ Support Unit

K/6C have been enjoying puzzles this term. Some of us can concentrate really well using jigsaws. They make us feel calm and proud to connect the pieces. Remember to pack away after you are finished. You don't want to lose any pieces!



Some beautiful greens are growing in the school garden. K/6C have been collecting these tasty treats to go with their lunch. Fresh!





# Remembrance Day



## Remembrance Day

At 11am on 11 November 1918, fighting in the First World War came to an end. Over 100 years later, we paused for a minute's silence at 11am on Friday, 11 November 2022 to remember the service and sacrifice of our veterans and those in all wars and conflicts. Three of our student leaders attended Smithfield RSL and McCarthy Memorial Park for a Remembrance Day Commemoration Ceremony. Rishaan, Loan and Helena participated during the wreath laying component of the ceremony. Congratulations to these leaders for representing Fairfield West Public School in such a respectful manner.



# Krafty Kids Club



Fairfield West Public School has been running an art club every Monday and Wednesday for students in years 3-6. The art club has been running each week in the new art room where students are able to learn and create artworks.



The students who are part of the club have been experimenting with different materials, using a variety of techniques and art forms to showcase their creativity. It is also a great opportunity for students to practise mindfulness during lunchtime.



# Community News



## Kindergarten 2023

If you or any of your friends or family have a child turning 5 years old before July 2023, please call the office on 9604 5568 to start the enrolment process.



English class for beginners will be every Tuesday from 9.15am to 11.30am. Call **Rania 0492 842 572**



Karitane play group every Thursday from 9.15am to 11.00am. Call **Rania 0492 842 572**





## Gardening Workshop

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



If you enjoy being outside and in the garden, we need you!

Occurring every fortnight.

No commitment to attend every week.

**Where:** Fairfield West PS

**When:** Wednesdays

**October 26**

Planting a flower garden  
& brainstorming session

**November 9, 23**

**December 7, 14**

**Time:** 9:00am – 11:00am

Please let Rania 0492842572 or  
Ms Funnell 96045568 know if  
you can attend.



NSW Department of Education



## Compulsory school attendance

### Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)



# Community News

## NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

### My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.



## Fairfield West Public School Uniform Order Form

Due to COVID-19 regulations, all uniform orders must be pre-ordered through the front office or via email [fairfieldw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fairfieldw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Garment	Price	Quantity	Size	Total
Dress	\$35			
Short Sleeve Polo Shirt	\$26			
Long Sleeve Polo Shirt	\$28			
Jumper	\$31			
Jacket	\$43			
Culottes	\$27			
Boys' Shorts	\$23			
Track Pants	\$29			
Sports Shirt	\$21			
Legionnaire Cap	\$8			
Baseball Cap	\$8			
Snap Back Hat	\$17.50			
Bucket Hat	\$10			
Beanie	\$8			
Scarf	\$8			
Library Bag	\$8.50			
			Total	

We accept EFTPOS and cash payments.

Child's Name:	Class:	Date:
Parent Name:	Mobile No:	

### Office use only

Date collected:	Payment Method: (Please circle)	Cash Eftpos	Amount Paid:	
Staff member Initial:	Items collected	Yes	NO	
Date Collected:	Collected by	Parent Carer	Student	

Please ensure you clearly label all of your child's personal belongings with their name and class.



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# Canteen News



Our School Canteen would like  
to offer you the chance to PRE-PURCHASE a Lunch Pack

**AVAILABLE ON  
WEDNESDAY 7th DECEMBER**

Please finalise pre-order to ensure your child receives their pack

**BY FRIDAY 2nd DECEMBER** AT YOUR CANTEEN

**THE FOLLOWING CHOICES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY:**

<p><b>PACK 1</b></p>  <p>Cheese, tomato, carrot &amp; lettuce Sandwich</p>  <p>Popper juice or Water 400ml</p> <p>Sumo cookies</p>	<p><b>PACK 2</b></p>  <p>Chicken Nuggets (5)</p> <p>Popper juice or Water 400ml</p> <p>Sumo cookies</p> 	<p><b>PACK 3</b></p>  <p>Beef Hot Dog or Chicken Hot Dog</p> <p>Popper juice or Water 400ml</p> <p>Sumo cookies</p> 
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PLEASE TEAR OFF AND RETURN TO THE CANTEEN WITH CORRECT MONEY IF POSSIBLE.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_ CHOICE OF PACK: \_\_\_\_\_

Select one below

- Orange ☐
- Apple ☐
- Tropical ☐
- Blackcurrant ☐
- Water ☐

Select one below

- PACK 1 (\$6.50) ☐
- PACK 2 (\$6.50) ☐
- PACK 3 (\$6.50) ☐

MONEY ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_