



SCHOOL RULES

Be Safe



Be Respectful



Be a Good Learner



Term 1 - Week 3- Friday 10 February 2023

WHAT'S ON

24 Feb	Summer PSSA begins
27 Feb-2 Mar	Meet the Teacher afternoons
15 Mar	NAPLAN begins
27-31 Mar	Dental Van
5 Apr	Easter Hat Parade
6 Apr	ANZAC assembly



The West Express

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

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

SCHOOL WEBSITE

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



Fairfield West Public School has the 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.



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@FairWestPS

News from the Principal

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome back to our students and their families, and I do hope you had a great holiday! A special welcome to the new students and families who are joining us in 2023, including our group of Kindergarten students.

We are very proud of our school as all staff work diligently to provide a safe, supportive and exciting learning environment, where each student's individual needs are catered for. We pride ourselves in having a close working relationship with the school community and invite parents and caregivers to contact us any time with queries or feedback. As professionals and specialists in education we are more than happy to discuss any queries you may have, ensuring our responses are based on educational research and years of valuable experience.

I am proud to be the principal of Fairfield West for the past twelve years; and I am honoured to be working with your children in 2023. Please feel free to contact the office during the 2023 school year to make a phone appointment to discuss any matter that you may wish to discuss.

HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR

Happy Lunar New Year to those celebrating in our community. May the Year of the Rabbit or the Year of the Cat, depending on what culture, bring you all, good health, happiness and prosperity.

TEACHER/PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Information sessions will be held in the week commencing Monday 27 February. This is a general information meeting where you can learn about the types of learning and activities that your child will engage in during the year. Individual Teacher/Parent interviews will be held in Term 2. Another note will be sent home next week with details.

MOVING INTO YEAR 7

The department has digitised the Year 6 to Year 7 transition process. In 2023 parents and carers can go online to complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) and Placement not required (PNR) details. EOI and PNR forms will be available on the enrolment page of Fairfield West Public School from **6 March – 31 March**. Information about the process will continue to be shared in our newsletter during the year. If you have questions or would like to speak about this process, please contact the school.

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is mandatory in NSW Schools. As a parent/caregiver, it is your responsibility to ensure that your child/children attend school every day that it is open, unless sick or due to some unforeseeable circumstance. Students need to be at school on time, ready to start the school day. Gates open at 8.30am and students are required to be on site by 8.50am. All absences and tardiness need to be explained within 7 days. Please read the attached flyer as a matter of importance.

News from the Principal ~ Genelle Goldfinch

Students immunocompromised

To protect the health of the students, staff and school community, please let the school know if your child has contracted an infectious disease, such as COVID-19, chickenpox or any other similar illness. Thank you for your cooperation, as there are several immunocompromised people at Fairfield West PS, and we want to support all the best we can.

RAT KITS

Another set of RAT kits have been sent home. Once again, please keep these in a secure place and use as needed but especially if students have any COVID like symptoms.

UNWELL AT SCHOOL

Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home until symptoms no longer exist. It is strongly recommended that they complete a RAT or PCR test.

- If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.
- If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative and they are displaying no symptoms OR another diagnosis is confirmed such as hay fever, the student or staff member can return to school.
- In NSW, positive COVID-19 cases are allowed to leave self-isolation as long as they do not have COVID-19 symptoms.

GATE TIMES

The school gates are automated for student safety. They are open **8.30am-9.10am and 2.50pm-3.10pm**. If you would like to enter the premises during the day when the gates are closed, please press the buzzer at the main gate on Palmerston Road (Cumberland Hwy) and you will be let in to come to the office for assistance. If for any reason you cannot drop off or pick your child up on the agreed times, please contact the front office. Children **should not** be standing outside the school gates for significant lengths of time prior to 8:30am.

Drop Offs are straight forward. On arrival from as close to 8:45am as possible, students come in via the gate they normally enter the school.

School ends at 3.00pm and students need to be collected promptly at 3.00pm. Families are asked to ensure they are at school to collect their child(ren) on time. Staff often have professional learning or meetings after school. Thank you for your cooperation.

IMPORTANT Asthma information- MUST BE DONE EACH YEAR*****

Parents and caregivers need to provide information from their child's medical practitioner **EACH YEAR** including an Asthma Action Plan. The plan must be signed by your child's doctor. You will also need to supply an inhaler for use at school. The Action Plan for asthma is to be followed if the student has an asthma attack at school or to prevent an attack.

If your child has an asthma plan, it is important to let us know.

News from the Principal – Genelle Goldfinch

IMPORTANT Anaphylaxis information- MUST BE DONE EACH YEAR*****

Parents and caregivers need to provide information from their child's medical practitioner EACH YEAR including an ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plan. The plan must be signed by your child's doctor. You will also need to supply an adrenaline auto-injector for use at school. The ASCIA action plan for anaphylaxis is to be followed if the student has an anaphylactic reaction at school. Please find the link below to assist you: if your child is diagnosed at risk of a severe allergic reaction, particularly anaphylaxis, the Anaphylaxis Procedures contain information designed to minimise the risk to students. If your child has an allergy, it is important to let us know.

<https://www.allergy.org.au/patients/information>

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

If you would like to purchase school uniforms, please complete an order form, and return it to the office with payment. Your child will be given the new uniform at school. Please see the order form attached to this newsletter. Please remember to write your child's name and class on all uniform items, especially jumpers and jackets. Any lost items can be easily returned if your child has their name on it.



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:

- One hour Code of Conduct – 88 staff members
- One hour Child Protection Update 2023 – 88 staff members
- Three hours Aboriginal Histories and Culture – 69 staff members
- Two hours Aboriginal Personalised Learning Pathways – 69 staff members
- One hour CPR practical – 69 staff members
- Four hours High Potential and Gifted Education – 69 staff members
- Three hours Curriculum reform and PLAN2 – 75 staff members

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

Have a great weekend!

Genelle Goldfinch

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



2023 Kindergarten



Our Kindergarten students are very excited to have started school and have already begun to settle in to school and classroom routines. They have spent time learning the class and school rules, 'The Best Me', and getting to know their teachers and the other boys and girls in their classes. Students can be seen smiling and heard laughing on the playground as they enjoy spending time with their new friends.

Classroom teachers have been working with students to teach them how to listen carefully and to follow instructions. They have been practising how to pack and unpack their school bags, organise their food for recess and lunch, and look after their belongings. Students are also learning how to participate in class activities cooperatively by taking turns to speak, sharing materials and working together to keep their classrooms tidy.

Of course, Kindergarten wouldn't be Kindergarten without listening to many interesting stories, learning to count, and singing songs. Include some art, dancing and games, and we end up with happy little learners! This year is bound to be a memorable one for the newest members of our school community. We hope the year ahead will bring not only a lot of learning, but a whole lot of fun!

Students are learning to write their name!



Students love to dance!



Students are practising their counting by making small collections.

Student Learning - KS



Welcome to KS with Ms Marjanovic!

KS students are so excited to be coming to school to be 'The Best Me'. We have settled well into classroom routines and have already started to work hard. Have a look at what we have done so far!

In KS we are learning to write our name and some of us can do it on our own.



We do lots of group activities where we share our ideas about things we have learnt. This week we are making number towers.



Every Monday we get to go to dance and this week was our first time. We had so much fun!



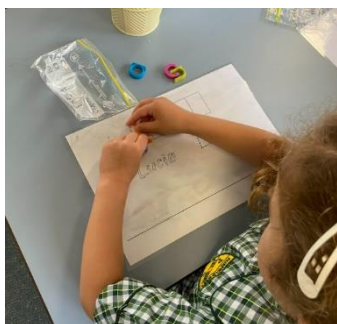
School is so much fun and we can't wait to keep learning more things!

Student Learning - KR

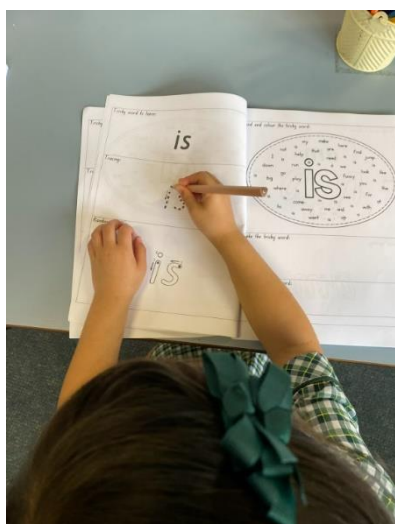
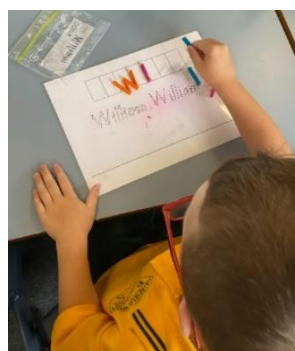


Welcome to KR with Miss Lia

KR enjoy participating in hands on play each morning where they are given the chance to develop their social skills and make new friends.



Students are learning to make, trace and independently write their name.



KR have been working hard to learn and write their tricky words.

Sport News

It has not taken long for sport to be back on the calendar for the students at Fairfield West Public School. Yesterday those students who were interested in representing the school at the Horsley Zone Swimming Championships were invited to trial for a position on the team by attending the Fairfield Leisure Centre and swimming their events of choice.

Today our Summer PSSA trials commenced, with the Horsley Zone Competition starting on Friday 24 February. Throughout the year we will keep you updated on how the students at the school are doing with everything related to sport. You can also follow their progress and check updates on the school website.

Important Dates

Summer PSSA Commences- Friday 24 February (Term 1 Week 5)

Winter PSSA Commences- Friday 12 May (Term 2 Week 3)

Horsley Zone Gala Day- Friday 15 September (Term 3 Week 9)

School Championships	Horsley Zone Championships	Sydney South West Championships
Swimming 9.2.23 Term 1 Week 3	Swimming 7.3.23 Term 1 Week 7	Swimming 14.3.23 Term 1 Week 8
Cross Country Term 2- To be determined	Cross Country 26.5.23 Term 2 Week 5	Cross Country 15.6.23 Term 2 Week 8
Athletics Term 2- To be determined	Athletics 23.8.23 Term 3 Week 6	Athletics 13.9.23 Term 3 Week 9



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)

Attendance

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.

Attendance


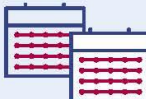
NSW Department of Education

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per **fortnight**
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

1 day per **week**
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.



Community News



Please come and join in the activities in the Community Cottage. A range of activities are available so please contact Rania 0492 842 572 if you are interested.



Tuesdays 9.00am-11.00am



Wednesday 9.00am-11.00am
Starting 8 March.



Thursday 9.00am-11.00am

New sessions will be held called 'Rights Relationships Responsibilities'. This is a program to support parenting. See the flyer on the following page.

If you are interested in a Citizenship test preparation group – call Rania 0492 842 572

Community News



RIGHTS RELATIONSHIPS RESPONSIBILITIES (IN ARABIC)



WHEN

Wednesdays
March 1, 8, 15
9:30 am - 11:30 am



WHERE

Fairfield West Public
School
1 Palmerston Rd,
Fairfield West NSW
2165



TO REGISTER

Register via the website:
<https://strongsafefamilies.online/program/>
Or contact Dima on
0420-703-725

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Learn new ways to support positive family relationships
- Better understand the rights and responsibilities of parents
- Get information about the local health, legal and educational systems
- Learn important information to help your children and family



Communities for Children
Fairfield



everyone's family

Communities for Children Facilitating Partner Initiative Fairfield is funded by the Australian Government and facilitated by The Smith Family.



الحقوق المسؤوليات الواجبات



الزمان:

الأربعاء:

آذار 1, 8, 15

9:30 am - 11:30 am



المكان:

Fairfield West Public
School

1 Palmerston Rd,
Fairfield West NSW
2165

هذا البرنامج يساعدك على:

- تعلم طرق جديدة لدعم العلاقات الأسرية الإيجابية.
- فهم أفضل لحقوق ومسؤوليات الوالدين.
- الحصول على معلومات حول نظام الصحة والقانون بأستراليا.
- تعلم معلومات مهمة لمساعدة أطفالك وعائلتك.



للتسجيل يرجى الاتصال أو
بعث رسالة لدية على الرقم

0420-703-725

via the website:

<https://strongsafefamilies.online/program/>



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Fairfield

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Community News

Dropping and collecting students on the Cumberland Highway – PLEASE ACT RESPONSIBLY

All road rules apply when you are dropping off and collecting your child/children on the Cumberland Highway, so please adhere to the following rules to keep everyone safe.

If you do not comply with the following road rules the police may issue you with a hefty fine.

General parking rules

You must not stop your vehicle (that is, bring it to a stop and either stay with the vehicle or leave it parked) in the following circumstances:

- Double parked (that is on the road alongside a car that is parked)
- Between BUS STOP, BUS ZONE, TAXI STAND or TAXI ZONE signs



No parking

You must not stop for more than two minutes in a No Parking area. You must remain in or within 3 metres of the vehicle.

Hours of operations may apply to some signs. This means restrictions apply for those times only. Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to 5 minutes in a No Parking area.

Bus zone – CARS CANNOT STOP in the Bus Zone

This sign means that you are not allowed to stop your vehicle within the direction of the arrow or arrows unless you are driving a bus.



Loading zone

Only drivers of vehicles principally constructed for carrying goods may park their vehicle in a loading zone.

These vehicles may stop for up to 30 minutes if they are being loaded or unloaded.

A station wagon or a three-wheeled goods vehicle may stop for up to 15 minutes.

If you are driving any other sort of vehicle you may only stop to pick up or set down passengers at the kerb.

Hours of operation may apply to some signs. This means restrictions apply for those times only.



School Uniforms



Fairfield West Public School Uniform Order Form

All uniform orders must be pre-ordered through the front office or via email 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			
Bucket Hat	\$10			
Beanie	\$8			
Scarf	\$8			
Library Bag	\$8.50			
	Total			

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

Office use only

Date order received:	Payment Method: Cash Eftpos Parent Online Payment	Amount Paid:
Staff member Initial:	Items collected	Yes NO
Date Collected:	Parent/Carer Collected	Sent home with Student

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



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Fairfield West NSW 2165

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