

FAIRHILLS FOCUSES ON LEARNING!

We're focusing on **READING** in 2021. Let's all read different types of texts together and by ourselves and talk about the things we've understood and learnt!

READING IS COOL!

STARR START UP!

We value learning at Fairhills PS.

To make sure we are all learning and safe, at the beginning of each year we all work through the FPS **STARR START UP!** Program. This helps us work and play in a calm and orderly environment. In each learning area staff establish clear and high expectations around routines and learning for students including:

- Readiness to begin the day/session (lining up, bags away, sitting on the floor/at tables etc...)
- Cues for listening and following instructions
- Moving around the school between classes
- Working in groups
- Working individually
- Consequences/rewards for behaviour
- Individual teacher/student expectations including mission statements and class contracts
- Importance of school values
- A sense of classroom community

This helps us all to be cool calm kind community members.

We finished our STARR start UP 2021! with a picnic on the oval. Well done team!



Do you know when you should keep your child home from school?

Do you know when it is very important for you to let the school know if anyone in your family or friendship groups is unwell?

Your doctor will let you know if your child has an 'excludable' condition. Some of these conditions include but are not restricted to pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal disease polio, or COVID-19. You will need to advise the school as soon as possible and keep your child home for the length of time that your doctor advises.

The Department of Health and Human Services outline the minimum period of exclusion from school for various infectious diseases. To find out more about the minimum period of exclusion for infectious diseases, see: [School Exclusion Table](#).

PRIVACY INFORMATION for parents and carers

During the ordinary course of your child's attendance at our school, school staff will collect your child's personal and health information when necessary to educate your child, or to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing or health in the school context. Such information will also be collected when required to fulfil a legal obligation, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. If that information is not collected, the school may be unable to provide optimal education or support to your child, or fulfil those legal obligations.

For example, health information may be collected through the school nurse, primary welfare officer or wellbeing staff member. If your child is referred to a specific health service at school, such as a Student Support Services officer, the required consent will be obtained. Our school also collects information provided by parents and carers through the School Entrance Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) and the Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Transition Form.

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to effectively collect and manage information about your child for teaching and learning purposes, parent communication and engagement; student administration; and school management purposes. When our school uses these online tools, we take steps to ensure that your child's information is secure. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

School staff will only share your child's personal or health information with other staff who need to know to enable the school to educate or support your child, or fulfil a legal obligation.

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, personal and health information about that student will be transferred to that next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of our students and assists that next school to provide optimal education and support to students.

In some limited circumstances, information may be disclosed outside of the school (and outside of the Department of Education and Training). The school will seek your consent for such disclosures unless the disclosure is allowed or mandated by law.

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child, see our school's privacy policy.

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, Student Support Service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners and all other staff at our school. This includes employees, agents and service providers (contractors) of the Department, whether paid or unpaid.

Well done on settling so well into our expectations and routines team!

And finally, a warm welcome to all our new families.

Keep well, Moi



Junior News

We are off and flying in the Junior School! The Junior School students have made a wonderful start to the year, and are settling well into new classroom routines. We are looking forward to an exciting year, watching the students learn and grow together.

We have just finished working through the Start Up! Program, which establishes classroom expectations, routines and sets up the learning environment for each class. We are reminding ourselves of what it means to follow our STARR values and all of our wellbeing practices, so that we can be safe, healthy and happy learners.

Reminders:

Start Up Interviews:

We're looking forward to meeting with families for the Getting to Know You Interviews this week. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet our parent community and to learn more about our wonderful students. We are looking forward to working together with you all throughout the year. Please book a time on Compass if you haven't already, as we'd love to see you!

Home Reading and Homework:

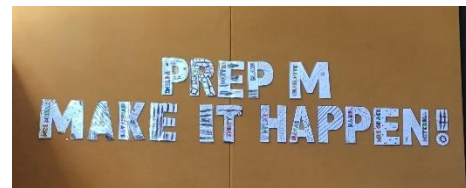
Let's start the year off the right way and get set into great reading and homework routines! We'd love to see all our students reading every night, as this is crucial to reinforcing and extending the learning your child does at school. All take home reading should be recorded on their reading log. Home reading and homework will start for Grades 1 and 2 shortly. Preps will be bringing home Take Home Sound books this week, so keep an eye out in your child's blue folder for more information about that.

Celebrations:

- Miss Hayes and Mrs Minas have been very happy with the wonderful start to the year by the Preps – how wonderful to see so many smiles each morning and eager students who are ready to learn! Great stuff Preps!
- Congratulations to our Grade 1 and 2 students who have settled into working together so well – this is very pleasing to see for two cohorts who have not previously worked together. Keep it up guys!

As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to come and see us. Have a great fortnight!

Miss Hayes, Mrs Minas, Miss Morrison and Miss Robinson





Every Day Counts

If you want your child to be successful at school, YES, attendance does matter!

Absent from School? Missing 1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem like much but...

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that is...
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

Late to School? How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won't affect my child?

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that is...
10 mins per day	50 mins per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ year
20 mins per day	1 hr & 40 mins per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 mins per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

Things to consider to give your child the best start to learning, every single day.

A healthy breakfast

A regular morning routine

Sufficient sleep- minimum 8 hours

Device/screen free mornings

Clothes/lunches prepared the day before

Model a positive attitude to each day

Arrive earlier on time to reduce stress and increase engagement- 8.55am is the morning bell

Come and see our staff for resources, support and advice.

We want your kids at school!

Uniform Policy Reminder

Our uniform looks really smart as our students proudly wear it to school each day. Well done to the vast majority who are always looking smart. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform every day. If you need assistance, please access our second-hand uniform or ask the Office for help. As a reminder, all students who have shoulder length hair or longer are required to tie up their hair. Hair ties are available if needed. Please assist your child if needed.

A letter from our Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison

At the end of 2020 we shared with everyone a very special speech written by our School Captain, Jack Silcot. We thought that other important people across Australia would be encouraged by his speech. So we sent it far and wide. To our delight, Prime Minister Scott Morrison responded! Please see below. We are so proud of the many, various and wonderful achievements continuing to come out of Fairhills!



PRIME MINISTER

Reference:



8 JAN 2021

Mr Stuart Beever
Fairhills Primary School
Manuka Drive
FERNTREE GULLY VIC 3156

Dear Mr Beever

Thank you for your letter dated 17 December 2020 and for attaching a copy of Jack's graduation speech. Clearly there is a great community at Fairhills Primary School to nurture such remarkable students.

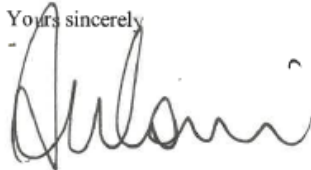
As Jack rightly points out, when 2020 began, we could not have predicted what a bumpy ride it would be! We could not have known that we would be asked to draw so deeply on our reserves of strength and adaptability. But it was a team effort, and everyone is playing their part in stopping the spread of the disease - that's what living in a democracy is all about: getting the job done by working together.

It was also a year when we spent more time with each other and were reminded again about the important things of life. I have witnessed so many Australians in recent months standing up and facing the challenges before them. I have every confidence students who persevered through 2020 will be magnificent Australian leaders, and great citizens, for that very reason.

I congratulate Jack on his leadership and positivity facing the challenges of 2020 and wish his Grade 6 alumni and the whole Fairhills Primary School community a happy and safe 2021.

Thanks again for writing.

Yours sincerely



SCOTT MORRISON

Senior News

In senior school we are learning to build and develop our classroom stamina after such a long and glorious break away. Students have explored and communicated what it means to be part of their new classroom community with some fabulously creative results.

Reading

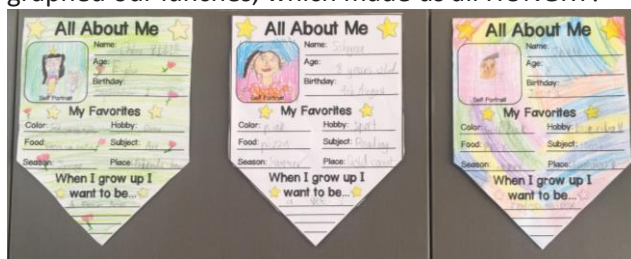
In reading, we have been working on our focus and developing our reading goals.

Writing

In writing we have been very busy, writing holiday recounts and have just begun narrative writing. We are exploring the many different topics suggested in class, letting our imaginations run wild while following the process of what good writers do.

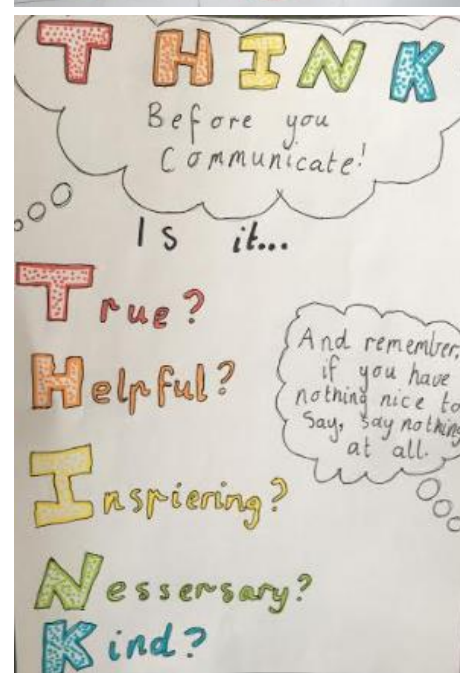
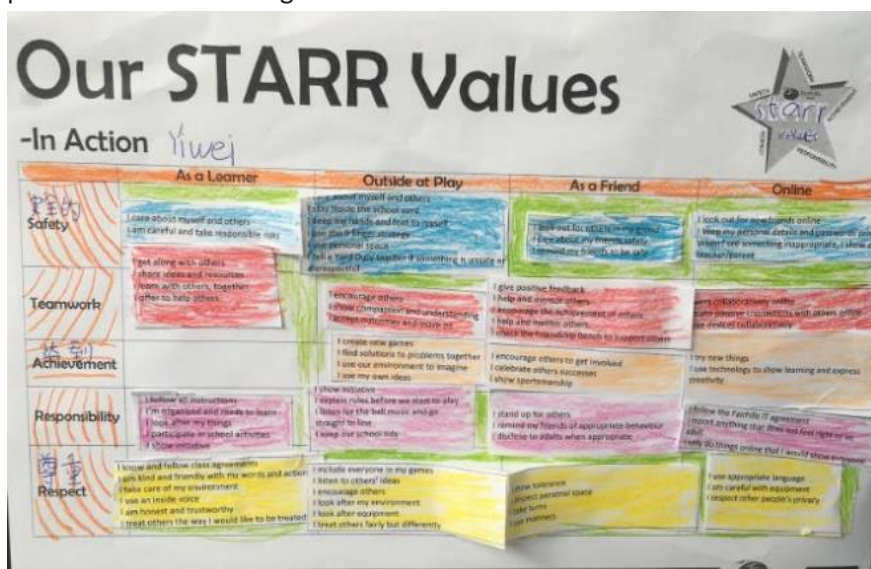
Maths

Maths has been so much fun! We've explored the connections that Maths has to the world around us and ourselves. We've collected data and have graphed our lunches, which made us all HUNGRY!



Celebrations

There is so much to celebrate in senior school at Fairhills Primary with students displaying our STARR values every day. Teamwork is noticeable in every class where classmates are seen readily assisting those around them with learning tasks. Respect has been another school value that our students are exhibiting every day as they take pride in theirs and others work and their new learning environments making each of their teachers proud. Well done on a great start to 2021 seniors.





Parents and Guardians- **this is for you!**

Does your child have a phone, tablet or gaming console? If so, we believe this is one area of our children's lives that is rapidly expanding and you may potentially feel like it is all beyond you. Well please don't give up, we need you to step up, learn more, equip yourself and know what your children are really doing; knowingly and unknowingly. We will continue to resource you with tips, tricks and content, but we need you to invest. The eSafety resources have some great webinars to get you started, see below!

eSafety's parent guide to cyberbullying and online drama

This Safer Internet Day 2021 webinar will look at how parents and carers can support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships and what to do if things go wrong.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

Calendar Dates	School Information
<p>February</p> <p>17th- Getting To Know You Interviews (On Webex Only)</p> <p>18th- Getting To Know You Interviews (On Webex Only)</p> <p>19th- Preps finish at 1pm</p> <p>26th- Preps finish at 1pm - Assembly on Webex</p> <p>March</p> <p>8th- Labour Day Public Holiday- School closed</p> <p>April</p> <p>1st- Easter Hat Parade -Last Day of School Term 1- 2.30pm finish</p>	<p>Principal: Moi Beaurain Leading Teacher: Stuart Beever School Council President: Bev Shaw Parents and Friends (PFA) President: Marcia Ockwell</p> <p>Phone: 9758 3007 Email: Fairhills.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Absence notification: via Compass Parent portal or by phone. (This must occur prior to 9.30am on the day of a child's absence)</p> <p>Office Hours: for communication, payments and enquiries. Monday: 8.30am-4.00pm Tuesday: 8.30am-3.00pm Wednesday: 8.30am-3.00pm Thursday: 8.30am-3.00pm Friday: 8.30am-4.00pm</p>

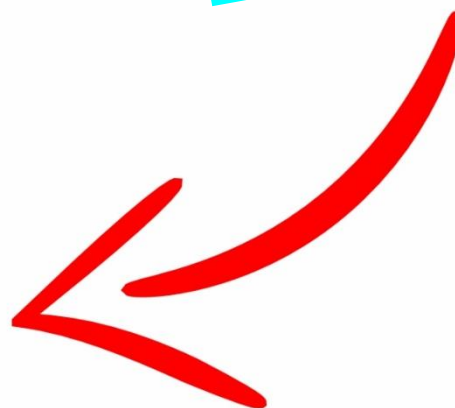


YOUR WORDS MATTER

INSTEAD OF:	TRY:
You did it so fast! Well done!	I saw you worked so hard and stayed focused till the end.
It's ok, you'll get it next time.	Mistakes happen! Let's figure out what went wrong here.
Just try harder!	Let's solve this mystery! What else can you try?
It's incorrect.	Show me how you got to this answer.
It's not that hard!	You can do hard things!

biglifejournal.com

Parents + Guardians
Get into the Big Life Kids!
Books, podcasts, social media = positivity central!





Raising Resilient Kids

A Parents' Building Solutions 6-Week Online Program

Do you want to:

- Get a clear understanding of resilience and coping with life's set backs?
- Learn how to build resilience in your child?
- Learn strategies to help your child bounce back from adversity?
- Build a strong emotional connection with your child so they share more with you?

Program suitable for parents of children aged 5-12 years of age.

Join us for 6 weekly online sessions:

23 February to 30 March 2021

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 am

Bookings: 9721 3646 or
parentzone.eastern@anglicarevic.org.au

Where: Join us live online via Zoom.

Cost: Free of charge for parents and carers in Melbourne's Eastern Region.

Bookings essential.

PARENTZONE

anglicarevic.org.au

BETTER
TOMORROWS

AUSKICK IS BACK IN 2021!!

Do you have a child who wants to learn Aussie rules?

Well, the Fairpark Auskick is located right in the heart of Knox and we pride ourselves on our family friendly, safe, inclusive, fun approach to teaching kids the foundation skills of Aussie rules football.

Clinics are suited to all kids ages 5 to 10 years old and is the starting point for development of skills Aussie rules football.

We run clinics each week from April to August on
Saturday mornings 9am – 10.45am.

Any queries please contact our Auskick coordinator,
Andrew Kennedy via email at
Fairpark_aukick@hotmail.com



KNOX
your city



Reach Out and Connect; The Suicide Conversation for Parents

Supportive connection is early prevention

Join us for this webinar presented by Amy Corcoran and Sarah Matta, LifeConnect Neami National, to help recognise and support young people who may be at risk of suicide.

Date: Thursday 11 March, 2021

Time: 7-8.30pm (Zoom Webinar)

Bookings essential - [Register here](#)

For more information, contact Michelle,
Knox Youth Services 9298 8311 or
michelle.pascoe@knox.vic.gov.au

Free
Event

Topics covered include:

- Suicide and suicidal thinking.
- Young people are at higher risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviours - Understanding why a young person might feel this way.
- Gain confidence in asking appropriate questions and listening with empathy.
- Learn how to play a part in community suicide prevention and support the wellbeing of young people in your family.

Proudly supported by



This session is based on evidence-informed practice and was developed in consultation with people with a lived experience of the impacts of suicide.