Dear Fraser Families…….
Welcome to the 2015 school year at Fraser Primary School. What a wonderful start we have had.

It was very exciting to have the Minister for Education, Joy Burch, with us when our Kindergarten and Preschool children commenced on Monday. She was delighted with the happy children who had a seamless beginning to their educational journey.

We have received very positive feedback about the new process we used on Tuesday for all students from Year 1-6 to locate their new classes. The children are also loving the music which assists them to know when school begins, as well as indicating the end of recess and lunch. If you have any feedback please go to the website and click on the feedback button.

Parents/Carers and Teachers Working in Partnership
Our teachers will be making contact with you during the next two weeks to begin building productive partnerships between school and home. Next Friday, 13 February, we will send home a student information sheet that we would like you to fill in and send back to your child’s teacher to help the teacher know about your child. So please take some time to complete the sheet, or simply write the teacher a letter to provide a lens into the way your child learns, dreams and plays.

In the week commencing Monday 2 March there will be ‘catch up meetings’ and teachers are looking forward to having an opportunity to talk about your children (more information about booking a time will be out soon).

Enhancing Communication
We have had a new noticeboard installed between the Kindergarten portable and Unit 1 and we will ensure that all current notes or flyers are on display, so that you can keep abreast of school upcoming events - we hope this will support parents/carers who perhaps sometimes miss receiving notes. We will also continue to send push notifications to remind you of events, notes and payments as well as meetings. An electronic newsletter and notes will continue to be sent to all families; if you would prefer to receive paper copies please email hayley.roberts@ed.act.edu.au.

Welcome Barbeque and Bush Dance
On Friday 20 February between 5-6pm we will hold a welcome barbeque, where teachers will be able to mingle and get to know you. The barbeque will be followed by a family bush dance from 6-8pm on the basketball court. More information and order forms are included with this newsletter. For further information contact Kerri in the canteen on 6205 7876.

2015 Staff
We have included a list of all Fraser staff later in this newsletter with the classes/roles each one is undertaking. We have a great mix of teachers, welcoming some new staff to Fraser from within the ACT as well as nationally. All staff will help create a rich tapestry of talents, interests and experiences which will ensure our children have a successful and happy time throughout the year.
Dear Fraser Families
Welcome back to another fantastic year at Fraser Primary School. It was wonderful to see all our continuing students returning to Fraser with big smiles on their faces as well as our new students, all of whom were very enthusiastic to begin their Fraser journey. A big welcome to our Preschool and Kindergarten students who were all very happy on their first day. Special thanks to the entire Fraser staff for their enthusiasm, care and support of all Fraser students throughout the week. We know the positive relationships formed will help to build a solid basis for learning in all areas this year.

Teacher Professional Learning
Last week, all Fraser staff participated in professional learning centred on our key priorities at Fraser in 2015. Our four focus areas were community partnerships, especially around effective communication, meeting the needs of all Fraser students, particularly in maths and the importance of social and emotional learning and using ‘circle time’ in the classroom. Our three days of learning were extremely beneficial to all staff and we thank them for their outstanding participation.

Buddies
It has been fabulous to have our Year 6 buddies in their bright yellow hats forming fantastic relationships with their Kindergarten friends and guiding them in their new environment.

Assemblies in 2015
This term, due to numerous public holidays and Year 5/6 camp, our assemblies will be held in the following weeks:
Year 3/4 team—week 3—Friday 20 February at 9.15am
Year 5/6 team—week 5—Friday 6 March at 9.15am
Year 1/2 team—week 7—Friday 20 March at 9.15am

Kindergarten will have their first assembly in term 2; a date will follow later.

We look forward to you joining us to celebrate the children’s learning, merit certificates, being good citizens, banking, healthy lunches and much more.

FROM OUR DEPUTY PRINCIPAL….

Class and team organisation
Teachers will continue to plan and teach together in teams across the school during 2015. Our goal is for success for every student, every day at Fraser. Students will participate in Japanese, Performing Arts and Library sessions on one day during each week.

These days are as follows:
Tuesday— Year 5/6 team (Japanese, Performing Arts and Library)
Wednesday - Year 1/2 team (Japanese, Performing Arts, Library, Computing, Fine Motor & PE/ Fundamental Movement Skills - FMS)
Thursday - Year 3/4 team (Japanese, Performing Arts and Library)
Friday - Kindergarten (Japanese, Performing Arts and Library)

Swimming Carnival
Fraser will be holding the swimming carnival on Monday 16 February 2015 at CISAC in Belconnen. All Year 4, 5 and 6 students will be able to attend, as well as students (8 years and above who are in Year 2 and 3) wishing to compete in the racing part of the day. Notes were sent home in paper copy on Wednesday. This was to assist in returning the notes promptly, as the carnival date is approaching fast. Please note due to electronic recording procedures, we will be unable to accept late entries for the carnival races beyond the cut off date.

Yearly Expenses Guide
A copy of the yearly expenses guide will be published in the week 3 newsletter as a table outlining planned costs for 2015. We hope this will assist families to make financial contributions to school events and other opportunities throughout the year. Some costs are approximates and more accurate information will be given closer to the time via permission notes.

Feedback
We appreciate feedback at Fraser Primary School and are always keen to hear your thoughts. Please approach us with any feedback either in person, via phone or email to celebrate something great or discuss an issue if necessary.

Maintenance and upgrades to our school over the holiday included:
- Painting of the administration block and computer lab
- New carpet in Unit 1, 2, 3 and in the administration block
- New fluorescent lights in Unit 1, 2, 3
- Reading corners in the Year 1/2 classrooms
- Arrival of the play shed (soon to be launched!)
- Tree and grounds work
- 2x Water refill stations
- The new noticeboard between Kindergarten & Unit 1
- New signage around the school
**Before School Play Reminder**
The inner playground area has one teacher supervising students between 8.30am-9.00am.
Students are to arrive at school from 8.30am onwards. The senior and junior playground equipment are not before school play areas.
The library is open from 8.30am.

**LATE TO SCHOOL…….**
If your child arrives at school after 9.15am, parents and carers are required to come to the Front Office with their child to sign them in. Your child will then be given a late slip to hand to their teacher.

**COLLECTING YOUR CHILD EARLY……….**
If you need to collect your child from school before 3pm or for an appointment during the day, parents and carers are required to come to the Front Office after collecting their child and sign them out. Parents and carers are also required to sign children back into school at the Front Office on their return.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE AWAY…..**
Please contact the Front Office by phone or use the absence slip on the app if you know your child is going to be away, or if they are sick and not going to be in for the day. This will assist the Front Office greatly as we make phone calls to all families whose child has an unexplained absence.

**Please Note……..**
Students can only be collected by those people who are listed on the emergency contact list for your child. Please ensure these details are kept up to date with the Front Office.

**CARPARK SAFETY**
We are currently working with the Directorate to upgrade signage in the carpark to ensure all community members are clear on its usage…..but until then please take extreme care when driving through the carpark to pick up your children.
Please remember that there is no parking in the bus area in the morning or afternoon. This is a flow through area where we need to keep the traffic moving to ensure no backlog on Tillyard Drive.
Parking at the shops and using the underpass is a great way to teach children about safe options.
Linda or Sue are on duty every afternoon and would appreciate your cooperation to ensure safety for all.

**STUDENT INJURY INSURANCE AND AMBULANCE TRANSPORT**
The Education and Training Directorate does not provide any insurance cover for injury, disease or illness to students resulting from school activities or school-organised excursions. Claims for compensation are met where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which any injury, disease or illness was sustained.
As there is no automatic insurance cover for personal injury if you child is injured at school or during a school organised activity/excursion, you should therefore consider whether taking out personal insurance cover for your child is warranted.
This insurance might cover contingencies including medical/hospital expenses, ambulance transport outside the ACT, and cancellation of transport/accommodation or loss of/damage to luggage.
The ACT Ambulance Service provides free ambulance transport for students who are injured or suddenly become ill at school or during an approved school activity within the ACT.

**P&C NEWS**
**General P&C Meeting on**
Wednesday 11 February 7.00pm in the school library

or come to the

**Fraser Friends Meeting on Tuesday 10 February at 9.00am in the school library**

Please come along and share your ideas about what you would like on the school calendar this year - whether they be family events, working bees or fundraisers.

**The Performance Indicators in Primary School Program (PIPS) assesses early Literacy and Numeracy skills of students in Kindergarten**
All Kindergarten students will take part in the PIPS assessment over the next two weeks. The assessment will determine what Kindergarten students know when they enter primary school, will diagnose individual student work and provide information to indicate what students are achieving or understanding (please refer to the PIPS brochure that your child received today).
SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES

If you would like to contribute to the governance of Fraser Primary, you are invited to nominate for a position on the Fraser School Board. No prior experience is necessary.

We currently have one Staff Member position and two Parent and Citizen member positions vacant. Each position consists of a two year term.

Nominations open 11.00am on Monday 2 February 2015 and close at 11am on Monday 16 February 2015. You can pick up a nomination form from the Fraser Primary School Front Office during business hours 8.30 am to 3.30 pm Monday to Friday, or request one to be emailed or faxed.

Completed nomination forms can be returned by:
- hand delivery to the Fraser Primary School Front Office,
- email to jann.reardon@ed.act.edu.au,
- fax to 6205 7907 or,
- mail to Fraser Primary School, Tillyard Drive, Fraser ACT 2615.

Voting will open at 11.00am on Monday 23 February 2015 and close at 11.00am on 2 March with appointment to the positions commencing on Wednesday 1 April 2015.

For more information, please contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Jann Reardon on 6205 7866.

FRASER FETE

The Fraser Fete is coming: 15 March 2015... make sure you have saved the date!

Keep up to date with fete news on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/fraserfete

Please share our Facebook page with your community friends. As the big day draws closer there will be lots to tell you, so stay in touch so you don't miss a thing!

Over 15 fabulous stalls will be hosted by our school community, and each Year group has been assigned stalls at the fete for parents and carers to run.

- Preschool - Fruit salad
- Kindergarten - Preloved toys / Kids clothing
- Year 1/2 - Popcorn / Ice creams / Fairy floss / Devonshire teas
- Year 3/4 - Tombolas / Hot dogs & Nachos / Book stall
- Year 5/6 - Corn & hot potatoes / Showbags / Raffles

Your help is needed to make these stalls happen! Please make sure you return the slip at the bottom of the special note that has been sent out, or you can email fraserfete@gmail.com. Every volunteer will contribute to the success of your child’s stalls at our community fete.

We are also coordinating a special non uniform day on Thursday 19 February. It will be a fun casual dress day in return for a small donation of items suitable for our Tombola stall. A note will be distributed soon with further details.

In weeks 5 and 6 we will be asking for your donations for our kids clothing, books, toys and plant stalls. Your donations of clean items in good condition will be greatly appreciated. Dates and times for the collection of your items will be announced very soon.

Welcome to 2015 - we're looking forward to a fabulous Fraser Fete!

Christine Tusch & Fete Coordinators

SCHOOL BANKING

Welcome to School Banking at Fraser Primary for 2015 - start saving now!

There will be plenty of School Banking fun this year, as we join the ‘Outer Space Savers’ with eight new reward items and the chance to win a family trip to Disneyland!

Thanks to our fabulous supporters at Luton Properties Kippax, I have vouchers for super cool slush puppies from our school canteen to give away to the first 100 students to start their school banking for the year. Students must attend this school (Years K-6) to be eligible to receive a voucher.

All your child needs is a Youthsaver account, which can be opened at any branch of the Commonwealth Bank. Wednesday is School Banking Day. Deposit wallets are collected by your child's teacher and brought to the school library for processing.

If you're keen for your child to be involved in School Banking and you'd like to know more, you can find information on the Commonwealth Bank's website, ask for an information pack at the Front Office, or come and see me in the library on Wednesday mornings.

Christine Tusch
School Banking Coordinator

Fraser Fete
Fraser Primary School

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

On behalf of the Canteen Committee, I would like to welcome all our new and returning families to Fraser for a brand new year. I hope everyone had an exceptional holiday break. I have included a copy of our menu and a list of procedures for ordering from the canteen with this week’s Focus. If you would like information that is not included in either of the notes, please come and see me in the canteen.

We are always looking for volunteers to help each day. If you have any free time and would like to help please see me or call on 6205 7876 during school hours. A roster will be prepared at the end of week 2.

**On Friday 20 February the Canteen will be hosting a ‘Meet and Greet’ BBQ at the school, which will be followed by a Bush Dance for those who wish to join the fun. Notes have been sent home this week with more information.**

I am looking forward to a fantastic 2015.

*Kerri Farley, Canteen Manager*

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**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**

The first Issue of Scholastic Book Club has arrived and has been distributed this week. You will notice a few changes this year. Scholastic now only produce one brochure for each year group. On the back of each order form Scholastic mention ‘in-loop’ which is a new online ordering system. We have opted not to join ‘in-loop’ at this stage and orders will continue in the current format. Issue 1 Scholastic Book Club orders are due back at school by Monday 23 February 2015.

*Kerri Farley
Book Club Coordinator*

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**LAMONT BOOK CLUB**

In 2015, our school is participating in Lamont Book Club. The first issue for 2015 is available from the library and the front foyer. Lamont Book Club is Australian owned, contains a great selection of products at affordable prices, and best of all, every order supports our school!

All Lamont Book Club orders are to be placed online using their fast and easy website - www.lamontbookclub.com.au

*Stephen James, Librarian*

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**ACTION BUSES 2015**

As we start a new school year, we would like to remind schools, parents/carers and students about our bus services and how to best prepare for bus travel in the new year.

**School Bus Services**

Details of all school and regular bus services are now available for parents/carers and students to begin planning their journeys. We ask that parents/carers and students familiarise themselves with the most suitable route, times and stop locations. School bus services are available to school students only. However, parents/carers with young children may apply to travel on these services for a few weeks to help their child get used to bus travel. Please use the links below for further information on our bus services:

- [School bus timetables](#)
- [Regular bus timetables](#)
- [MyWay Cards](#)

**MyWay Cards**

We are urging parents/carers and students to check MyWay cards and top up if required. MyWay cards can be topped up automatically using the handy autoload service, [online](#), over the phone via the ACTION and MyWay information line (13 17 10), or in person at Canberra Connect shopfronts and MyWay recharge agents.

**Bus Fare Increase**

A bus fare increase came into effect on 3 January 2015. Single trip school student MyWay fares are now $1.10 and cash fares are now $2.30. Parents/carers and students can find more information on the [Transport for Canberra](#) website or by calling 13 17 10.

**Network Changes**

No significant changes have been made to the current schools network since the most recent changes on Monday 1 September 2014. Any changes are published on the [School Services](#) section of the ACTION website. All feedback received regarding the new network has been taken on board for future planning and scheduling.

**New Student MyWay Card Holders**

We would like to offer you free MyWay card holders and information guides for new school students, ideally those of primary school age who may be using the bus on their own for the first time. The card holder is designed to hold a MyWay card and has a secure clip device for attaching to a belt or bag. As a MyWay card can be of significant value, the MyWay card holder is a great way to keep students cards secure. Inside sits a MyWay information targeted at parents/carers which is a great introduction to MyWay and understanding the ticketing system. We can send you out a package consisting of the card holders, clips and MyWay information guide. If you are interested, please respond to [actionmarketing@act.gov.au](mailto:actionmarketing@act.gov.au) with the quantities required and the preferred contact and delivery details.