Monday 15 February 2016

Social Skills— Each week at our Friday assembly a class is allocated one of our Social Skill Lessons. They are all based on our school rules. This week’s Social Skill will be presented by Mrs. Janice Dickens from 5D. The lesson is from our school rule of Be Learner. The Social Skill is “Look Listen Learn”. Our assembly is Friday at 9am in the school hall. All welcome.

School Improvement Priorities 2016

Last year our school undertook its Quadrennial School Review. The key priorities for improvement across our next 4 year cycle are as follows:

- Collaboratively develop a whole school curriculum plan.
- Refine the pedagogical framework in order to clarify the agreed consistent pedagogies for teachers.
- Develop collective ownership of the schools improvement agenda by all staff of targets for class groups and individual students.
- Monitor the achievement of these targets through timelines for monitoring student progress and through identification of specific team member responsibilities.
- Expand teacher data literacy skills, including Oneschool, to enable storage and timely analysis of data at increasingly sophisticated levels.
- Provide a range of regular and timely coaching, observation and feedback opportunities for all teachers.

These recommendations directly align with our Annual Improvement Plan (AIP) for 2016 as we begin to action these priorities. In our 2016 AIP the improvement priorities are streamlined as follows:

- Develop a culture of reflective and improving teacher practice.
- Use Data to Inform Teaching Practice.
- The Teaching Of Reading

Thanks to the outstanding work of staff we are well underway with the Quadrennial School Review priorities. In fact, we have already completed the development of much work including:

- We have completed the collaborative development of the whole school curriculum plan which aligns with both the Australian and Queensland Curriculum. All teachers are implementing this plan.
- Our Explicit Improvement Agenda is ‘Reading’ as we believe when children achieve well and have confidence in what they read and understand, it will have positive spin-offs for all other curriculum areas.
- We have reviewed our school reading program and developed a collaborative program which addresses expectations for the teaching and assessment of reading from Prep to Yr 6.
- All teachers have been trained in the data collection and recording system and each term teachers meet to moderate student results. Student results are reviewed in 2 ways: for GROWTH and for ACHIEVEMENT. Even when students are not reaching the set target, it is important that we see continual improvement.
- We have worked to develop a whole school strategic plan for ‘developing performance’ of teachers which will focus on supporting teachers to achieve high standards within their own classes and to develop greater collegiality across year levels.
Classroom Visits and Feedback

From time to time your child may mention that other staff such as the Principal, Deputy, Master Teacher or Support Staff are working in their classrooms. Our visits focus in 3 main ways: Formal Visits (by the Principal), Coaching Visits (by other the Deputy, Master Teacher or Support Staff), and Learning Walks (by Principal and another of our teaching staff).

The idea of class visits is to ensure that teachers get the opportunity to have evidence informed feedback about their work with students. Through regular and personalised feedback, reflection and data analysis, teachers will be able to identify what they are doing well, what are still their challenges and what specific actions will best meet the needs of their students. I commend the staff for their professional openness with this work. It is through a consistent use of achievement data that we are able to differentiate student instruction and help every child reach their own potential.

In line with our Explicit Improvement Agenda, all class visits predominantly focus on ‘reading lessons’.

The focus of our work over the next semester will be embedding the key documents: whole school curriculum plan and reading program. Our focus class visits, planning sessions and data reviews are all to ensure we have consistent practices across from these key documents throughout our school.

As you can see there has already been much work done, but the focus now is the practical implementation which is very exciting. I always discuss updates at our P&C meetings and welcome you to come along and join us.

Kids Matters Occupational Workshop– Wednesday 24 February 9.15– 10am to be held here at the New Farm State School. The session will be hosted by Julia Eggles, Senior Occupational Therapist for Parents of children from Prep to Grade 3. Please see the attachment to today’s email for further details. This session will be held in the library.

Swimming Changes– These days will continue for the rest of Term 1.

Classes on Monday are 4F, 4D, 5D, 5W, 6C, 6R.

Classes on Wednesday are 2C, 2G, 3F, 3M, 1FW, 1B, 1/2T.

P & C meeting- Our P and C meeting is held once a month. Please note that meetings will now be held at a new time on a Tuesday at 6pm and the first meeting will be on the following:


The P and C meeting is a wonderful way to hear about what is happening in our school and what projects are currently planned for 2016. At this months meeting we will be discussing air-conditioning of classrooms. We hope to see you there!

Vacancy- School Crossing Supervisor

New Farm State School - Road Crossing Supervisor required Monday to Friday 7.55am to 9am and 2.55pm to 3.30pm each day.

Training will be provided.

Please respond to Elena Anderson, Business Services Manager on eande156@eq.edu.au if you are interested.

Only successful applicants will be contacted.

City District Swimming- Last Friday our nominated swimmers competed at the Valley Pool to gain selection for the City District Swimming Team. It was a fantastic day, with many of the students gaining personal best times and challenging themselves with the higher level competition.

Congratulations to the following students for representing our school:

**SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NEWS**

**STUDENT BANKING — FRIDAYS OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY AT NFSS.** Friday 19 February 2016 at 8.15am outside the library. We’ve had a wonderful start to the year with children making banking deposits. Contact Karen Ridoutt (ridoutt@optusnet.com.au or 0412 004 644)

**NFSS Amateur Swim Club— Monday from 5.30pm.**

Cost is $30 for Term 1 2016.

Any further questions please contact Ian or Karen Ridoutt at nfss.swimclub@hotmail.com or call 0412 004 644.

Online Registration form link https://form.jotform.co/60252487420855 or Collect from the School office.

New Members are still welcome.

**Food Allergies - Take Note!**

Never share food
Only a small amount can cause a BIG reaction
Take food allergies seriously
Everyone can help keep our school allergy safe

From the CEP Coordinator:

Many of our Term 1 Community Education classes are now up and running!

The following kids’ classes are fully booked: Chess Mates, Creative Dance, Gymnastics

There is limited space in: Art with Meredith, Judo, French, Creative Workshop, Drama, Mandarin, Karate

However, since registrations are now considered late, you would need to check with the coordinator who can enquire with the relevant tutor to see if late joining can be facilitated.

There are still a few private music lessons available for Singing (with Daniel),

Guitar (with James) and Piano (with Leana).

For further details, please email: nfsscommunityed@live.com.au

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

Welcome to the tuckshop for 2016. We have tuckshop twice a week Wednesday and Friday. For menu details please visit the FlexiSchools on line ordering site - see below.

**ON LINE ORDERING**

To order on line please go to www.flexischools.com.au it is quick and easy to use. We encourage everyone to do this as you can order in advance or for the whole term. Cut off time is 8.00am for both Wednesday and Friday.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

If you have pre-ordered on line and your child is going to be absent from school you will need to cancel the order before 8.00am with Flexischools otherwise it will still go through as an order. With the system we cannot change or cancel orders from the tuckshop.

**COUNTER ORDERS**

If you do order over the counter please have it before 9.00am otherwise we cannot guarantee that we will have all the menu items available. Please clearly mark your child’s name and class and be careful not include foreign coins as the bank does not accept these. We do prefer you to order on line though as it is more efficient and saves you having to wait in line to place an order.

**VOLUNTEERS**

If anyone would like to volunteer to help out the tuckshop on a Friday, please come see me at the tuckshop on a Wednesday or Friday morning or email me at nfstuckshop@hotmail.com. We need home bakers and help in the tuckshop preparing and serving food. It is a nice way to meet other people in the school and we welcome Mums, Dads and Grandparents.

**TUCKSHOP ROSTER - Friday 19th February**

Tuckshop - Adam Gray
Counter - Sue Fuller
Baking - Skye McKay, Sue Fuller, Susie Levy, Nancy Cowel and Fiona Caniglia

Thank you,
Terri-Anne
Focus:
Being a good listener and a good learner

Looks Like
- Body is still (no fidgeting)
- Eyes on the speaker
- Non verbal acknowledgement

Sounds Like
- Zero noise/silence
- Verbal acknowledgement or repetition
- Asking questions at the right time

Feels Like
- Understanding of the task
- Success in completing the task

Assembly Awards– Each week a student is chosen from their class for displaying behaviour which is rewarded according to the New Farm State School Rules.

Term 1 Week 3 2016.
Please Congratulate the following recipients -
Prep R– Max, Emma.
1FW– Daniel, Aven. 1B– Ayanaa, Hugh. 1/2T- Lucie, Eva.
2C– Sashi, Cooper. 4F– Elise, Jaci. 5W– Thomas, Clea.
Congratulations to our Social Skills Award winners for Week 3
5W– Jade, Elise

2016 Chinese New Year of the Monkey

Many thanks Mrs Chen for organising Chinese New Year celebrations at our school last Tuesday afternoon.

The students’ squeals of delight, as the Lion Dance paraded the hall to the beat of the drum and the loud clash of cymbals to frighten Nian the Chinese beast away, created a memorable event.

The Southern Shaolin International Wushu Academy skilfully performed these and other acrobatic dances for us.

Around the Classroom– Each week we will see an article from a class in our school. This week its Prep R.

What a HUGE first three weeks we have had in Prep R. The students and teachers have settled in to the daily routine and are having fun learning new things.

Jolly Phonics has become a regular and exciting part of our day. We are working on mastering writing our names correctly and doing lots of counting and sorting.

We have read lots of stories and made some Magic Hats which have changed us into different animals.

One of Prep R’s favourite sessions are Ms Thacker’s music lessons. We are so lucky to get to go twice each week.

Our Yr 5 Buddies from 5D came to visit us and we are looking forward to playing with them up in the ‘big school’ this week.

Thank you to all the parents who come along to the Parent Information Session. We hope you found it informative and we look forward to a great year with you and your children.