



# FALLS ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHALLENGE THE PRESENT—CREATE THE FUTURE

TERM 1  
ISSUE 1

31 January  
2024

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### School Times

8.40am - 3.00pm

**Every Tuesday**  
early close 2.30pm

### Recess

10.25am - 10.45am

### Lunch

12.30pm - 1.15pm

### Dates to Remember

#### Friday 2 February

- P&C Welcome Back Ice Cream

#### Monday 5 February

- **No Uniform Shop today**

#### Wednesday 7 February

- PP-Year 6 Dance Lessons

#### Thursday 8 February

- PP-Year 6 Dance Lessons

#### Friday 9 February

- Semester 1 Leaders Assembly

#### Monday 12 February

- P&C Meeting 7.00pm

#### Tuesday 13 February

- New Parents Morning Tea 9.00am

#### Wednesday 14 February

- PP-Year 6 Dance Lessons

#### Thursday 15 February

- PP-Year 6 Dance Lessons

#### Monday 19 February

- Uniform Shop 8.20am - 8.50am

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Vale Richard Coney

We have some sad news to start the school year with the passing of one of our school dads, Richard Coney.

Richard was an integral part of our school community and was always there to help out when assistance was required. His enthusiasm, zest for life and sense of humour will be missed by all who came into contact with him.

Our sympathies and support go out to Nikki and the children, Jedd, Dexter, Mataea and Samson who are all part of the Falls Road Primary School community.

Welcome to 2024 everybody. Whether you have been at Falls Road PS all your schooling life or have just arrived, we are overjoyed to have you join us for 2024. From our brand-new Kindy kids (all 30 of them) to our newly crowned leaders of the school (our Year 6s), we have another wonderful set of learning experiences for you.

Term 1 is quite short with 7 full weeks and 2 part weeks, however Term 2 is a lengthy 11 weeks. The main 'events' of Term 1 are NAPLAN (for Year 3s and 5s), and Swimming Carnivals (for Year 4s to 6s). So, we need to get down and busy straight away. Teachers will be inviting you to a short information session in the next few weeks, however if you wish to meet with them individually, do not hesitate to make an appointment.

Firstly, a small apology. I had committed to inform families of their class and teacher allocations on Monday, 29 January. Unfortunately, due to a few last moment departures, and excitedly several enrolments, we were unable to run our final processes until the next day. This year, we also implemented a system which allowed for greater privacy, whereby we simply informed you of your child's placement and their teacher and did not include the entire class list. This is becoming more common in schools, as we understand that often full lists of students are shared and out there in the public domain, which is not ideal. It all adds to the excitement of finding out who your classmates are when you rock up on the first day.

### Staffing

Our staff remain very stable from last year. Teacher, Michelle Holt has taken leave for the year, and we welcome Ms Laurien Gregor into our Kindy for one day per week and Miss Martina Verdinelli (Language assistant-Mondays).

**Teaching Staff**

<b>Kindy</b>	Mrs Dupont and Ms Gregor (Wed)
<b>Pre-primary Room 3</b>	Mrs Taylor and Mrs Harrison (Thurs)
<b>Pre-primary Room 4</b>	Miss Archbold and Miss Amos (Wed and Thurs)
<b>Year 1 Room 10</b>	Mrs Leeming
<b>Year 1/2 Room 12</b>	Miss Perera
<b>Year 2 Room 11</b>	Miss Duffill
<b>Year 2/3 Room 2</b>	Miss Bunter
<b>Year 3/4 Room 1</b>	Mrs Miller
<b>Year 4 Room 6</b>	Mr Bernardi
<b>Year 4/5 Room 5</b>	Mr Carter
<b>Year 5/6 Room 7</b>	Miss Ferguson
<b>Year 6 Room 8</b>	Mrs Burns
<b>Art Specialist</b>	Mrs Stefanie Perkins
<b>LOTE</b>	Mrs Sarah Schubert
<b>Music</b>	Miss Inger Johnston
<b>PE</b>	Mrs Gemma Morris

**Student Leaders and Faction Captains**

We welcome our new school leaders in Year 6 and wish them all the best as they embark upon exciting opportunities to lead and represent their peers. We congratulate them on their election late last year.

**Student Leaders**

Amelie	Chloe	Emily	Isa
Jacob	Kira	Lily	Owen
Tami	Ysabella		

**Faction Captains**

**Red** - Sebastian and Billie **Blue** - Isaac and Eloise **Gold** - Aarik and Arliese

**Heat**

Murphy's Law would have it that the first days back at school are expected to be extreme heat conditions. Please ensure that every child has a brimmed hat (preferably school uniform) with name on it, a water bottle with name on it, and has applied sunscreen prior to coming to school. We will ensure that when children are in open areas they have hats on and that sunscreen is available to be reapplied during the day. Children are permitted to have their drink bottles in class and will be encouraged to fill these when needed. We will remind students to find shaded areas during recess and lunch. We will monitor activity during the breaks and ask students to take a rest if we feel that they are overexerting themselves in the heat.

There will be limited numbers able to access to the air-conditioned library, and all children will return to air-conditioned classrooms after breaks. The Physical Education program will be modified during excessive heat.

**Dance**

Year PP – 6 classes will participate in the modern dance program, throughout Term 1 on either Wednesdays or Thursdays. This means that Year 6s will not be undertaking dance during what is an extremely action filled Term 4. Consent2Go permissions have been forwarded home today.

## Mobile Phones

In accordance with Department Policy, K-6 students are to hand their mobile phones in to the office at the commencement of the day and collect at the end of the day. These are individually secured. Exemptions only apply to students monitoring a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan. Smart watches must be set to aeroplane mode (or school setting) so that no phone calls or messages are sent or received during the day.; 'all communication between parents and students during school hours should be through the school's administration'.

## Communication

You will receive communication from our school through telephone calls, email, including our newsletter, our website, or from teachers using applications such as see-saw. We invite you to make appointments to discuss concerns or celebrations with teachers, myself, or Simon Docherty (Deputy). When making an appointment please state the agenda so that we can be best prepared for a productive conversation. Meetings must focus upon solutions, with the child always being the priority.

## School Development Days

The Department of Education has nominated that there will be six School Development Days in 2024. Three of these are standard across the State, (Jan 29 and 30 and December 13) three have been kept the same within our Bibbulmun Network of Schools (April 15, July 15, and October 7 ) This will provide consistency in our local area.

Schools in the Bibbulmun Network are:

Falls Road Primary School ; Gooseberry Hill Primary School ; Maida Vale Primary School ; Pickering Brook Primary School and Walliston Primary School

Kalamunda Primary School and Kalamunda Primary School Education Support Centre

Kalamunda Senior High School and Kalamunda Senior High School Education Support Centre

Lesmurdie Primary School and Lesmurdie Senior High School

## Bullying

Often the term bullying is misunderstood and used inaccurately. Included in this newsletter is a poster which is displayed around our school clearly outlining the correct application of the term 'bullying'. Our behaviour management policy and our approach clearly outline consequences for a range of misdemeanours and differentiates between being rude, mean (nasty) or bullying. Teachers will be speaking with their classes about these terms. Most situations which arise in our school are low to moderate level social conflict between students, generally of equal age, and is very easily resolved with restorative conversations. Or as the classic saying goes 'time heals all wounds'. We teach our students to be resilient, stand up for themselves, and for bystanders to intervene or inform an adult.

## Year 6 2023 Gift

Our Year 6 students from 2023 gifted the school a bench seat which is very evident in our undercover area. We thank them, particularly Dads Adam Roulston, Glynn Kane and Russell Smith who constructed it. We are sure that our students will enjoy sitting on it during break times and whilst waiting for after school pick-up.

## Scooters, Bicycles and Carparks

Children who are riding bicycles and scooters to school should be wearing helmets and walking them on and off school grounds. For their own safety, they must not ride through the carparks. Thanks to our P&C, we have a fantastic shade structure to store scooters and bicycles during the day.

I also remind parents that they are not to park in the staff car park, particularly before and after school.

## Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure that students are punctual to class. The school day commences at 8:40 am, however entry at 8:30am assists with students preparing themselves for the day, opportunities to interact informally with staff, and often, to undertake some revision activities. The earliest part of the day also focuses heavily on Literacy, and arriving late can mean that a student misses review of previous learning or introductory

explanations to new material. Late students are reminded to call past the front office to receive a late note to present to their teacher.

Attendance is also extremely important. In 2023 74% of our students were very good attenders however, the remaining 26% were of concern. Imagine a child attending 80% of their Primary School years, that by the time they head off to High School they will have completed almost 1 year's less schooling than many of their peers. Please think very carefully about time off and vacations during school term – these are not considered valid reasons for absence. We understand that illness cannot be avoided as this is a legitimate reason for absence. We ask that you inform the school via our front office, or the teacher directly, if your child will be or is absent. If a child is unwell for a notable period, we will support you in providing some form of home tuition. Schoolwork will not be provided for those travelling or on holiday.

### Food Policy

We have a '**No Sharing Food Policy**' and have included the following information as a reminder to all parents and our wider school community. We have this policy as a number of our students are allergic to different foods and in a few cases, the students are highly allergic to foods containing nuts. Additionally, not touching and sharing food supports best practice with hygiene and health.

Falls Road Primary is **not** a nut free school. Instead we educate staff and students on good hygiene habits; a "no sharing food" policy is in place to support those with nut allergies. All staff are made aware of nut allergies and are trained in the use of an EpiPen. An EpiPen is carried with a duty teacher in each duty area"

*Our School Community supports students to develop the ability to "**self manage**" as they need to be able to do this for the rest of their life.*

*Though there is no requirement to do so, parents may choose to minimise foods which contain nuts such as peanut butter in student lunches.*

*We also regularly remind students to wash their hands when handling food. Reinforcing this at home will support us in promoting and developing good hygiene habits.*

*We thank you for your understanding with this.*

### Finally

I reiterate my welcome to you all. I look forward to the first P&C meeting on Monday, 12 February. Best wishes and 'Happy New School Year' to you all.

Regards,  
Bruce Fraser  
Principal

## DEPUTY NEWS

Welcome back Falls Road Primary for 2024. Throughout the term, we will hold a range of activities involving students and parents. I will aim to keep you updated on what the activities are taking place via the Deputy News and the school website (see below). Any permissions for special events will come out via email through the [Consent2Go](#) application.

<https://www.fallsroadps.wa.edu.au/>

### What's happening this Term

**Dance lessons** each Wednesday and Thursday (from 11.05am) in the Moonlight Hall (starting Wednesday 7/2)

**New Parents Morning Tea (Staffroom)** – Tuesday, 13 February – 9.00am

**Semester 1 Leaders Assembly** - Friday, 9 February at 8.45am

**Faction Swimming Carnival** – Friday, 8 March, 12.15 – 3.00pm (Kalamunda Aquatic Centre)

**Parent Interviews** – Monday, 11 March – 12pm - 6pm

**Year 6 Cricket Lightning Carnival** – Tuesday, 12 March, 9.30am – 1.30pm (Maida Vale Reserve)

**NAPLAN Testing** – Wednesday, 13 March – Friday, 22 March

**Stirk Swimming Carnival** – Thursday, 21 March (9.30am – 12.30pm at Bilgoman Aquatic Centre)

**Easter Hat Parade** – Thursday, 28 March - 8.45am (Senior Basketball Court)

### **New Parents Morning Tea**

We will holding a New Parents Morning Tea on Tuesday, 13 February at 9.00am. This is to welcome any new parents to Falls Road Primary School and to pass on information about how our school works. All parents who are new to Falls Road in 2024 are invited to come along. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Leaders' Assembly**

The Semester 1 Leaders will host the first assembly of the year on Friday, 9 February (Friday, Week 2). The Leaders and Faction Captains will again be presented to the rest of the school and will also tell us a bit about what they do around the school. We will also be presenting the first merit certificates for the year. All parents are welcome to come along to this assembly.

Other assemblies for this term will take place on Friday, 23 February, Friday, 8 March and Friday, 22 March.

### **100s Club**

We will again be running our 100s Club in 2024 where students are supervised from 8.00am – 8.25am. All students should go to the oval if they arrive at school before 8.25am – Classrooms will open at 8.30am. This is a great way to start the day with some physical activity and catch up with friends while walking or running laps of the oval. A reminder that students **should not** be arriving prior to 8.00am.

### **Faction Shirts**

Students will be given a faction point for **wearing their faction shirt on Fridays**. Students are also able to wear their faction shirt on carnival days or on their PE lesson day, **but faction points will only be given on a Friday**. The faction captains will count students in each class wearing their faction shirt on Friday and pass these numbers on to Mr Docherty. These points are added to the faction points tally for each assembly and go towards the end of term sausage sizzle.

### **School Psychologist Service**

Unfortunately, we have not been able to access a School Psychologist for Term 1. Alexandra Rankin will re-commence as our School Psychologist in Term 2, 2024 after finishing maternity leave.

### **School YouthCARE Chaplain Program**

Participation in any chaplaincy program is voluntary for students. Students who are experiencing concerns in class, the playground, with friendships or any other general worries can access our school chaplain for an individual meeting. Consent forms for one-to-one appointments with the chaplain are available to students from the office. Students can fill out the form but will require a parent to give their signed permission. Signed forms can then be returned to the collection box in the office. All conversations with the school Chaplain are confidential, however, if she feels that further discussion with parents is required, she will refer this onto the Deputy.



Our Chaplain, Helga Lobaugh, is working within our school every Wednesday.

### **School Times**

#### **Monday to Friday**

**8.30am** – Classroom doors open

**8.40am** – School day starts

**10.25 – 10.45am** – RECESS

(eating and playing time)

10.45am – Students return to class after recess  
 12.30pm – LUNCH  
 12.30 – 12.45pm – Lunch eating time  
 12.45 – 1.15pm – Lunch play time  
 1.15pm – Students return to class after lunch  
 3.00pm – School finishes  
**(School finishes at 2.30pm every Tuesday)**

**Students on School Grounds after school**

After school, we would ask that parents **vacate the school grounds by 3.20pm** unless there is an organised activity taking place (eg. netball training, football training). This includes the Kindy / Pre-Primary playground.

There is an expectation that normal school rules are followed by students before and after school and that parents are actively supervising their child / children while they are on school grounds.

Regards  
Simon Docherty

**After School Violin lessons**

If your child/ren is interested in learning to play the violin, we offer small-group lessons for students in Years 2 - 6 after school on Tuesdays for the very reasonable price of \$10 per lesson! Our very talented violin teacher has recently graduated from WAAPA and the school has violins available for hire for \$50/year. Please be aware that our after-school violin program is separate to the Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) program and so doesn't impact students' opportunities to learn other instruments in Years 5 & 6.

If you would like further details or are interested in your child/ren having lessons, please email me directly on [inger.johnston@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:inger.johnston@education.wa.edu.au)

**School Payments**

Payments can be made to the school using the Pay Anyone option through your online bank account. The account details are as follows:

BSB: 633 000  
 Account: 154 725 592  
 Falls Road Primary School – School Account

Please **clearly state student's surname**, initial and reason for payment in the description. (e.g. Smith J- Swimming)

**Please DO NOT make Uniform payments in this account.**

P & C

**Back to School Ice Cream**

See poster attached for details on a free ice cream for students.



**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop will be open from 8.20am - 8.50am on the following **Mondays** in Term 1:

February - 19

March - 11

Orders can be placed online using <http://www.fallsroadpandc.org.au/>. If you place an order online, you will receive an email notifying that the items are available for collection from the office. **Please check your junk mail for notifications.**

**Need to contact us?**

Falls Road P&C Email address is [fallsroadparents@gmail.com](mailto:fallsroadparents@gmail.com)



Did you know Falls Road Primary School P&C is on Facebook - join us at

<https://www.facebook.com/fallsroadprimaryschool>

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

 Marloo Theatre  
4 d · 🌐

Newsies Start A Revolution 🎭

DTP's Production of Disney's Newsies Jr. opens on February 16th! Join us for this all singing, all dancing youth musical with 10 shows only!

- 🎭 Disney's Newsies Jr.
- 📍 Marloo Theatre Greenmount
- 📅 February 16th-March 2nd
- 🌐 [www.trybooking.com/CLYNA](http://www.trybooking.com/CLYNA)
- 👤 Devlin Turbin

This production is licensed by Music Theatre International (Australasia)





**Venue: Jack Healey Centre**  
21 Mead St, Kalamunda (next door to Dome Café)

*Creative Art Activities  
for Kids 6 to 14 years*

2024 Term 1  
Enrollments Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4pm to 5pm  
Starts on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 4pm to 6pm

**Hooked on Hessian**  
*The fun textile art of rug hooking...create wall hangings, rugs or cushions with a variety of colours and textures that will bring your designs to life.*

**Painting & Drawing**  
*Develop skills moving creative ideas to paper with a variety of techniques; oil, pen, crayon, pastels and water color..*

**All materials provided**

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