



Principal's Letter

A very warm welcome back to Furlong Park School for Deaf Children. I'm very excited about 2020 and I'm looking forward to watching the children grow and learn. Our motto at Furlong Park is 'Empower – Enrich – Educate' and we have a vision for the students to 'access the world through language and learning'. With everything we do at Furlong Park, the children are at the centre of our decisions and we always think of what is best for them.

Our School Review at the end of 2019 was a success and it was a wonderful time to celebrate our achievements. The review showed that our children are very eager to learn, that teachers are working well in teams and improving their teaching practice, that we have many ways of connecting with families and the community and that our resources such as the new iPads and furniture creates an engaging learning environment. This is a great starting point for a new year and I look forward to sharing the many good news stories that happen each fortnight.

I strongly encourage you to start attending our free Community Auslan class or look into ways that you and your family can learn Auslan. Some families are now using their NDIS package to have Auslan tutors attend their home. This is a great way for you to learn the language and connect even more with your child.

Lee Bullock
Principal

Breakfast

This year we will not be running Breakfast Club though all classes will have breakfast in their rooms from 9am-9:15am. Breakfast is provided for free. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please contact your child's teacher via the Homework Diary.

Term Dates 2020

Term 1 – 29 January – 27 March

Term 2 – 14 April – 26 June

Term 3 – 13 July – 18 September

Term 4 – 5 October – 18 December

Upcoming Events 2020

Monday 9am – Assembly all parents welcome

Friday 3 pm – Assembly all parents welcome

Tuesday 4 February – Swimming starts

Thursday 6 February – First day for Early Education Program & parent coffee @ 9am

Thursday 13 February – 9am Community Auslan classes start

Thursday 13 February – 5pm – 6:30pm – Families Welcome @ The Park

Friday 14 February – Student Support Group meetings for existing EEP students

Monday 17 February – Student Support Group meetings for school aged children

Sunday 1 March – 8am-5pm Bunnings BBQ

Book Packs for School Aged Children

A friendly reminder that stationery packs are now available for us to give to your child. We will be able to do this one payment is made. If you're unsure how to do this, please contact the school office.





New Staff at Furlong Park

This year we welcome 7 new staff to Furlong Park. From left to right...

Tegan May is an Education Support (ES) worker. Tegan is fluent in Auslan and has previously completed a placement here at Furlong Park and she is excited to return. Stephanie O'Hanlon is a Deaf teacher in Room 6 and has previously taught Auslan as a LOTE. She too has worked for a short time at Furlong Park and is eager to return and bring her skills as a qualified graphic designer! Melanie Matsakos is an enthusiastic ES who will be working across different areas of the school. Alexandra Kendall is an ES who is also a swimming teacher. She will join our students in the pool in Term 1. Alyin Aloski is our friendly new Office Administrator who will replace Vicki. I'm sure most of you would have already spoken to her the phone. Karen Cagliarini is our Leading Teacher. She comes from a secondary school background and her specialty is Digital Technology. She will be supporting teachers and students in using technology more in the classroom as well as being our Parent Liaison, supporting families to connect more to Furlong Park. Karen will be looking after Compass to ensure all parents are connected to the app so they can receive important information sent from the school. Lisa du Vaux is our new Occupational Therapist (OT). We have not had an OT before though many schools do. Lisa will work in the classroom to support students develop their fine and gross motor skills and to also provide resources to help students with routines and regulating their behaviour.



Annual Privacy Reminder

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our [website](#).

For more information about privacy, see: Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents. This information also available in nine community languages.

New Baby

A big congratulations to Louise Hennessy, our speech pathologist, and her partner Steven as they welcomed their baby boy Hugo into the world on 21 January. Everyone is doing very well.



Can you help cook some snags?

On Sunday 1 March at Bunnings in Sunshine we are fundraising for our school! Please complete the attached form and return it to the school office as soon as possible if you're able to come and help for an hour or two. We really appreciate the support. We'd love to see you there!





Ipads on the Bus

Some children have apps or games on their iPads with age 12+, 15+ and 17+. If your child uses their iPad on the bus, these apps and games must be deleted. If the apps are not deleted, they will not be able to use them on the bus. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.



Families Welcome @ the Park

On Thursday 13 February at 5pm-6:30pm we have our Welcome event at Buckingham Reserve, Buckingham Crescent, Sunshine West. We would love all our families to attend to meet the staff and other families from Furlong Park. This park is really fun for our children to play in with a flying fox, water feature and a climbing rocket to suit all ages! Bring a plate of food to share and bring your own drinks. BBQ facilities are available. Auslan interpreters will be available on the night! If you require another language interpreter, please contact the office as soon as possible. Please note this is a different park to the one advertised at the end of 2019.

