



## Principal's Letter

On Sunday, families around Australia, and in some other countries, celebrated Mother's Day. In my role as Principal, I'm privileged to meet with the wonderful mothers and carers of our students. I'm often blown away by the dedication of some mothers to ensure the best possible outcomes for their child. I've seen mums and carers work through incredibly tough times yet they are resilient and continue on. I love seeing mums celebrating the successes of the children at Furlong Park School for Deaf Children. It's that positive reinforcement that helps our children to be determined to improve and try new things. It was an absolute delight to welcome 28 mothers and significant women for our Morning Tea on Tuesday morning. I know that the students enjoyed showing their work and sharing experiences with you all. To all the mothers and important women in the lives of our students, I say thank you!

Warm regards,

Lee Bullock  
*Principal*



## Term Dates 2021

**Term 2** – 19 April – 25 June

**Term 3** – 12 July – 17 September

**Term 4** – 4 October – 17 December

## Upcoming Events 2021

**Friday 14 May** – Hearing Australia Visit

**Monday 14 June** – School Closed for Queen's Birthday

**Tuesday 15 June** – Student Support Group meetings via WebEx or onsite (Rooms 2-9)

**Wednesday 16 & Thursday 17 June** – Student Support Group meetings via WebEx or onsite (Early Ed Program)

**Friday 25 June** – 2pm finish, last day of term

**Monday 12 July** – School Closed for Pupil Free Day

**Monday 30 August – Friday 3 September** –  
Father's Day Stall

**Friday 10 September** – School Photo Day

**Friday 17 September** – 2pm finish, last day of term

**Monday 1 November** – School Closed for Pupil  
Free Day

**Tuesday 2 November** – School Closed for  
Melbourne Cup Day

**Thursday 11 November** – Music Concert 6:30pm

**Tuesday 14 December** – Graduation night

**Thursday 16 December** – 2pm Finish and  
End of Year Party

**Friday 17 December** – Clean up day



## Hearing Australia visit

They will be visiting the school on **Friday 14th May** for check-ups. Please ensure that your child is wearing their hearing devices and micro links.



## Fingerspelling Program



The last fortnight has been exciting in terms of our new FINGERSPELLING program. We are using phonics knowledge and awareness to help us learn new words by reading, fingerspelling and writing key words each unit. We relate pictures of concepts

and the sign and speech for that word, to unlock meaning to help us read and write with greater skill. This program is called **FINGERSPELLING OUR WAY TO READING** and has come to us from Brenda Schick in Colorado in the USA. A band of professional Teachers of the Deaf and Deaf Language Assistants have translated this course into Australian Sign Language for usage across Australia. We are very excited to set up this program at FPSDC and stand among the other States and Territories who have also begun this new program especially for signing deaf children. At this early stage we have seen our children tuning in wonderfully and can see great results in how children are approaching words when reading single target words and in more complex sentences. This program is offered across the school to our students each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9:30am-10:00am.



## SSG Meetings

We will be holding Student Support Group meetings (SSGs) in June on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 15 June: Rooms 2 – 9**
- **Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 June: EEP**

This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher, share information about your child and set goals for the next 6 months. If you wish any of your NDIS support workers or private allied health team (speech pathologist, occupational therapists) to attend, they are most welcome. More information about SSGs can be found [here](#).

You have the choice of joining via WebEx or coming to the school. Please select a suitable booking time to meet with your child's teacher by clicking/tapping on the green shaded notification titled Parent Student Teacher Conference on your Compass app.

Once you have made your meeting booking we will be in touch to ask you to nominate if you will attend the SSG onsite at Furlong Park or remotely via WebEx.

If you are joining via WebEx, you will receive an email from Aylin at our office with a URL link to meet with the teacher using WebEx. You do not need to download the app or install any software. You will only require a device with internet connection and simply need to click on the link provided.

For further information or to seek assistance with your booking please contact our school office on either 9312 3244 or [furlong.park.ds@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:furlong.park.ds@education.vic.gov.au)







## Mother's Day Morning Tea



## PBS Prize winners

Congratulations to Sam, Sebastian, Krystal, Liam and Wengielu for showing all four school values.





# 20 ENROLMENTS 22 OPEN

▼ VICTORIAN COLLEGE FOR THE DEAF



## OPEN DAY

**WEDNESDAY 26TH MAY**

We welcome you to our upcoming open day, where you can meet the Principal, tour the college campus and see our students in action. Please RSVP to inform us of your attendance by calling or emailing using the details below.

## PRIVATE TOURS

Prospective families are welcome at our college at any time. Book a campus tour with the Principal by calling or emailing using the details below.

VICTORIAN COLLEGE FOR THE DEAF  
597 ST KILDA ROAD, MELBOURNE VIC 3004  
PH: (03) 9510 1706 E: VICTORIAN.DS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU





**Melbourne, it's back...**

# **Bluey's Big Play, The Stage Show**



**Auslan Interpreted Show  
Tuesday 29 June at 2:30pm  
Arts Centre Melbourne**

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO DETAILS:  
[www.auslanstageleft.com.au/upcoming-shows/vic](http://www.auslanstageleft.com.au/upcoming-shows/vic)**

***BOOK NOW!***  
*TICKETS ARE LIMITED.*

