



Assistant Principal's letter

Another newsletter, another lockdown extension. While it is disappointing that we will not have the opportunity to welcome our school community back on-site before the holidays, I'd like to echo Lee's recent words of gratitude and pride. I continue to be blown away by the connections that our school community has maintained during this time, by staff, students and parents alike. Thank you, parents and carers, for your ongoing support of your children, which empowers their enduring positivity and resilience.

'R U OK?' day this Thursday, provides the perfect opportunity to check in with yourself and make sure that, like your children, you are well-supported during these tough times. I'd like to encourage you to take a few minutes out of your day this week to ask yourself, "Am I OK?". If not, you are not alone, and we encourage you to reach out to a trusted friend or one of the supports listed below.

Alternatively, www.ruok.org.au is a fantastic resource to help you 'check in' with friends and loved ones.

Last, but not least, I'd like to say 'Happy Father's Day!' to all of the wonderful fathers in the FPSDC community. While we were unable to celebrate with you this week as planned, we look forward to the next chance to invite our wonderful fathers, step-fathers, foster fathers and grandfathers to school. We hope that those who could be with their fathers and children on Sunday enjoyed their special day, and are thinking of all those who could not.

Until next time, enjoy the beginning of Spring and the lovely sights and smells that come with it!

Warm regards,
Shelley Fehring
Assistant Principal

Useful mental health supports:

- **Beyond Blue Phone: 1800 512 348**

A dedicated service for those feeling anxious, stressed, depressed or need assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Service](#)

Term Dates 2021

Term 3 – 12 July – 17 September

Term 4 – 4 October – 17 December

Upcoming Events 2021

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

Friday 8 October – School Photos - **new date**

Monday 1 November – School Closed for Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 2 November – School Closed for Melbourne Cup Day

Thursday 18 November – Music Concert 6:30pm – **cancelled**

Wednesday 24 November – Early Education Program SSGs (Butterflies only) – **this is a date change.**
Previously Wednesday 1 December

Tuesday 30 November – School SSGs

Wednesday 1 December – Graduation for EEP Butterflies – **this is a new date.**

Friday 3 December – Last day for EEP Thursday/Friday program – **this is a new date.**

Tuesday 14 December – Graduation for students going to secondary school

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

Friday 17 December – Clean up day

- **Carers Victoria**

Represents and provides support for carers in Victoria. carersvictoria.org.au

- **Disability Information Helpline**

Phone: 1800 643 787

Access to information and referrals for people who need help because of COVID-19, including access to counselling (available Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm).

- **Eating Disorders Victoria**

In response to COVID-19, Eating Disorders Victoria has implemented a new Wellbeing Program to assist people living with eating disorders and their support people during these challenging times.

eatingdisorders.org.au



Assistant Principal's letter (Cont.)

- **HeadtoHelp Phone:** 1800 595 212
Telephone advice from trained professionals and, if needed, connection to the best support or service for the caller (Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm). HeadtoHelp also provides online resources for callers and healthcare professionals. headtohelp.org.au
- **Lifeline Australia:** Phone: 13 11 14
A crisis support service offering short term support at any time for people who are having difficulty coping or staying safe. lifeline.org.au
- **PANDA Phone:** 1300 726 306
Support for individuals and families to recover from perinatal anxiety and depression. PANDA's National Perinatal Anxiety & Depression Helpline (Monday to Friday, 9am to 7.30pm) or online. panda.org.au

- **Smiling Mind**

Smiling Mind's digital care packs provide tools and resources for parents, carers and teachers to support positive mental health for the children in their care. smilingmind.com.au

- **TANDEM carers**

Represents organisations and individuals who care for people living with mental illness. tandemcarers.org.au

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY CANCELLED

School photo day was set to be held on **Friday 10 September**. Due to the current Covid restrictions, it has been cancelled. We will reschedule School Photo Day to **Friday 8 October**.



R U OK DAY

On **Thursday 9th September**, Furlong Park School is proudly celebrating an event called 'R U OK? Day'.

R U OK? is a harm prevention charity that encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through difficult times in their lives.

The focus theme is "**Are you really OK?**"

Ask them today.

During remote learning, the children will be participating in a R U OK? activity on Seesaw. On this special

day they will start a conversation with the staff and classmates who may be struggling with life.

Meanwhile you can ask your child, your family, or friends if they are ok. If they don't feel ok, you can use the four steps below and have a conversation on how you can help them.

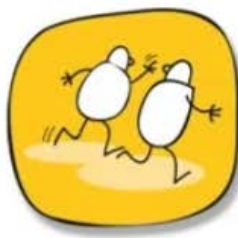
Feel free to check out on the website for more info **R U OK?** Stay tuned for the next newsletter to see news and photos!



1. Ask



2. Listen



3. Encourage action



4. Check in



NEWS FROM ROOM 8

Room 8 have been busy making their own paint! We have been learning about different textures and how to describe them. The students followed instructions to make their own paint and then completed their own paintings. They showed their work to the rest of the class in a video presentation by filming themselves. All were very successful in sharing their work and learning great skills. Well done Room 8, we're very proud of you all.



NEWS FROM ROOM 4

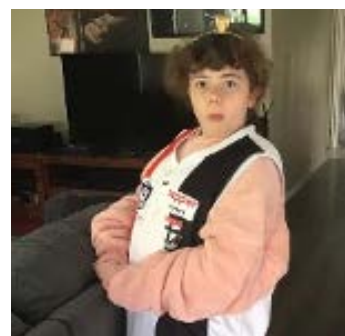
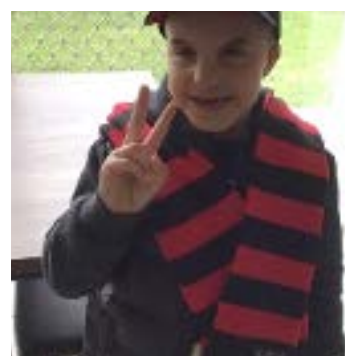
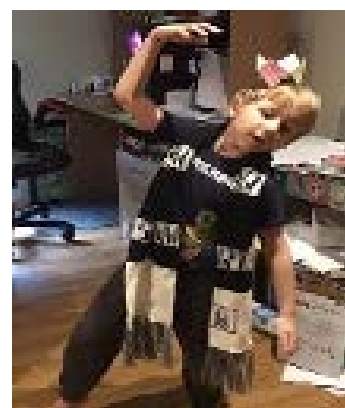
Prior to lockdown, the students in Room 4 were recently enthralled in a rendition of a book that one student was reading to the others. The joy on their faces shows how they appreciated Muadh's style of reading, adding character voices and sound effects. They were so entertained and engaged. Stories are a great way to share a precious moment together.

We encourage you to give it a go regularly with your children. Let loose, have fun and be entertained the old-fashioned way!



NEWS FROM PE CLASS

Students got a break from doing their exercises and celebrated the 1st day of Spring by making Nature Mandalas. Doing this is a great mediating exercise for the students to reduce their anxiety and great for their wellbeing. I am in awe with their creativity and talents. Here are some photos of our students' mandalas.



Students also celebrated Footy Colours Day at home by sharing their favourite football, soccer, or ruby teams through WebEx. During PE, they learned how to sign each AFL team, and participated in one of the activities.



With the extension of the lockdown, I can imagine how challenging it is for all of us to encouraging your child(ren) to participate in their schoolwork. The important thing is to make sure they are happy, feeling safe, staying healthy and doing exercises to maintain their wellbeing. *Melissa PE Teacher*



New assessment tool: Curriculum Level Tracker (CLT)

As of Term 4, Furlong Park School for Deaf Children will be using a new assessment tool called Curriculum Level Tracker (CLT).

The CLT will allow teachers to track the learning progress of students and will assist them with determining the Victorian Curriculum level that students are working within.

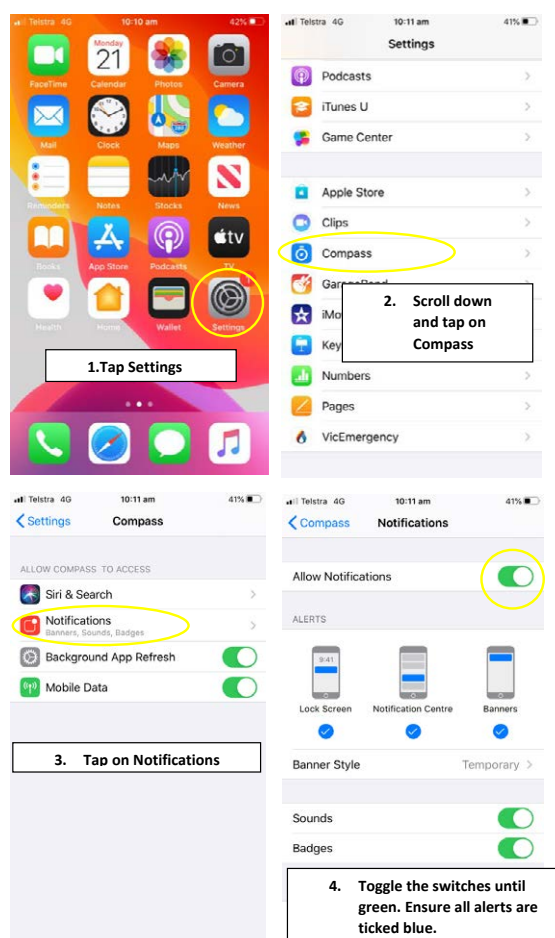
Teachers will be able to assess which skills students can demonstrate and, in some cases, provide evidence of this skill being performed in the way of a scanned piece of work, a photo or a video. An example of this would be a short video of a student counting to a certain number or identifying words that rhyme.

As the provided evidence may be in the form of photos or videos of students, parent consent is required. We have assessed the value and security of this software with guidance from the Department of Education and Training and our staff are aware of how to use the software appropriately. Any evidence provided (photos, videos, pieces of work etc.) will be kept confidential and viewed only by necessary school staff.

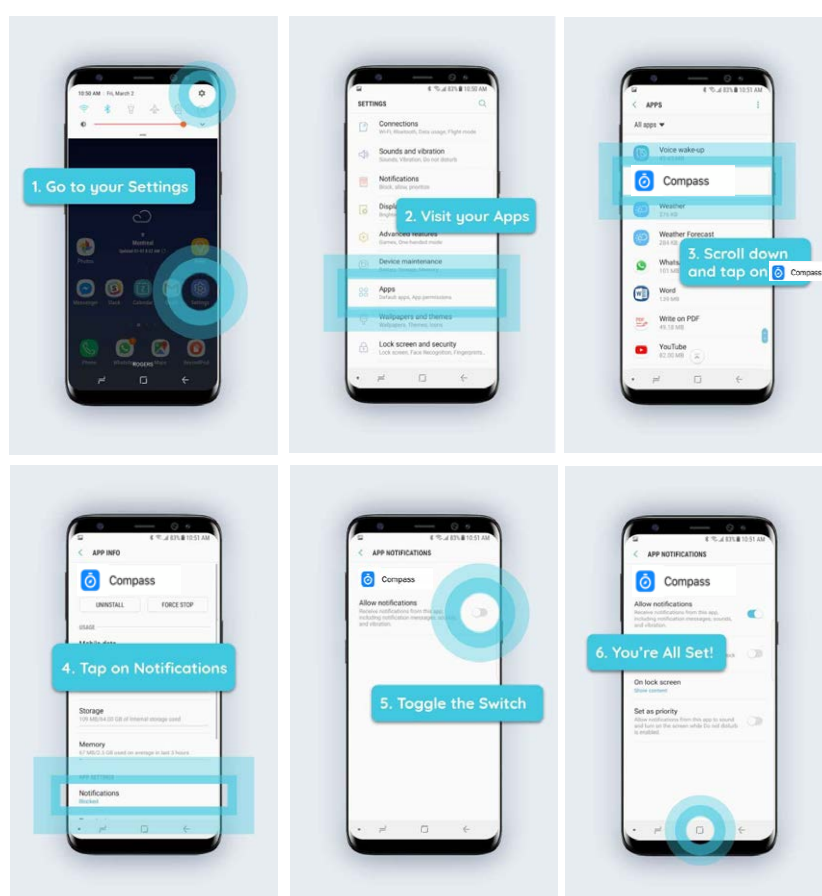
We will be providing you with a consent form with more information about CLT before it is rolled out in Term 4 2021. If you have any questions or concerns at this stage, please contact Shelley Fehring at fulong.park.ds@education.vic.gov.au or phone the school office **9312 3244**.

How to turn on your push notifications for Compass

On iPhone



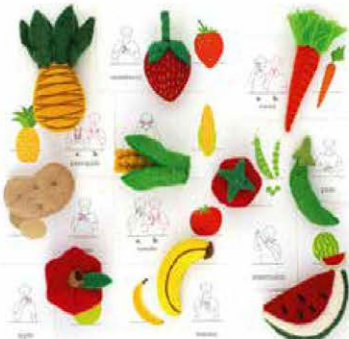
On Android







Froopies and Weggies with
Auslan cards and magnets



Handmade Pip and Annie

Handmade finger puppets, Pip and Annie's besties



Books with engaging illustrations, Auslan, English
and supported with videos.



Platypus Playhouse resources are designed to help parents and their deaf or hard of hearing 0 to 4 year old, experience and enjoy learning Auslan together.

These engaging bilingual resources (Auslan, English) are led by two unique and fun platypuses. Yep, its the plural for platypus. We have Pip who has a hearing aid and Annie, who has a cochlear implant.

The range creates many ways to learn through play with its charming resources which include story books, Auslan videos, finger puppets, flash cards and games. Get ready for a great adventure with Pip, Annie and their besties from AUGUST!

Available to purchase at:

platypusplayhouse.org.au

