



## PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Welcome to Term 3 at Furlong Park School for Deaf Children! I hope you all had a wonderful and restful break and are ready for another term of learning and fun. We have some exciting things happening this term that I want to share with you.

Firstly, we will have Book Week from Monday, **21 August to Friday, 25 August**. This year's theme is "**Read, Grow, Inspire**". We will have plenty of fun events through the week. As always, we encourage you to read different books with your child from different genres and cultures.

Secondly, we will celebrate Father's Day on Friday, **1 September** where we will have special activities for all the dads, grandads, uncles, and other male role models in our community. More details to come soon!

Thirdly, we will have Celebrating Deaf People Week from **Monday, 11 September to Friday, 15 September**. This is a time to celebrate the diversity and achievements of deaf people in our society. We will let you know how we will be celebrating Deaf identity and culture.

Fourthly, we will celebrate R U OK? Day on **Thursday, 14 September**. This is a National Day of Action to check in on each other's mental health and wellbeing. We will have activities and resources to help us start conversations and support each other. Please remember that it's OK to not be OK and that help is always available.

Finally, I am happy to report that the building works are going well and we are on track to finish by Term 2, 2024. The first stage will see the Early Education Program and office return to their new spaces. Next, when the new building is finished being constructed, the children will move into their brand-new classrooms, whilst the remainder of the school gets an art studio and science room upgrade, as well as a new multipurpose/music space! The new building will provide a modern and accessible learning environment for our students. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this period.

## TERM DATES 2023

**Term 3:** Monday 10 July – Friday 15 September

**Term 4:** Monday 2 October – Wednesday 20 December

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2023

### TERM 3

**Friday 4 August** – Principal Appreciation Day

**Monday 14** – Friday 28 August – Science Week

**Monday 21 August** – Friday 28 August – Book Week

**Monday 28 August** – Friday 1 September –

Father's Day stall

**Friday 1 September** – Father's Day celebrations for all dads

**Monday 11 September** – Friday 15 September – National Week of Deaf People

**Thursday 14 September** – R U OK? Day

**Friday 15 September** – 2pm finish

### TERM 4

**Thursday 12 October** – Primary Deaf Sports Day

**Friday 27 October** – Teacher Appreciation Day – say thank you to our teachers!

**Monday 6 November** – SCHOOL CLOSED – Pupil Free Day

**Tuesday 7 November** – SCHOOL CLOSED – Melbourne Cup Day

**Friday 10 November** – Remembrance Day ceremonies for 11 November

**Tuesday 5 December** – Last day for Caterpillar (3-year-old) program

**Friday 8 December** – Last day for Butterflies (4-year-old) program

**Tuesday 12 December** – Leaver's Graduation

**Friday 15 December** – End of Year Party!

I look forward to seeing you all this term and working together to make Furlong Park School for Deaf Children a great place to learn and grow.

Warm regards,  
Lee Bullock  
*Principal*



## POLICIES

We are currently updating our school policy on mobile phones and other personal devices such as iPads. The use of personal mobile phones is not allowed for student use during school hours in all schools in Victoria. However, students have had their mobile phones and iPads on Student Transport buses to and from school. We are currently consulting with parents and our school council regarding the use of mobile phones and iPads.

If you would like to provide your feedback on the following questions, please email [furlong.park.ds@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:furlong.park.ds@education.vic.gov.au) by Friday 21 July 2023.

1. Should students be able to use mobile phones on school buses?
2. Should students be allowed to use iPads that have internet access on school buses or only iPads without internet access?



## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

School assembly is every Friday at 2:45pm. All parents and family members are welcome to attend. It's a time to come together, celebrate the successes of the week and look forward to the week ahead.

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The school newsletter will be published three times a term. For the latest good news stories and to see the wonderful things that happen at Furlong Park, check out our Instagram account and Facebook page.



## STAY WELL THIS WINTER



In Victoria, influenza (flu) and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection numbers are high among children aged 5 to 11 years, particularly in those in their first few years of school. The Victorian Department of Health expects more respiratory infections over Term 3. Most children with flu or RSV have a mild fever, runny nose or cough. Some children, particularly babies and children with underlying medical conditions, may have more severe illness.

## KEEPING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY WELL

Parents, carers and students are encouraged to:

- Wash and sanitise their hands regularly
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- Stay at home if unwell and consult a general practitioner (GP) or NURSE-ON-CALL as needed
- Stay up to date with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Our school has masks for staff, students and visitors if they want to wear them.



## FLU VACCINATIONS

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your family from getting the flu. Annual flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and older. As part of the National Immunisation Program, it is free for:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 6 months and older
- Children aged 6 months to under 5 years
- People aged 6 months or older with underlying medical conditions.

Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs, pharmacies or your local council immunisation service.

## FIND OUT MORE

For more information about staying safe this winter, refer to:

- Stay well this winter on the Better Health Channel, translated into 16 languages
- Influenza and immunisation on the Better Health Channel
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) on the Better Health Channel
- Getting vaccinated against influenza.

