



# Spring Farm Public School

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## Newsletter Term 3 Week 3 2017

### Coming Soon

- Learning Conferences (revising learning goals between students, teachers and parents or carers) Tuesday 1 August 3:20pm – 7pm
- Education Week, open classrooms Thursday 3 August 1pm
- Eaglehawk class assembly Thursday 3 August 2pm
- Winter Gala Day Friday 4 August

Please keep referring to the Skoolbag app on your mobile phone and the school website for up and coming events or reminders. Like all schools, they are very busy places.

[www.springfarm-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/communication/skoolbag](http://www.springfarm-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/communication/skoolbag)

### Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful and busy start to the Term. Friday of Week 1, kindergarten celebrated 100 days of schooling. Thank you to the parents, carers, grandparents and friends who were able to attend this celebration. Congratulations to our kindergarten teachers and staff who made this a memorable event.

A big thank you to Mr and Mrs Creber for organising and running a successful working bee on Sunday 23 July 2017. A number of parents and grandparents assisted in the working bee which focused on completing the line markings for the running tracks and mulching crucial areas. Thank you to our volunteers for their time and to the P&C for supplying lunch.

The K-6 athletics carnival was a great success for all of our students who showed excellent sportsmanship and had a wonderful time. Thank you to the staff and P&C for making it a successful day. At the end of term we will host a Sports and CAPA assembly and hand out the athletics ribbons, recognise our sporting and creative arts achievements. In addition, we will hand out the OOSL (Out of School Learning) homework certificate. The date of this assembly will be confirmed in our Week 6 newsletter.



Last Thursday, Daja from Stage 3 Uluru was admitted into hospital for a liver transplant. The transplant was a success and Daja will have a long recovery. The money that was raised from the students and community will go towards purchasing a new laptop that will allow Daja to have ongoing video conferencing with her classmates. We all wish her a speedy recovery. If you would like to assist Daja and her family please contact the school and we will pass on the information to Daja's parents.

## **Lateness**

Since the start of this term, there has been an average of 8 students arriving late each morning. While the school understands that the cold mornings and the new parking regulations can influence the morning schedule, it is important that we all work together to establish a good routine the night before and in the morning so that your child or children can get to school on time. Similarly, setting up a good routine to regularly attend school, **provides the necessary life skills for your child or children to meet future deadlines and work on the skills of time management.** If you have concerns and difficulties with your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to see the school or School Counsellor for advice and assistance. If your child **arrives late, from 8:55am onwards** they are required to get a late pass from the school office, before going to their lines or classroom.

## **Learning Conferences with student, teacher and parents or carers**

On Tuesday 1 August 2017 (Week 3), teachers will be hosting Learning Conferences in Block C from 3:20pm to 7pm. Parents and carers will have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and revise learning goals for the second semester (Term 3 and 4). Students are also encouraged to attend this meeting so that there can be a three-way conference and an opportunity to plan learning goals collaboratively. Booking information has already been sent out via the skoolbag app [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) Parents and carers can still book online, enter code: [eyzxcg](#) Bookings will close on Tuesday 1 August at 11am.

## **Education Week and surveys**

Education Week is a state-wide, annual event to celebrate public education in NSW. This year it will be held from 31 July to 4 August. The week highlights the achievements of public education and local schools, putting the spotlight on students, educators and the communities that support them. This year's theme is I Learn, We Learn.

On Thursday 3 August 2017, at 1pm, Spring Farm Public School will have open classes for students, parents, carers and family to visit and learn about the different country that each class has researched. We will also be celebrating the cultural diversity of the school community. The committee has already sent a skoolbag alert and the invitation can be viewed below.

On the open day, the school will also be conducting surveys to obtain feedback and suggestions for the school's new Strategic Plan 2017-2019. A paper copy will be available for anyone to fill out and this will also be in a digital form for those who are unable to attend on Thursday. This will be a great opportunity to make suggestions or provide practical advice that can support the school's vision, adhere to NSW Department of Education policies and practices and work within the school budget. Sample of the paper survey:



## Spring Farm Parent Community Feedback and Evaluation

### Strategic Direction 1: Student Engagement, Achievement and Wellbeing

This strategic direction is focused on the engagement and wellbeing of our students. Please consider providing feedback on;

- PBL and rewarding positive behaviour eg, gotchas, assembly merit awards, PBL wristbands, class dojo points etc.
- Extra-Curricular programs eg, dance group, choir, PSSA etc.
- Support and extension of students
- Library eg. Borrowing, access and books available

| Keep | Add | Reconsider |
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This survey will also be complemented by a Tell Them From Me online survey that students, teachers and parents and carers will all have the opportunity to participate in. All of this information will be collated confidentially and be used to form future directions for Spring Farm Public School. Information at the end of this newsletter will provide more insight of the online Tell Them From Me survey. If you do not wish your child to participate in this online survey, please email the school and we will send a non-participation form for you to sign and return back to school.

### Kindergarten enrolments for 2018

If you have a sibling that needs to enrol at Spring Farm Public School, please obtain an enrolment form at the school office. If you know of friends and neighbours in Spring Farm, please let them know that we are taking 2018 Kindergarten enrolments. All orientation and transition program dates can be accessed from the school's website.

### National Disability Data Collection 2017

The school is currently completing the National Disability data collection. More information can be found at the end of this newsletter.

### Ethic classes

Due to a lack of interest, the school will not be holding ethic classes for 2017. We will review this class in 2018.

# Spring Farm Public School

EDUCATION WEEK 2017

## I Learn, We Learn

We are very excited to invite our families and friends to our Education Week celebrations at Spring Farm Public School!



## Travel Around the World! - Education Week Open Day!

Spring Farm Travel is open for business. Come to our Open Classrooms and travel the world, getting stamps in your passport and learning lots!

Then join us for a Multicultural Feast! Students can bring plates of food from their country of study or from their own cultural background and we can have lunch from all over the world as we celebrate Education Week together

Day: Thursday 3 August, 2017  
Time: 1pm-2:55pm

## Overview of the Day

**1pm-1:30pm:** *Open Classrooms* - Visit your child/ren's classrooms, travel the world and see the awesome learning happening at Spring Farm Public School.

**1:30pm-1:55pm:** Students and visiting families and friends have a multicultural feast together

**2:10pm:** *Assembly* - K Eaglehawk are our hosts for our assembly.



## **New parking signs**

New parking signs have been placed around the school. Thank you to everyone for obeying the new parking signs and being safe. When crossing Barley Road, please use the new crossing section near the school electronic sign. If you have any concerns or suggestions about the new traffic signs please contact Camden Council: [www.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://www.camden.nsw.gov.au)  
More information about the safety and legal requirements when driving in a school zone can be accessed:

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/road-rules/index.html>

## **NAPLAN Online**

From 2018, schools across NSW and Australia will begin transitioning towards undertaking the NAPLAN assessment online. In preparation for this change, all schools across NSW will be involved in a School Readiness Test. This test will be conducted with Year 3 and Year 5 students only and is a test of the technological capabilities of the school and usability of the platform for students and staff. No data regarding student achievement will be harvested from this test. In Week 6 of this term, Year 3 and Year 5 students will sit one 40 minute test which will be a mix of literacy and numeracy questions. Year 5 students will only take part in an online writing test.

Some benefits of moving from paper testing to an online platform include; the creation of an assessment, which is better tailored to meet the individual needs of students and strengthen student engagement with the assessment and results from online testing will also have a quicker turnaround of about 3-4 weeks, which makes the data more relevant and useful for schools. More information regarding the new platform, including sample assessments can be found at

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>.

## **Canteen News**

All lunch orders need to be in no later than 9:15 each morning. Fresh start canteens is running with the promotion with the Sydney Markets and Healthy Kids Association. It is a promotion of Healthy eating where children who purchase a piece of fruit or vegetables will receive a card with a fruit sticker once they have two they hand their card in with details on for a draw with the Sydney markets(prizes are displayed on the posters we have to put up) and they also receive a little prize straight away.

## **P&C meeting**

The next Spring Farm Public School P&C meeting will be on **Thursday 10 August 2017 6:30pm** in Block C. All parents and carers are welcome to attend. Please contact P&C via email: [springfarmpublicschoolpc@gmail.com](mailto:springfarmpublicschoolpc@gmail.com)

## General reminders



### Signing in and dogs prohibited on school premises

Due to WHS guidelines and Department of Education policy, it is a requirement to sign in as a visitor at the front office. If you need to deliver something to your child, pick them up early or need to send a message please contact the school office and we can assist in these matters.

Under the Companion Animals Act, 1998 No 87 (14.1.e), all dogs are prohibited in school grounds, (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled). Thank you for understanding and support.

### The *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey (Term 3, 2017)

[http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/TTFM\\_Student\\_Survey\\_FAQs\\_Parent\\_and\\_Carers\\_T12017.pdf](http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/TTFM_Student_Survey_FAQs_Parent_and_Carers_T12017.pdf)

**Spring Farm Public School**, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school. More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

The survey is confidential and conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 21 August and 13 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please email the school and we will send forms for you to sign and return to school. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>.

## The *Tell Them From Me* parent feedback survey (Term 3, 2017)

### Parent FAQ document for the parent survey:

[http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/TTFM\\_Parent\\_Survey\\_FAQs\\_Parent\\_and\\_Carers\\_T32017.pdf](http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/TTFM_Parent_Survey_FAQs_Parent_and_Carers_T32017.pdf)

This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, ipads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 21 August and 13 October. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

Our school will provide further information about how to access the survey. In the meantime, more information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/>

### WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students receiving an adjustment due to disability and the level of reasonable adjustment they are receiving.

The national data collection counts students who have been identified by a school team as receiving an adjustment to address a disability as defined under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at [www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au).

#### what is the benefit for my child?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect quality information about school students receiving an adjustment due to disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as other students.

The national data collection provides an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

#### WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When undertaking the national data collection, every school in Australia uses the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney collects and submits data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The annual collection aims to, over time, lead to nationally consistent, high quality data that will enable schools, education authorities and governments to gain a more complete understanding of students who are receiving adjustments because of disability in schools in Australia, and how to best support them.

#### WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The

Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at

[www.comlaw.gov.au](http://www.comlaw.gov.au).

### **WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?**

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. Reasonable adjustments reflect the assessed individual needs of the student, and are provided in consultation with the student and/or their parents and carers. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting teaching methods) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

#### **What information will be collected?**

Every year your child's school will collect the following information for each student receiving an adjustment due to disability:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's level of adjustment
- the student's broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be available to all governments to inform policy and program improvement for students with disability.

### **WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?**

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder, as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy or diabetes, that require monitoring and the provision of adjustments by the school, may be included.

#### **Who collectS information FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?**

Teachers and school staff count the number of students receiving an adjustment due to disability in their school, and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided, based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

### **How IS my child's privacy protected?**

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential and is an explicit focus of the national data collection. Personal details, such as student names or other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

Further information about privacy is available from [www.education.gov.au/notices](http://www.education.gov.au/notices).

### **IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?**

Yes. All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and submit information annually on the number of students receiving adjustments due to disability in their care, and the level of adjustment they receive.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child's school principal and the relevant education authority.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Contact your child's school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

You can also visit [www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability](http://www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability).

An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at <http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/>





