



FLORAVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Welcome Back

Welcome back to all our wonderful students who returned to school today, full of smiles and anticipation, ready for another year of learning. This morning Bridie was keen to show me the wooden turtle she had acquired from Fiji, while Lincoln was sporting a fancy new "Year 2 Haircut". A particularly warm welcome to the new students and families who are joining us for the first time. While kindergarten students have also started to arrive for their Best Start assessments, their big #FirstDay will be on Monday, next week.

Classes 2019

Each year, our classes are impacted by the unexpected arrival and departure of students. While significant time is spent planning and preparing for the New Year, these plans can often change with fluctuations to enrolment. Having students begin the first few days of school in their 2018 classes, allows for greater enrolment certainty before the new classes are formed, reducing the chance of having to change and re-form classes.

Parent Information Nights

In the coming weeks, the school will be holding parent information nights for each grade, enabling parents the opportunity to meet the new class teacher and find out information for the coming year. Details regarding the curriculum, homework, sports days, library, and other organisational matters will all be communicated at this time. Dates for these sessions will be communicated in next week's newsletter. Parents and families should rest assured that all necessary information will be provided at the required time.

New Teachers

This year, Floraville welcomes three new teachers who were successful through merit selection for temporary engagements in 2019. We welcome Mrs Liane Barden, Mr Matthew Sun and Mr Jamie Adlington. Mrs Barden joins us from Jewells Primary School, where she has had success teaching the OC Class for the past five years. Mr Sun joins the school as an Honours Teaching Graduate, while he has a background as an Infantryman in the Australian Defence Force. Mr Adlington recently completed his Masters of Teaching, having previously come from a career in project management, with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. Mrs Barden and Mr Sun will be teaching Stage 3, while Mr Adlington will have a Stage 1 class. I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to Floraville.

School Assemblies

Our first whole-school assembly will be on Monday 18 February, while our leader's induction will be held in Week 3 (date to be confirmed with Belmont High School - whose leaders also attend). School Assemblies will be held on Mondays at 2:10pm in weeks 4 and 8 each term. Details for Primary and Infants Assemblies will be confirmed at the Parent Information Nights.

Book Packs

Book Packs are available for purchase at the office for students who have not yet made payment. The Book Pack information note can be found on the school website.

https://floraville-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/f/floraville-p/notes/Book_packs.pdf

Looking forward to an exciting year of excellence in teaching and learning at Floraville Public School.

Simon Mulready, Principal

School Payments Procedures 2019

Revised and updated in 2018 in consultation with the P&C

Excursion Payments

The school carefully plans excursions and events throughout the year to enhance learning opportunities for students. Significant consideration is given to the frequency of excursions, with a need to balance the value of educational experiences for students with the financial impact these may have on families. A summary of anticipated expenses will be provided to families at the Parent Information Nights. The school has some funds available to assist families where finances may prevent a child from participating in an activity or event. In 2018, the school reviewed the payment process with the P&C to ensure systems were accessible for families, while also enabling effective business management. Accordingly, there are several items for which families should be aware:

Family Assistance

The school would like every child to be able to participate in school activities and is committed to supporting families in this regard. Families seeking financial assistance should approach the office prior to the closing date of the excursion (or prior to the closing date for a deposit, where applicable). In some cases, the school can make a partial payment towards the cost. In other cases, individual payment plans can be negotiated.

Online Payments

Online payments can be made securely through the school website <https://floraville-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>. Select the *Make a Payment* tab which opens the secure Westpac payment portal.

Non-payment of Excursions

Where a child has not paid the full amount for an excursion or an event (except in the case where financial assistance has already been negotiated), the child will not be able to attend. To avoid disappointment, please ensure money is paid on time.

Final Date for Payment

For each excursion or event, information is provided on a final date for payment. Students will not be able to attend if payment is received after the closing date. The school will provide as much time as possible prior to the event for families to pay (usually up until two days before), but once the date has passed, if payment has not been received, the child will not be able to attend. Families are reminded that information about school events and copies of school notes can be found on the school website. Families are advised to regularly check the newsletter and website for upcoming events. The school will not ring individual families where payment for an event has not been received.

Deposits

For more expensive events, or overnight excursions, sometimes families are asked to make a deposit. The school will use the number of deposits received to book final numbers for an excursion. If a child makes a deposit after the closing date, attendance on the excursion cannot be guaranteed. Sometimes an additional child in attendance requires the booking of an additional bus.

Payments in Advance

In our new finance system, families have the option of making advance payments for a child. If at any time, a family has additional finances available, they are welcome to make a payment in advance for an event which may be coming up. For example, year 6 students enjoy a day in Sydney at the end of the year. While details of this event have not yet been finalised, parents and carers are welcome to make an advance payment. Funds can be used for any child in the family and carry over each year until the child is no longer enrolled at the school. If you would like clarification on a particular issue, please contact the office.