

Newsletter

Thursday 19 December 2019

Week 10 Term 4

Dates to Remember

Thursday 19 December

End of Year

Monday 3 February

Kindergarten begins

Tuesday 4 February

Years 1 – 6 students return

For more dates: http://www.faddenps.act.edu.au/our_school/calendar



Dear Fabulous Fadden Families

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of the term and year.

This week we have been working hard to not only finish up the year and celebrate with our students and staff, but to also prepare students for next year. We have done this with an information session for Kindergarten, as well as Meet and Greet yesterday, with students meeting their new class and teacher. Unfortunately, we have one teaching vacancy for next year and are actively seeking an outstanding teacher to join the Fadden team for one of our Year 3/4 classes. Those parents will get an email before the start of the school year, introducing them to the new teacher, once we have found that lucky person.

Unfortunately, we are farewelling a number of staff this year and wish them well in the future. Please see the next page with their farewell messages. Next year we will have a number of new staff to welcome into the Fadden Primary School community.

We have some exciting plans for 2020. During the Christmas Concert we asked families and then students to provide us with some direction on how we should spend the \$9000 provided to the school by the P&C for 2019. The winning idea was the installation of two sheltered picnic tables on the oval. This will be a great addition to our playground. Some of the other ideas we will continue to look into in 2020, but the tables will be installed early next year. Thank you to those families that provided us with their votes.



Next year we are also going to trial a new school timetable with more play breaks for students. Research and many other students have found that shorter but more frequent play breaks are beneficial for students to focus on their learning. Staff often factor in things such as movement breaks and mindfulness in class time to assist students to maintain their focus. By trialling this adjusted timetable, we are hoping that we will see more productivity from our students and less need for teachers to take up learning time for these types of activities.

Some important considerations:

- The time student will be eating, is at the same time as it currently is (11am and 1.00pm)
- Eating lunch is still supervised, but after play time. So that students don't rush eating in order to get out to play and will be hungry to eat at that time.
- The amount of play students will have in 2020 is exactly the same as it currently is, just broken into smaller blocks and more often. We do know that some students get bored during a 40-minute play session, which

can then lead to some inappropriate choices. We are hoping smaller play blocks should encourage more positive play behaviours.

2020 Fadden School timetable trial	
9.00-11.00	Classes – including fruit break
11.00-11.20	Play break
11.20-12.20	Classes
12.20-12.50	Play break
12.50-1.00	Supervised eating in class
1.00 - 1.50	Classes
1.50-2.10	Play break
2.10-3.00	Classes

As this is a trial at this stage, we will send out a survey towards the end of Term 1 for Parents, Students and Staff, to review the success of this trial.

We are aware that some students may need to be forewarned of this change, so we have included in this newsletter a social story to assist with this. A social story is simply a book or story that we encourage families to read with their child, over the holiday break, to allow them to fully understand what these breaks will be like in 2020.

Please note that the school office will be closed from this afternoon but will reopen on Friday 31st January 2020.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

See you all in 2020.

Jo Jefferson
Principal

Farewelling Teachers

Fadden Primary holds a very special place in my heart having been a student here, completing my teaching internship and finally getting to be on the teaching team! My family and I are moving to sunny Queensland for a lifestyle change.

I have loved my time here at Fadden and sharing in the journey of learning! Thank you to the beautiful Fadden School children, community and teaching team for taking good care of me!

All the very best to you all for a wonderful 2020!

Mrs Synnott



Mrs Stemmet



The Stemmetts are off on a new adventure to Gladstone, Qld. I will be teaching year 7's next year and am looking forward to be back in a High School setting. I have loved my 3 years and a term here at Fadden! I will never forget singing standing in the Hall of Fame with my Aussie Legends in 2017. In 2018 I got to be queen for the year! My Medieval Magic students worked their ways up from peasants to nobility. I loved learning and growing with them.

This year was the perfect ending to my time here at Fadden. My Daring Dragons worked closely with the Explorers and Mrs Nuttall, we truly are one big, happy family. I would like to thank the school, students and community for welcoming Zani, Mariska and myself to Fadden. We loved Fadden from day one and will never forget the love, kindness and support you all gave us. We will miss you all and wish you all the best.

"I would like to say a big thank you to everyone at Fadden Primary. I have loved working with all the staff and teaching children from many of the families past and present in the 7 years I have been here. I could not ask to be part of a better community than Fadden.

I will miss you all when I move to Farrer Primary next year but am looking forward to my new challenge of Kindergarten there. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

Mrs Bond



I am so grateful for my time at Fadden. I have met so many beautiful students and families that have made my time here so enjoyable. I am excited for the next chapter in my teaching journey at Curtin Primary.

Ms Flux



Chiaki has been with us from the beginning of Term 2 this year. She has had the pleasure of staying with the McCallum family, Fairhall family and Nuttall family to whom I would like to give my sincerest gratitude for hosting Chiaki.

Chiaki has had a lovely time getting to know the students and has been a wonderful help in the Japanese room. Her drawing, piano and base skills were very much valued as was her warmth and caring nature towards the students.

Chiaki will head back to Japan mid-January to finish two more years of her University studies. We wish her all the best and hope to see her again in the near future.

Wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Tammi Sensei

Chiaki Nagata

