



Fadden Primary School

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Dear Fabulous Fadden Families

This week I had the pleasure of meeting with the Fadden P&C on Tuesday evening. It is always an honour to work alongside such a committed group of parents that are community minded and tireless in their efforts to support our community and learning here at Fadden Primary School. I have included a short update on P&C happenings, including the meeting minutes, from Libby Werner-Gibbing the P&C President in this week's Friendly Fridge Reminder. I encourage parents to have a read and also attend the next P&C meeting.

This week I received our final report from our School Review held in week 1 of this term. A full executive summary of this report will shortly be available and put onto the school website. However, in the meantime I have shared below the commendations section of the report, which highlights our strengths identified against the National School Improvement Tool.

Commendations

- The comprehensive consultation process to review and reframe the school's vision, mission and motto has built ownership by the school community, enhanced connections and begun to strengthen stakeholder voice.
- The recognition and action in a short amount of time of the need to collect, analyse and use relevant data is laying the foundations for a data literate culture to develop across the school.
- A positive culture of inclusion has been established across the school where the diversity of student needs is met in a seamless manner through the processes, allocation of resources and caring and respectful relationships that are evident across the whole school.
- The leadership team's recognition of the need to focus on building a culture of intentional collaboration and teamwork, supports school improvement and builds capability. This is especially represented in the emerging professional learning communities.
- The collaborative partnership between the school and the out of hours school care provider Communities @ Work, is strongly focused on providing continuity of care for students.

For parents' information and following on from previous communication regarding hazardous materials in schools, such as lead paint. There are four drop-in sessions scheduled around Canberra next week for the public to learn more about hazardous materials management in ACT public schools. Members of the Directorate's Hazardous Materials Taskforce will be available to answer questions, as will lead paint expert Professor Mark Taylor. He is one of the specialists guiding hazardous materials work in ACT public schools ensuring our management is informed by international best practice. While you may attend any night, each session will focus on schools in that region. See the Friendly Fridge Reminder for session times, dates and locations.

On the 10 February 2021, the ACT Government committed to transition away from school banking programs in all ACT public schools by 30 June 2021.

Why was this decision made?

A range of aspects were considered including:

- a broader financial capability strategy for students.

- future opportunities for volunteers to continue to support and advocate financial capability in their school community.
- declining student participation in school banking programs.
- evidenced findings from reports such as ASIC's *Review of School Banking Programs*.

Fadden Primary School acknowledges the efforts of our wonderful school P&C in facilitating school banking over many years and extends a vote of thanks to the many volunteers who have worked tirelessly to deliver the program for our students and families.

Next week NAPLAN online assessments begin for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia. Students in these year levels will undertake four tests (Reading, Writing, Numeracy and Grammar & Punctuation). If your child is in either Year 3 or Year 5 an email regarding the timetable of testing was sent home this week.

Michael Grose, author and well-known parenting expert suggests that *'A positive, caring parent attitude is one of the best gifts you can give a child when they are apprehensive or nervous about approaching any different situation whether it's going on school camp, joining a new club or sitting a NAPLAN test.'* More information and parent support on NAPLAN can be found at: <https://nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/>

Wishing all our mothers, grandmothers and important women in our students lives a very happy Mother's Day, I hope you are treasured on Sunday.



Jo Jefferson

Principal
Fadden Primary School