

### FRANKSTON SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 9th February, 2018

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Principal : Scott Tucker Assistant Principal: Kris Baker

#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Hi Families of Frankston SDS.

Happy New Year! Welcome back to all of our returning families, I am hoping you have enjoyed a safe and enjoyable summer. I would also like to officially welcome the twenty new families whose children have commenced their journeys at Frankston Special Developmental School this year.

Over the last few years at Frankston SDS we have worked hard to produce a whole school document, the Frankston SDS Curriculum, which provides our staff members with an explicit framework of what we teach our students. We have also refined our assessment processes so we can precisely map where our students are working against the curriculum and plan future learning to further their development.

I believe the Student Support Group meetings you will attend this year and your child's school report will more than ever provide you with a snapshot of the level your child is working at. Using this information we should be able to devise learning plans that specifically address the learning priorities of our students.

This year we have identified a whole school approach to teaching reading, as a priority. There are many ways to teach reading and research would suggest there is no definitive answer as to what is the most effective teaching strategy.

After trialling a range of methods we have chosen the Jolly Phonics program as our whole school approach to teach reading. Jolly Phonics teaches reading by firstly teaching letter sounds (phonics). This may be single letters or combination of letters. Each of the forty two letter sounds have catchy songs and actions to make learning reading more motivating for students. Once students have a grasp of letter sounds they are then taught to blend the sounds together to achieve full pronunciation of whole words. The program contains regular assessment tasks that measure both phonemic awareness and comprehension.

Every child this year at Frankston SDS will be taught reading using this approach. The plan is that as children progress through Frankston SDS they will experience a consistent approach learning to read. Please come and see me or your child's teacher if you would like to know more about Jolly Phonics.

Have a great weekend!

Scott Tucker Principal

# Stay in touch with FlexiBuzz

#### **PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS**

The Principal's Awards are awarded to students according to Our School Values. These awards are given out at the fortnightly assemblies throughout the year.

RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT We look after our things and the places we go
RESPECT YOURSELF We make good choices and do our best
RESPECT OTHERS We work and play together

#### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS**

1st February Stephanie
5th February Phoebe
5th February Ryan
7th February Kane
11th February TJ
11th February Matthew

11th February Matthew 18th February Casey



## Community Noticeboard

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Monday 12th March

**Labour Day Public holiday** 



#### PARENT AND CARER RELAXATION

Take some time out for yourself and come along to our weekly relaxation group to help increase feelings of calm and inner peace and join us for a cuppa afterwards.

Every Friday in the Library from 9.30—10.30am. Please contact Patrycia if you require more details.



#### COFFEE CLUB

All Parents and Carers are welcome to come along to enjoy a cuppa, a chat and a laugh with other parents and carers from FSDS.

Every **Tuesday** in the Conference Room **9.30—11.30am**.

