

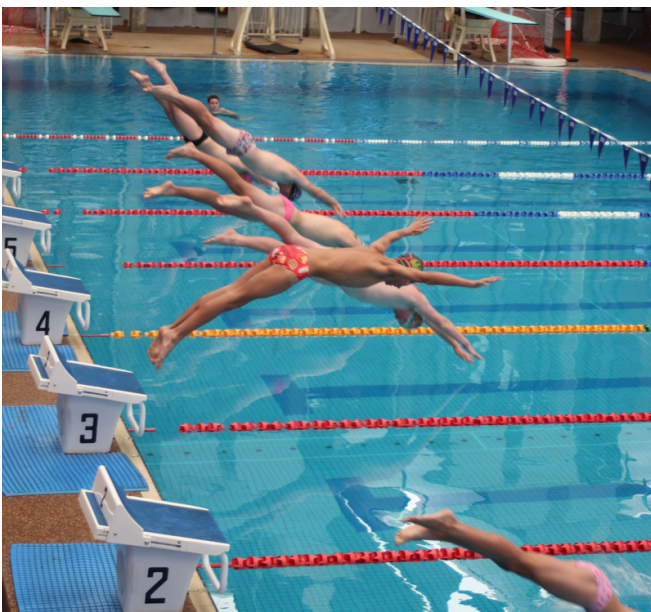


Message from the Principal



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The year has begun at a rapid pace. Last Friday's Swimming Carnival was a real highlight. Our new Deputy Principal for years 7, 9 and 11 Ms Johnson introduced a fun race where students had 10 minutes to complete as many laps as possible. Working in House teams students accrued points with each lap contributing to the tally. After further requests from students a second round of 5 minutes ran later in the day. This format meant we had a record number of swimmers participate on the day. Many students who were not planning to swim, decided to dive into the water wearing their sports uniform. The teachers V Year 12 relay race was extremely competitive. Congratulations to Year 12 who achieved a narrow victory. Some of us teachers are already in training for next year. 😊



Below is a summary of our record breakers and Age Champions:

Record Breakers

James B. - Boys 100m Backstroke
Tyler J. - Boys 17-19 100m Backstroke
Toby J. - Boys 17-19 50m Backstroke
Joshua W. - Boys 15 50m and 100m Butterfly

Age Champions

Girls 12 - Anique S.
Boys 12 - Santiago P.
Girls 13 - Emma W.
Boys 13 - Sean M.
Girls 14 - Sophie H.
Boys 14 - Jakob B.
Girls 15 - Lola J.
Boys 15 - Joshua W.
Girls 16 - Scarlett J.
Boys 16 - James B.
Girls 17+ - Charlotte J.
Boys 17+ - Tyler J.



It was nice to reconnect with parents in older years and to welcome new Year 7 parents. We look forward to the next meeting

NEW STAFF

We have had new staff members joining us this year. In the coming weeks we will profile them in the newsletter so you get to know them a little. The following is a list of names of our new staff and the subject area/role within the school.

- Kelly Johnson, Deputy Principal
- Genevieve Nestor, Head Teacher Wellbeing
- Amanda Liu, Head Teacher English
- Helen Lepre, Head Teacher Languages, Teaching & Learning
- Maree Andresakis, Maths Teacher
- Eleni Caldis, School Counsellor (Mon & Tues)
- Danny Chen, HSIE Teacher
- Amanda Christiansen, TAS Teacher
- Jane Cowling, Learning Support
- Karen Dean, Languages Teacher
- Dhamstse Dolma EALD (Thurs)
- Kathryn Eriksson, HSIE Teacher
- Jordan Fowles, Sports Coordinator
- Alastair Goodison, PDHPE Teacher
- Jack Layton, HSIE Teacher
- Hayley Mort, English Teacher
- Samuel Oldmeadow, HSIE Teacher
- Luke West, English Teacher

UNIFORM 2023

Students are to come to school in full school uniform. When they have a PE lesson they will then change for the lesson and then will change back into their school uniform at the end of the class. The only exemption to this is if they have PE in Period 1, in which case they may wear PE uniform to school and will then change into school uniform at the end of the class or if they have PE in Period 5, in which case they may travel home in their PE uniform.

Years 8, 9 and 10 may wear PE uniform to school on Wednesday for Grade / Social sport.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

The Department of Education will focus on student attendance this year. All students should be in attendance over 90% of the time. Poor attendance impacts on students' learning and ultimately limits the options students have available to them at the end of school.

Student attendance declined during COVID across the State, and this year the Department is looking for an improvement. Family holidays during term time should be avoided and students should only be absent if they are ill or there is an exceptional need for them to be elsewhere.

MOBILE PHONES

Moving around the school it has been great to see classes settled and students engaged. We have had a significant decrease of negative incidents, meaning students are adapting well to the change. There is a further delay on the Yondr pouches. We are now expecting to pouches to arrive in 2-3 weeks.

As previously communicated, here are the steps we follow when seeing a student on their mobile phone in Years 7-10:

1. An incident is recorded on Sentral.
2. Parent/Carer is contacted and asked to collect the phone. If the phone cannot be collected on the day it will be held in storage overnight.

The Forest High School's *Use of Device and Online Services Procedure* can be found on our school website [here](#)

Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY

Year 7 Parent Evening 6-7pm

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY

P&C Meeting - 7pm

THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY

Athletics Carnival

8-10 MARCH

Year 7 Camp

TUESDAY 14 MARCH

Years 7 & 12 Parent Teacher Interviews

20 - 22 MARCH

Year 11 Camp

FRIDAY 24 MARCH

School Photographs

MONDAY 27 MARCH

Years 9 & 11 Parent Teacher Interviews

THURSDAY 6 APRIL

Yarrabee Film Festival

FRIDAY 7 APRIL

Good Friday - School Closed



Explicit Teaching.

AT THE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL WE FOLLOW:

- I DO - TEACHER LED
- WE DO - TEACHER WORKING ALONGSIDE STUDENTS
- YOU DO - STUDENT LED

Explicit teaching practices involve teachers clearly explaining to students why they are learning something, what they are expected to do, how to do it and what it looks like when they've succeeded





Coding Club



We're introducing a Coding Club in Term 1 2023 for students to have the opportunity to learn computer programming and, when they have some experience, to work on projects every week with some assistance.

They will be learning Python programming, which is one of the most commonly used programming languages, and is an extremely desirable skill in many jobs at the moment. It's very suitable for beginners, but also great for students with some experience. Once they get some knowledge, they can use it to build websites, data analysis, games, controlling hardware, and almost anything they can think of.

We'll be focussing on teaching beginners the basics, then working through building some fun games, with the goal of the students being able to build their own project ideas when they feel a bit more confident.

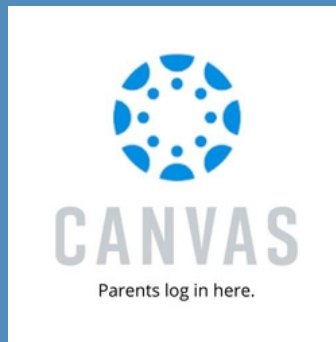
No previous programming experience is necessary, just a keen interest to learn something new that they could find a lot of fun.

Time: Wednesday mornings 7:30am - 8:30am in the Library

Could any interested students complete the Google form in the link below to help us plan what the group will be able to work on.

<https://forms.office.com/r/UGty8yvTwi>

Starts Week 4!!



CANVAS INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Canvas is the online learning management system that we use at The Forest High School. It is accessible to parents and students 24/7. It is personalised for each student, and includes information on lessons, resources, homework and assignment information.

To connect to Canvas and observe your student, please follow these steps:

- Students will firstly need to create a pairing code via their settings on their own Canvas login. This code can be found by clicking their picture in the global navigation bar, choose settings and on the right hand side of the page click 'Pair with Observer'.
- Create a Canvas account by accessing our login page:
<https://theforest.instructure.com/login/canvas>
- Click on 'Parent of a Canvas user? Click here for an account.' in the top right of the window.
- Complete the Parent sign-up page.
- For smart phone access, download the Canvas Parent App on your smartphone (look for the blue logo above).

[How Parents can use Canvas on a computer](#)

[How Parents can use Canvas via the App](#)

A range of helpful guides and videos [can be found here](#) in the Canvas Knowledge base.

[Logon to Canvas for Parents](#)

Details are also available on our school website here:

<https://theforest-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/student-and-parent-portal/canvas-parent-information.html>