

The Valley Vibe

Learning and Life at FVSSC



Principal's Update End of Term 3

As we bid farewell to Term Three, we reflect on 10 jam-packed weeks of incredible moments. Excursions, Book Week, Science Week, QUT Thrive Project and R U OK? Day brought out the best in our students, showcasing their talents and compassion, and offering them some unique 'real world' experiences.

Simultaneously, it's time to look ahead to Term Four. We're thrilled to announce our upcoming inaugural school play, "Orbit" a momentous occasion for FVSSC and one that our students have been rehearsing for with great enthusiasm. On Transition Day promises we welcome our new Year 7 students, as we embrace them into the FVSSC family. As always, we look forward to our Big Valley House Spirit Rally at the end of the year.. Our Year 10 students will celebrate this event on their last day (Nov 24), while our Year 7-9 students will show their house spirit on Dec 7, followed by Student Led Conferences on Dec 8.

A milestone is also on the horizon for FVSSC, as we prepare to welcome our first ever Year 11 students into the master phase of senior schooling. Together, we embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, and will continue to support our students as the first graduates move towards the end of their schooling in 2025.

As the break approaches, remember to take care of yourself and each other, and continue to be bold, resilient and kind in everything that you do.

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Exploring Science at FVSSC

Science Week (Wk 6) kicked off with a bang! From flammable hydrogen bubbles to sheep heart dissections, building challenges and webinars with real life astronauts, FVSSC students and staff enthusiastically celebrated all things science!

FVSSC was also lucky enough to see the PAC transform into 'the giant dome'; our very own planetarium, to teach students of all year levels about blackholes and the universe. To wrap up, Science Week ended with a rat dissection and the famous 'Elephant Toothpaste' experiment!

Thank you to Mr Lopez and the Science team for a fantastic week, and for getting FVSSC excited about science!



This is Rose - a Year eight student and an aspiring surgeon. When Rose was choosing her Genius Hour project for this Semester, she decided that she would like to take a step towards her goal and learn how to suture. After weeks of learning the technique and practicing, and with the help of Mr Morris, Rose took the initiative to practice her suturing skills on a real sheep's heart during the Science Week activities. Well done Rose for being bold when reaching for your goals!

Library Comes Alive for Book Week

From communal stories to creative illustrations, trivia challenges to 'Where's Wally' hunts, Book Week took over the library in week seven at FVSSC. Even the staff got involved – having the students guess their favourite books!



Thriving in Vertical Schools

Recently, we held the Thrive Project Screening Day, where our Year 8 students joined with researchers, architects, builders and educators from all over Australia and Canada to consider how students “thrive” in vertical schools.

Throughout the year, the students have been creating videos about the areas of our school thrive in which they thrive or feel they don't thrive. These videos were showcased on the day to the 'Thriving in Vertical Schools' team.

Well done to our Year 8 students for honestly and confidently sharing your opinions and for helping assist the future of vertical schooling around the world! And thank you to our guests from QUT, Adelaide Botanic High School, COX Architects, BFX Furniture, Simon Fraser University, Gray Puksand Architects & Thomson Adsett Architects.



Students Shine at SHEP

Congratulations Jackson, Brian and Ben who were all selected to attend State Honours Ensemble Program (SHEP) earlier this year. Well done to these students for their commitment to their music, we are very excited to see what they do in the future.



Futsal Home Games

Well done to our Under 14 Futsal teams, who hosted their first of many home games for the season this term. The girls team tied and the boys were narrowly defeated after a very intense game against St James. We look forward to seeing more from our sporting teams as the year progresses!



Bold Student Presenters

Well done to these Year 7 and 8 students who presented to a group of educators from South Africa this term - they confidently shared their thoughts about FVSSC and what makes our school so special.

It takes great boldness and courage to speak to a room full of professionals, and these students represented FVSSC proudly!



Introducing Mr Milo

Meet our latest member of the FVSSC team - Mr Milo! Mr Milo serves as the therapy dog in training with Guidance Officer Ms. Harris, enhancing her ability to provide exceptional support to our students. We are very lucky to be joined by Mr Milo, as therapy dogs have been shown to improve wellbeing, provide emotional support, reduce stress and improve behaviour in schools.

Say hello Mr Milo and Ms. Harris when you come across them and make Mr Milo feel welcome!



R U OK?

In Week 10, the FVSSC community celebrated R U OK? Day. Over Wednesday and Thursday, we saw a dance party, Kit-Kats, chalk drawings and a staff vs student netball game. With a focus on fostering meaningful conversations, FVSSC students and staff led with the message "I'm here to hear."



Exploring Eco-Systems

The Year 9 Geography students got to get out of the classroom and into the Wetlands, as they built their knowledge of eco-systems and environmental management. Thank you to our geography teachers and the Environmental Education Officers at Boondall Wetlands for this hands-on learning opportunity!



Connecting with Creatives at Queensland Theatre

Term 3 also saw our Year 10 Drama students travel to Queensland Theatre to perform their interpretation of the play "A Thousand Points from Zero". Alongside drama students from a variety of Brisbane schools, they had the opportunity to perform in front of a playwright and receive feedback on their performance. Thank you Queensland Theatre for the opportunity to connect with creatives from the industry and from other schools!

Photos by Shan Jacobe



Cultural Exchange: Japanese Guests

We were delighted to welcome Miho, Futa and their professor Tim Saito from the Toyama College of Welfare Science in Japan to FVSSC this term. In a cultural exchange, Miho and Futa practiced their English with a Year 8 Making Meaning class, and then helped the students with their Japanese language and pronunciation. What a fantastic real world learning experience!



Fortitude Friends

Week 9 was the first day of Fortitude Friends, an initiative from our Community Service group to create a bond between Brookes Street Early Education and FVSSC.



The group will continue the Fortitude Friends program throughout the semester, aiming to build meaningful connections between FVSSC and local childcare centres.

Well done to these students for being bold, kind, and for fostering a positive impact on our community.

Features: What's Been Happening at FVSSC?



Brekky Club was visited by Sargent Rob Duffner, who played table tennis with the students and spoke to them about the opportunities at Fortitude Valley PCYC.



The Sports Courts were packed with action! The netball teams have been training hard, and Volleyball Club has started on Friday mornings.



Robotics is back on! Students have been busy assembling the lego structures for the First Lego League, which they will participate in later this year.



Staff spent the student free day undertaking professional development, where they sharpened their skills and signature practices to best assist our students in the classroom.



Year 10 Civics and Citizenship students were given the opportunity to see law in action when they visited the Supreme Court this week



Year 8 students have been showing off the Japanese skills that they have learnt throughout the term. In week 10, they even learnt how to make Japanese rice balls!



Students have been cooking up a storm in the Valley Galleys for their Genius Hour projects!



Year 7 students Summer and Sveva had a cook off for their Genius Hour project. This semester, they are working on a project to compare the cultures, customs, and cuisines of Italy and Australia.



Year 8 students have been investigating which places "thrive" in our community, and this week they were answering the question: is Brunswick Street Mall thriving?



Students from FVSSC participated in the Financial Basics Foundation's ESSI Money Challenge. Students played an online game which is aimed at financial literacy, exploring the concepts of Earning, Saving, Spending, and Investing (ESSI).



Wednesdays saw both 'Fortitude Futures' and 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' - thanks to the representatives from UQ for speaking to our students about careers in STEM!



A handful of students were also lucky enough to experience a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM), to see biological samples up close.