



Heights of Excellence FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL



Education
& Communities

information – news and views – coming events

What's Happening at the Heights?

This Week:

Mon 26

School Athletics Carnival at
Beaton Park – whole school

School canteen closed

Tue 27

Junior Band Camp

Thurs 29

School Photo Day

Fri 30th

Book Club orders due

Next Week:

A quiet week at school this week!

Fri 6 June

Special Meal Deal day at the
canteen. More info soon!

Reminders

- P&C Voluntary contribution
\$50 per family. Cash, cheque
or direct debit: BSB: 062644
Account No: 00900425
- Tea towel fundraiser-
orders & payment due
13/6/14
- School Photo orders &
payment due by photo day,
29/05/14
- Unwanted Entertainment
Books to be returned to
school by 30/5/14

Message from the Principal

Wow! What a wonderful day we had at the Athletics Carnival yesterday. I was so very proud of each and every student who participated. We have such a special school, where students really focus on participating and supporting their peers. It is not always about winning (especially since the teachers lost to not only the parents, but both student teams in the annual relay race!). Students who were successful in gaining a place in our school team will be notified as soon as the results are finalised.

A safety reminder to all parents and grandparents regarding parking areas around the school. Unfortunately, FHPS is not blessed with suitable parking around our school. We have endeavoured to make our car parks a safe area for our students, however, we are trying to find a permanent solution to our parking issues. This week I will be in contact with both WCC and the RTA to try and come up with a plan to make our surrounding streets safer too. Please be reminded of the "NO Parking" areas around the school, police and council rangers WILL be targeting our school zone and although a ticket is unfortunate, an accident involving one of our students is much worse.

Over the past term we have been playing around with the layout of the school newsletter. We have been trying to add more relevant information and include important things that have been happening in our school. To make this change even more effective we would like to move towards being "as paperless as possible". The costs associated with photocopying are becoming more expensive every year and the environment would be very grateful if we reduced our paper usage. With "technology at our fingertips" why not move towards online newsletters? Accompanying today's newsletter will be a survey where you can indicate how you would like to receive your newsletter and how our school phone app can help keep you informed of events and important dates at FHPS.

I have spoken to students about what they think would make the ideal school playground. The students have indicated that they would love areas for encouraging interaction, creativity and imagination. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the whole community collaborated to make this vision a reality? If any parent has ideas, contacts or skills which could help the school fulfil this dream please come and see me!

That is all from the Principal's desk this week.

*Kind regards,
Skye Hayward*

"Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it is about learning to dance in the rain."

Kindergarten 2015

Figtree Heights Public School is accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2015.

Contact the school to receive an 'in-area' or 'out-of-area' Expression of Interest form.

Please pass this information on to neighbours in our area who have children starting school in 2015.

Ph: 4228 6555 E: figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

School Photo Day Thurs 29th May

Envelopes can be returned with payment prior to photo day or sent in on the day. Sibling envelopes are available from the front foyer. **Students are to wear full winter school uniform on photo day.**

Winter Uniform Up-date

Students should now be in full winter uniform

Winter Uniform order update:

All orders have been completed. We apologise for the lateness of delivery of some orders. There is a small stock of new winter girls' uniforms available for sale. We also have in stock ties (medium and long), knee-high green socks, sports uniforms, jackets and microfibre tracksuits.

Uniform Shop: is open Monday mornings from 8.30am – 9am for sales and fittings. Orders with payment can be dropped into the office anytime and the uniform co-ordinator will complete the order the following Monday and deliver your order to your child via the classroom.

Focus on Reading (FoR)

First Strategy

MAKING CONNECTIONS

On Tuesday FHPS teachers will be trained in the first of the 'Super Six' Focus on Reading Strategies – **Making Connections**. Students can comprehend any text and use the Making Connection Strategy.

There are three elements to the Making Connections strategy.

Connections can be made

TEXT TO TEXT

Making a connection from one text to another e.g. the character in this story is similar to this because..., this scene is similar to the one in this text because...

TEXT TO SELF

A connection from a text to their self

TEXT TO WORLD

A connection from a text to an event (past or present) in the world

Remember a text is not just written in words; it can be electronic (YouTube clip, song, podcast), spoken (television programs, radio) or visual (a picture, advertisement).

Students will be using the 'Making Connections' strategy in class, this term. For assistance with the implementation of this program we ask that the same strategies and language be used at home. You may even hear your child/ren use this language (making a text to self-connection) at home.

If you would like any more information (even resources or posters to use at home) on this strategy, please contact me at school or email sarah.thurston@det.nsw.edu.au. I am more than happy to help.

Sarah Thurston

Focus on Reading FHPS School Leader

BRONZE Value Wristband Awardees

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving their bronze wristband this Wednesday at morning assembly.

Aleks M KP, Maeve H KP, Hadley M KS, Chelsea J 1W, Zoe B 1W, Sara R 1W, Macey S 1W, Odette K 1W, Ella C 2O, William B 3/4D, Morgan D 3/4N, Kaylen C 3/4N, Noah T 3/4N, Lara L 3/4N, Marcus S 3/4PR, Molly W 5L, Ben R 5L, Zara H 5L, Ethan C 5L, Jarni G 5/6T

WELL DONE!

Happy Birthday to the following students.....

James B, Harmonie B, Jayda B, Ethan C, Jordan D & Lara F,

School Phone App

To download our school phone app go to the App Store on iTunes (Google Play for Android users), search for Figtree Heights and simply download.

Username: community

Password: figtreehtsps

Please make sure you allow notifications from Figtree Heights in your phone's control settings.

School Newsletter

If you would like to receive your school newsletter by email, please forward your email address to: figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and we will add you to our mailing list

Tea Towel Yr 6 Fundraiser

Remember to send your orders in by Friday 13th June.
\$12 for one, \$10 per T-towel for two or more.
Spare order forms are available from the front office.

Parking Reminder

Please be reminded to park safely and courteously when dropping off and picking up students from school. Also please encourage students to use correct road rules when in the school zone.

Canteen News:

The canteen will be having a special meal deal day on Friday 6th June.

More information coming soon!

CANTEEN ROSTER	
Mon, Wed & Fri – open for recess and lunch	
Tues & Thurs – open for lunchtime snacks only	
Tue	Cindy Ladmore & Jacqui Smart
Wed	Amanda Taylor & Rebecca Anderson
Thurs	Tracy Chichkan & Liz Neill
Fri	Leeann Goode & June Lynch
Mon	Carmen Lemmon & Jennifer Harvey

P&C News

P&C Voluntary Contribution

Please remember to pay your P&C Voluntary Contribution for 2014. The amount is \$50 per family and can be sent in as cash or cheque (made payable to FHPS P&C) or direct debited into the P & C account.

BSB: 062644 Account No: 00900425

Receipts will be issued with as soon as possible.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser

Final reminder: Please return unwanted books to school. There are quite a few outstanding books particularly in the senior classes.

Thank you to all of our families who have purchased the Entertainment Book. Your support of our school is greatly appreciated.

Cost of the book is \$55 and payment can be sent in to school or processed online. Follow the payment instructions inside the book or the payment link is: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/280t297>

P&C Committee

Scholastic Book Club

Orders are due at school by Friday 30/5/14. Spare brochures are available from the front office. Scholastic Book Club usually runs two issues per term. Look out for brochures in your child's schoolbag!

Huge thanks to Rebecca Anderson for taking on the Book Club co-ordinators position.

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Figtree Heights School Newsletter Option

To move towards the 21st Century needs of the world and keeping in mind our precious environment, Figtree Heights aims to move our school towards a "paperless" way of communicating with our families. Please fill out the following information sheet so our school can meet your needs with FHPS newsletter.

It is essential that this form be filled out and returned to school. If you wish to have a paper copy of the school newsletter this form **MUST** be returned.

FAMILY NAME: _____

1. Do you have the school phone app?

yes

no

If not, is there a reason? _____

2. How would you prefer to receive your school newsletter? (please choose one)

☐ download from website

☐ view via school phone app

☐ email (please supply address) _____

☐ paper copy

3. What information would you like to see included in our school newsletter? (unlimited choice)

☐ Principal's message

☐ Wristband awardees

☐ School reminders

☐ Feature class

☐ Photo gallery

☐ Sport's Update

☐ P&C updates and news

☐ Canteen info

☐ Other (please specify) _____

4. Would you, your business or a business you know, be interested in looking at advertising options in the school newsletter?

☐ no

☐ maybe, depending on the terms

☐ yes

5. Is there anything else you would like to add about this proposal to make our school newsletter "as paperless as possible"?

Figtree Heights School Information Option

Again, to move towards the 21st Century needs of the world and keeping in mind our precious environment; Figtree Heights aims to move our school towards a "paperless" way of communicating with our families.

We would like to move the majority of our parent information notifications away from paper and use our school phone app or website to communicate. Please indicate your thoughts below:

1. I would prefer to get notifications and reminders via the school app and website?

- ☐ yes
- ☐ no, I prefer paper
- ☐ no, I do not have the phone app
- ☐ other reason _____

2. I would use the school app or website to download appropriate notes or documents?

- ☐ yes
- ☐ no, I prefer paper
- ☐ no, I do not have the phone app
- ☐ other reason _____

3. As a family, we find the school phone app:

- ☐ fantastic
- ☐ useful
- ☐ alright
- ☐ not of much use
- ☐ we do not use it at all
- ☐ other: _____

4. Figtree Heights keep families well informed of events that are happening in and around the school?

- ☐ strongly agree
- ☐ agree
- ☐ slightly agree
- ☐ not informed enough
- ☐ disagree
- ☐ other: _____

5. Is there anything else you would like to add about this proposal to make our school notifications "as paperless as possible"?

Thank you for your support in this matter!