



FIGTREE HEIGHTS

PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Term 4 Friday 30th October, 2015

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

What's Happening at the Heights?

23 rd , 30 th Oct, 6 th , 13 th Nov	PSSA Yrs. 5 & 6
28 th – 30 th October	Scholastic Book Fair
28 th Oct	P&C Meeting, Hive @ 6:30pm
28 th Oct	CANTEEN CLOSED
29 th Oct	Kinder Orientation Talent Quest Night
30 Oct	Do Things Together Day K-6
2 nd Nov	Book Club Closes
3 rd Nov	Band rehearsal @ Helensburgh
4 th Nov	Pyjama Day K-6
5 th Nov	Guitar Ensemble in Hall I'm Choosing Kind Yrs. 3 & 4
9 th - 10 th Nov	Stage 2 Camp Stanwell Tops
13 Nov	School Disco
18 th Nov	Instrumental Festival @ Figtree High
20 th Nov	Yr 6 Transition to High School workshop
25 th Nov	Smiths Hill Performance Yrs. 3-6 P&C Meeting, Hive @ 6.30pm
26 th Nov	High School for a day Yrs 5 & 6
27 th Nov	K & Yr 1 Puppetry workshop
28 th Nov	Trivia Night at FHPS (Saturday)
3 rd Dec	Twilight Festival
8 th Dec	Yr 6 Jamboreo
9 th Dec	Gold SuperStar morning tea Combined Scripture Celebration in the Hall
10 th Dec	Yr 6 Formal Dinner
11 th Dec	Emerald SuperStar morning tea
14 th Dec	Yr 6 Soccer
15 th Dec	Presentation Day @ Figtree H.S.
16 th Dec	Yr 6 Final Assembly and ringing of the bell ceremony

Student Absence Reminders

Thank you to parents who have responded to student 'reason for absence' letters that have been sent out recently. DEC require all absences be explained.

Reminder letters were sent out last week. If you received a letter (check in your child's school bag) please complete it and return it to school ASAP.

Please be reminded if your child is absent from school a written note or email is required to explain the absence.

Notes are to be taken to the school office. Send emails to figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

School Activity Payments & Notes

Please remind students to 'mail' all school activity payments and notes at the school office. Mailing slots have been installed at the school office for all school activities.

Remember: POP (Parent online Payment) system is available for most school activities. Instruction booklets are available from the office.

Payments & Notes Due: POP can be used for these payments

Stanwell Tops Yrs. 3 & 4 \$168	I'm Choosing Kind Yrs. 3 & 4 \$5
PSSA notes Years 5 & 6	Puppetry Workshop Yrs. K & 1

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you!

BB King

www.figtreehts-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

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Email:
figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/FigtreeHeightsPublicSchool
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GONSKI

This week we are celebrating **Gonski Week**. Gonski funding is designed to ensure that every Australian child, no matter what their background, can get a high quality education. This funding began in 2014, after the independent Gonski review warned too many children were missing out on the education they needed due to a lack of resources. This funding was meant to continue to increase for six years. Under the Gonski plan, all schools are funded according to the individual needs of their students and what is required to educate them to a high level.

So why is Gonski funding important to us? Over the past two years the extra funding that has been given to Figtree Heights Public School is more than we have ever experienced. A total of **\$34,787** over 2014 and 2015 was injected into our budget. We have just received our projected Gonski funding for 2016 and we hope to again be given an additional **\$29,981**.

What does Gonski mean to Figtree Heights Public School? In school-speak Gonski funding is our RAM (Resource Allocation Model). It is made up of buckets of money which we are funded based on the students at our school. So far we have used this money on:

- Extra Learning and Support Officers (Teacher Aides) in the school to assist students with learning needs, behavioural needs, social needs and other identified areas.
- Additional teachers in classrooms during the day to run intensive programs.
- Resources for classrooms to ensure the effective running of programs such as L3 (K-2 Literacy explicit teaching model).
- Teacher Professional Learning – ensuring teachers are not only up-to-date with current practices but are given opportunities to perfect and extend their craft is a high priority at FHPS. The professional learning that teachers engage in is always aligned to our school direction, relevant to our students needs and ultimately ensuring our teachers can provide the best educational experiences for our children.
- Student assistance for families in need.

So what is the problem? The problem is that the Federal Coalition Government is refusing to honour, in full, the Gonski agreements signed with NSW, SA, Tasmania, Victoria and the ACT. It wants to tear up the agreements in 2017 and stop delivering to all governments the needs-based Gonski funding. **That means our school will miss out on more than one third more funding. This is not acceptable! Please see the brochure that was sent home today for more information on how to help this funding model get over the line.**

Please SPREAD the word! GONSKI IS OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE!

Talent Quest

Congratulations to each and every student who participated in last night's talent quest! What a show! As one of the judges, it was certainly a difficult decision to pick the winners in each category. I cannot believe how much talent we have at our school. Thank you to the parents who have supported our students in events like this, it was wonderful to see the proud faces in the audience. A big thank you to Miss Dejanovic for all the extra time and effort she went to putting on this show, also to Miss Corcoran who assisted Miss D in every way. I cannot forget the teachers, who gave up their Thursday night to man the canteen, collect tickets and help set up and pack up the hall, thank you Mrs Osborne, Mrs Fincher, Mrs Pirie and Mrs Jackson. Special congratulations to the following category winners:

Vocal – Chiara D'Amico: *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*

Special Talent – Samoil Kuzmanovski-Ellsley: *There was a Crooked Man* and Tyce De Bruyn: *Eisteddfods*

Dance – Poppy Tomczynski: *Irish Soft Shoe Dance*

Instrumental – Kaylen and Bailey Craft: *Blues Brothers*

Runner-Up Instrumental – Annabel Wouters: *Castanets*

Trivia Night

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the P&C Trivia Committee have asked me to inform parents, families and loved ones of a change of date for the upcoming Trivia Night. Originally it was planned for Saturday 21st November, however, this is no longer a possibility. At the recent P&C meeting it was decided to push the date back one more week to accommodate for the needs of the organising committee and FHPS families. **The new date is Saturday November 28.** A flyer will be sent home shortly with all relevant information.

Classing Considerations 2016

This coming Monday, the classing considerations form will be available from the front office. This consideration form is the most effective way for you to inform the school of elements you wish to be considered for classing in 2016. To ensure informed decisions can be made there will be a due date. Please make sure if you do have elements you wish to be considered you fill this form in and hand it to the office by the due date. Any forms received after this date may not be considered. Even if you have emailed your class teacher or the school, please fill out this form. All requests will be, where appropriate, discussed by staff and will be kept confidential.

Have a great weekend!

Warm regards

Skye Hayward

Principal



Super Stars!



Congratulations to all of our new
SUPER STARS this week!

SILVER Super Stars

Matteo Ciarrocca	Ethan Carruthers
Clay Batchelor	Aleksia Petrovska
Alex Kotsopoulos	Lenny Atsas
Kaden Goode	Josiah Moore
Kieran Michlmayr	

GOLD Super Stars

Brooke Baird	Noah Tully
Tyla O'Brien	Brannon Ware
Joshua Hailstone	Alanah George
Sharnie Radford	Isaac Maris
Abbey Lemmon	Lara Limbrick
Rohan Hicks	Carter O'Connor
Serena Erler	Olivia Grant

EMERALD Super Stars

Charlotte Neill	Eloise Taylor
Elise Scobie	

Remember to check out your photo in the school foyer and tell the office staff if you need a star on your photo.



The School Value of the fortnight is:

Responsibility

"Responsibility means to do the right thing."

As described by Ally Luke and Xavier Cooper.

This value will be the focus for Week 4 and 5.

FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL
**PARENTS & CITIZENS
ASSOCIATION**



P&C Federation

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

2016 Classing - Teacher Funding by P&C

**WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER
6.30PM IN THE HIVE**

CHILD MINDING AVAILABLE

ALL PARENTS & CITIZENS WELCOME

SHOW YOUR COMMITMENT AND STAY INFORMED
BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

WWW.FIGTREEHTS-P.SCHOOLS.NSW.EDU.AU/FHPS-P-C/P-C

Happy Birthday to the
following students

Maddi Legge, Bailey Lemmon,
Lauren Rooke & Emily Rutledge

Wellbeing Snippet

"Physically
fear and **excitement**
are *exactly the same*.
It's what you **imagine**
that makes it different
so make it a **game**."

-Cindy Russell-

I am **excited**
when I imagine
I have my sprinting
springs on!



www.yourstoryspace.com

Tegan Georgette.

Reminder to Band and Guitar Students

All band members please remember that we are going to Helensburgh Public School on Tuesday.

We are travelling up on the OOSH bus.

We are leaving the school at 8:15. Make sure you have your instrument and music and get a music stand from the Music Box in the morning to take on the bus.

On Thursday, all Guitar Ensemble members will be rehearsing in the Music Box with students from other schools on our 4 Instrumental Pieces.

If there are any problems, please contact Mr Costello on 0408271107

Useful Information

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 *Make sure you allow notifications from Figtree Heights in your phone's control settings.*

Week 1-Term 4 Canteen Roster -

The canteen is open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for recess and lunch orders.

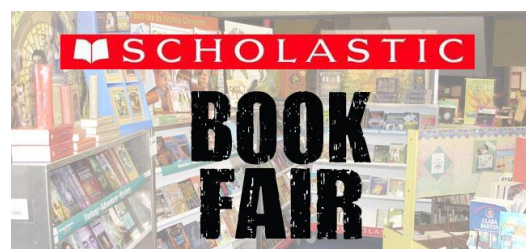
Snacks only at lunchtime only on Tues and Thurs.

Baking	Amanda Batchelor
Mon	Dean Harvey & Brooke Kiley
Tues	Katie Tully & Leanne O'Brien
Wed	CANTEEN CLOSED
Thurs	Pat Gibson
Fri	Denise DeMartin & Lee Brett

Don't forget our BOOK FAIR!

When: Wed 28 Oct to Tues 3 Nov 2015

Where: In the front office



We apologise to those parents who popped in to the book fair on Wednesday, unfortunately the books arrived late.

These advertisers support us, please support them:

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Dr. Khanh Diep
Dr. Vinh Nguyen

Dr. Catherine Pham
Dr. Sudhendra Prabhu

www.figtreesurgery.com.au Phone (02) 4225 7822

2016 Figtree Heights School Captain Nominees



Congratulations to the following Year 5 students who have been nominated for School Captain in 2016.



Jacob
CHICHKAN



Nathan
MITREVSKI



Marcus
STEVANOSKI



Clay
BALDOCK



Ziggy
BADANS



Noah
McNALLY



Emily
RUTLEDGE



Madilyn
LADMORE



Breanna
LUKE



Aleksia
PETROVSKA



Charlotte
NEILL



Kirra
SYNOTT



Mikayla
MITREVSKI

Speeches will be held on Wednesday November 11 at 2pm in the school hall.
Parents and loved ones welcome.