



FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Friday 4th December, 2015 - Term 4

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

What's Happening at the Heights?

8 th Dec	Yr 6 at Jamberoo <i>Please remember students need to have completed their swim proficiency test</i>
9 th Dec	Gold Super Star Morning Tea Combined Scripture Celebration in the Hall
10 th Dec	Year 6 Formal Dinner
11 th Dec	Emerald Super Star Surprise Excursion
14 th Dec	Year 6 Soccer Afternoon
15 th Dec	Presentation Day at Figtree High School
16 th Dec	Yr 6 Final Assembly and Ringing of the Bell Ceremony @2:45pm

Wednesday 16/12/15
Last day for students

2016 Dates

27 th Jan	Teachers & Staff start date
28, 29 Jan & 1 st Feb	2016 Kindy Best Start assessments
Thurs 28 th Jan	Yr1 -6 2016 students start date
2 nd Feb	2016 Kindergarten start date

Payments & Notes Due:
Year 6 Jamberoo excursion \$30 due now
All outstanding absence notes for 2015 due now

Presentation Day

The school Presentation Day is approaching.

Details are as follows:

When: Tuesday December 15, 2015.

Time: 8:53am (normal school time) for a 9am start.

Venue: Figtree High School

Transport: Parents to drop students to Figtree High. Either O'Briens Road entrance or Gibsons Road entrance

ALL parents and loved ones welcome!

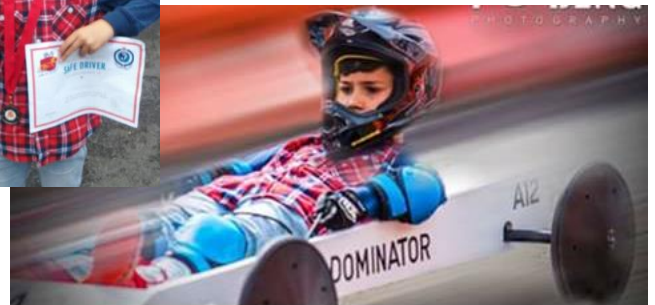
Please see attached note for more information.



Port Kembla Billy Cart Derby



Congratulations to **Max Atsas** who came 2nd in the PK Billy Cart Derby! Well done Max. Head over to our website for more of Max's photos!



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

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Twilight Night

What a fantastic way to spend a Thursday night. I was bursting with pride as I watched our students perform for their families and loved ones. Thank you to all our families who attended last night, thank you for supporting this event and taking time out of your busy schedules to watch your children perform. The atmosphere was sensational and from all accounts everyone had a wonderful time. Our amazing teachers cannot be forgotten. The extra work that went in to ensuring the event went ahead was phenomenal. The organising committee of Miss Dejanovic, Mrs De Haas, Miss Corcoran and Mrs Manning went above and beyond. The teachers running the BBQ, Mrs Fincher, Mrs De Haas, Mrs Osborne and Mrs Manning, thank you for giving up your Thursday night to cook sausages. A big thank you to Mr Manning and the young Manning boys who were an incredible help to the teachers on the BBQ. It was also wonderful to see Mrs Thurston back on deck after her operation, even if it was for only one night. If anyone has photos of the Twilight Night could you please email them to the school email address. We will then be able to upload these to our website, providing children in the photo have permission to publish.

Staff appointment for 2016

Last week we interviewed for a permanent teaching position here at Figtree Heights Public School. I would like to take this opportunity to announce to our community the successful applicant, Miss Tegan Davies. Miss Davies will be joining our school on day one 2016 and we are looking forward to welcoming her to our school. Miss Davies will be replacing Miss Wolski who is chasing her dreams and enjoying the challenge in the 'big smoke'.

Classing 2016

As mentioned in many other newsletters we are continually working on options for classing and staffing for 2016. Due to a change in student numbers and a few 'uncertain' classroom teacher positions, we are unable to announce class teachers for the 2016 school year. Staffing with the Department of Education is a very intricate process and although we possibly have temporary positions available for 2016, we cannot officially fill these at the present time. This has had a devastating impact on our current teaching staff. As a temporary teacher it is always very difficult at this time of the year, decisions need to be made to ensure there is job security in the new year. Due to the uncertainty at Figtree Heights, a number of our temporary teachers have had to look for employment elsewhere. The quality standard of our temps means they have been snapped up quickly. Mrs Erin Manning will unfortunately be leaving us and spreading her expertise at Nareena Hills PS, Mrs Nadine Friend will return to Berkeley West (where we stole her from for this year) and Mrs Alison LoSurdo will be moving into a Learning and Support Role at TIGS. As announced at the beginning of this year, Mrs De Haas will be stepping into her permanent teaching position at Bulli Public School. Although we are extremely sad to be saying goodbye to these wonderful teachers, we know this will not be the end of our relationship and wish them all the very best for 2016. I know they will flourish in a new setting and hopefully we will be lucky enough to snatch them back in the coming years.

2016 ventures

The new year brings with it new adventures and we are excited at Figtree Heights to be adding some exciting elements to our school. Plans for Figtree Heights' own dance troupe are in the works as well as a coding and robotics club. We also have a few other surprises up our sleeve, but we don't want to share all our secrets just yet. Watch this space!

School Evaluation

Accompanying today's newsletter is an information note outlining the processes for our school evaluation survey for 2016. We are asking for honest feedback from our community and as always, appreciate all feedback. For ease of access we have utilised an online survey this year. This online survey also allows the school to look at the data in many different ways. On the accompanying note there is information regarding a confirmation page that students are to bring back to school when you have completed the survey. There is also a \$50 Figtree Gourmet Kitchen voucher for one random family who participates in the survey and an ice block for every child who returns this confirmation sheet. This valuable feedback will provide our school with essential information on the direction we are going as a school and we can continue to strive for the *Heights of Excellence*. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Rising Stars

Please remember, if your child has received some exciting news or would like to share an achievement, please let the school know. Photos are encouraged. In 2016, there will be a noticeboard dedicated to our rising stars, please make sure you share this exciting news with us so we can share it with our community.

I hope you all enjoy your weekend,
Warm regards,

Skye Hayward
Principal



Super Stars!



Congratulations to all of our new SUPER STARS this week!

BRONZE Super Star

Blake Christensen
Jake Jordan
Clayton Byrne

SILVER Super Stars

Nicholas Hailstone	Bailey Lemmon
Brody Jordan	Phoebe Lewis
Samoil Kuzmanovski-Ellsley	

GOLD Super Stars

Liam Walter	Ethan Carruthers
Bashaar Abdul-Latif	Ava Geralexis
Nathan Henderson-Walls	
Keeley Reynolds	Jacob Chichkan
Hunter Griffiths	Lauren Rooke
Toby Leo	Tyler Godfrey
Sara Radford	Awande Masuku

EMERALD Super Stars

Nathanael Burns	Ebony Pascoe
Angus Newton	Annabel Wouters
Jayda Brain	Madilyn Ladmore
Poppy Tomczynski	Mackenzie Smart
Declan Goodsell	Isabel Smith

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

This is the last newsletter for Super Star awards. Congratulations Figtree Heights, you are superstars!



The School Value of the fortnight is:

Excellence

"Excellence means doing very well and taking pride in your work."
Kaylen Craft

This value will be the focus for Week 10.

Happy Birthday to the following students

Zoe Brain, Nate Hosking
 Chanel Ocvirk &
 Elliot Rainford



Electronic Devices

Reminder that electronic devices are not permitted at school unless requested by a teacher or for an emergency in which case the device needs to be brought to the office for storage.

Wellbeing Snippet

Perfection is when everything is going wrong and you are still happy.

-Cindy Russell-



Tegan Georgette.

www.yourstoryspace.com

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.*

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	Karen Craft, Fiona Maris & Judy Warren
Wed	CANTEEN CLOSED
Thurs	Louise Christensen & Gerty Pelekanos
Fri	Belinda Monkman & Alix Murphy

OPAL Bus Pass

A reminder that all students who are applying for 2016 bus passes are to now apply on line.

Students who are not eligible for free travel Opal cards, may purchase a term card by going online at: www.transportnsw.info/school-students
Students will also be able to pay a cash fare when boarding the bus.

Primary Ethics

We are very happy to be offering Ethics classes during SRE time to all year groups in 2016! There are still places available for non-scripture students in years 3, 4, 5 and 6. If you are interested in your child attending Ethics classes, please see the office staff or contact myself on figtreeheightspsethics@outlook.com

Thank you, Amanda Bowen
Primary Ethics Co-ordinator

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