



FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Term 1 Friday 13th February 2015

Message from the Principal

As a school we have settled into the 2015 year particularly well. The new Kindergarten students are quickly finding their feet, albeit very tired feet at the end of the day, and Years 1 to 6 are settling into their class and school routines perfectly. Congratulations, Figtree Heights students, a wonderful start to the year.

School Swimming Carnival

The FHPS swimming carnival was a roaring success and I have received wonderful feedback on the smooth running and general 'team atmosphere' feel of the day. The day would not have been such a success without the tireless efforts of Mr Nielsen and our wonderful staff, the amazing parents who volunteered their time or came to support their children and of course our incredible FHPS students. It did not matter if a race was won, lost or even entered; all students had a smile on their face and thoroughly enjoyed the day. Of course one of the highlights had to be the senior students, parent and teacher relay, especially the 'extra flotation' attire Mrs Pirie and Maddie Smith wore to assist them in their plight to win the race. Unfortunately it did not 'assist' them enough and the teachers were pipped at the post by the parents, closely followed by our senior swimmers. Thank you once again, to everyone involved! The District Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 25th February**, again at Unanderra Pool.

School Cross Country Carnival

It is no secret our cross-country track here at school is less than desirable. For 2015 we will be trialling the carnival at **Figtree High School**. It will be held on **Wednesday 18th March** from 9am. To keep families costs to a minimum, we are asking for parents to drop of their child/children at the O'Briens Road gate at Figtree High, *instead of* at Figtree Heights PS on the morning of the carnival. Teachers will be on hand for supervision and to ensure all students arrive safely. We understand that this may require some planning and preparation for some families and are happy to assist wherever needed. More information will be available shortly.

School Newsletter

The school newsletter is a vital way for the school to share information with families. However, we are finding that not all families are accessing this resource. To make it easy for families our newsletter is accessible through a variety of mediums: Paper copy (on request from the front office), emailed directly to you, downloadable from our school website or viewable on the school app. We try to cater for all families and their busy lives but are noticing a lack of 'knowledge' about school events and important information as the newsletter is not always being accessed. We are still in the (painstakingly slow) process of going live with an e-newsletter, but in the meantime will try to encourage students and families to access our information by including QR reader codes to interesting links (more information inside this newsletter). Feedback is always welcome on this matter. If you know of families who are not accessing this information please pass on this message.

*Warm regards,
Skye Hayward*

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

What's Happening at the Heights?

The school canteen is closed. A message will go out when its ready to commence operating for 2015

Week Beginning 16/2

*Parent Information
Evenings are THIS WEEK*

Mon 16

Parent Information Sessions
Stage 3 at 5pm: 5/6N, 5/6C & 5/6S in the 5/6S classroom
Stage 2 at 6pm: 2/3F, 2/3S, 3/4F & 3/4P in the 3/4P classroom

Book Club closes today

Tues 17

Textbook Sale Day

Wed 18

Parent Information Session
at 5.30pm: K/1E & 1T in the Kindergarten classroom

P&C meeting @ 6.30pm

Thur 19

Kindergarten Vision Screening

Week Beginning 23/2

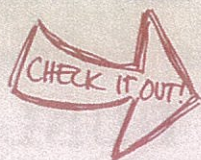
Shhhhhh..... it's a quiet week!

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Facebook:
www.facebook.com/FigtreeHeightsPublicSchool
Twitter:
twitter.com/FigtreeHeights

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS



QR Reader Codes



Miss Parkinson has inspired the school to get on board with the QR reader code phenomenon. It is a wonderful way to share information with families, provide interesting links about topics and it provides students with an opportunity to access the internet in a safe and friendly manner. You will notice each classroom will have a QR Reader code outside their room, with special links, sometimes dedicated to just that particular class.

Below are some examples of links we have already created.

What to do?

1. Go to the iTunes store, download and install the following free app
2. Hold your device up to one of the QR codes on this page and it will take you to the pre-recorded link.



Try it out!



School Website



Central Wollongong PSSA



Healthy eating Tips for Children

This is a fun and interactive way to provide more information to families who are interested.

Please note: If you are viewing the newsletter on a computer screen, simply hold your phone or device up to the screen and it will connect you to the QR link.

Parent Information Evenings

Please double check when your child's parent information evening is on. Vital information is presented and it is your chance to ask any burning questions.

Don't FORGET the P&C Meeting is on this coming Wednesday at 6:30pm in Mrs Thurston's room.



Heads-up for 2015! Textbook Sale Day

Figtree Heights will be holding its textbook sale day on Tuesday 17th February 2015. Textbooks are an essential part of classroom lessons and all students will be required to purchase books.

Information & costing notes went out last week and spare notes are available from the school office.

Kindergarten - green note. Yr1 - yellow note. Yr2, 3 & 4 - blue note. Yr5 & 6 - pink note

Payment can be sent in before or on sale day.

Please assist by sending in correct money and a separate envelopes for each student.

Thank you for your anticipated assistance

Happy Birthday to students who are celebrating their birthdays today and next week.

**Lily Brett, Chelsea Jones, Alex Kotsopoulos
& Najib Matar**

PRIMARY ETHICS 2015

This year at Figtree Heights there will be Ethics Classes for Kindergarten, and for the first time, Years 1 & 2 and Years 5 & 6! There are 3 dedicated volunteers who will run the Ethics Classes in Stage groups during SRE time. There are notes available at the front office if you are interested in your child undertaking Primary Ethics classes.

It would be fantastic to be able to offer Years 3 & 4 an Ethics class but first we need 1 more person who is willing to volunteer their time to teach the class. Parents, Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles and carers, if you are interested in engaging with young people about ethical issues, and have an hour free every Wednesday, please email me at figtreeheightspsethics@outlook.com to find out how to become an Ethics Teacher.
Amanda Bowen

Canteen News

If you are able to assist please return a volunteer slip to school ASAP. Volunteer notes are attached to this newsletter.

Volunteers needed for the following days:

1st and 4th Monday of the month 9.30am – 2.30pm

2nd & 5th Wednesday of the month 9.30am – 2.30pm

5th Friday of the month 9.30am – 2.30pm

Volunteers are also needed for the 'emergency' roster, where volunteers are available on short notice to work in the canteen particularly at lunchtime.

The canteen is moving towards a 'fresh taste' canteen. We need volunteers to help with food preparation. If you would like to help in this capacity please contact Christina Bonacina: phone: 0407895515 or email: christina_bonacina@yahoo.com.au

The canteen is not operating (yet) for 2015. A note will go out when it will commence. The time will depend on when a committee is formed and when the volunteer roster is filled.

***Thank you for your patience
and please consider volunteering,
our students really appreciate your help!***



Lost Property

The lost property box is overflowing with plastic ware, school clothing, swimming carnival left-overs etc.. Due to health reasons items will be disposed of at the end of next week so please take a look if you have lost anything.

We love returning lost items to student so please remember to label
EVERYTHING!

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

The Community Noticeboard is located outside near the office and is used to advertise local sporting groups and community groups who offer services to our students and families.

School Uniform Information

Our school uniform supplies are now available from Lowes at Westfield Figtree. There is still a small amount of new uniforms available from the schools uniform shop. Parents are welcome to purchase these. Second hand uniforms are for sale by way of self-serve. Parents can request the key to the uniform storeroom from the office; they then select garments and bring them to the office to pay. Please assist this process by keeping the stock tidy.

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**Dr. Khanh Diep
Dr. Vinh Nguyen**

**Dr. Catherine Pham
Dr. Sudhendra Prabhu**

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

Volunteering for the school canteen in 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

The P&C Canteen Committee are asking for volunteers to help in our canteen. The roster will commence from February 2015 and will run until December 2015.

The canteen hours are as follows:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am to 2:30pm (approx)

Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00pm to 2:00pm.

No experience is necessary for canteen duty. Just a day a month of your time is needed to deliver this service to our children and teachers. Mums, dads, carers, aunts, uncles and grandparents are most welcome to volunteer. Please feel free to bring your younger children as they usually enjoy playing with the school children at recess and lunchtime.

The more volunteers we have the less frequent your roster days will be, so please consider adding one canteen day a month to your calendar. Without parent help it would be impossible to give our children this service. If it is difficult for you to commit yourself on a regular basis, please consider; a few hours on our busiest days eg. Friday or baking pikelets/muffins or as an emergency contact for the odd day that needs filling.

Please fill in the form below indicating your first and second preference and send it back to the office as soon as possible.

The P & C Canteen Committee greatly appreciates all those volunteering their services for the year.

Thank you

✂

2015 Canteen Duty

Volunteer's Name: _____ Email address: _____

Contact Ph: (H) _____ (M) _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____ Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

I would like to help in the canteen on the following day(s) each month. Please indicate.

Week of the month	Monday 9.00 – 2.30	Tuesday 1.00 – 2.00	Wednesday 9.00 – 2.30	Thursday 1.00 – 2.00	Friday 9.00 – 2.30
Week 1					
Week 2					
Week 3					
Week 4					
Week 5 (2-3 days per year)					

OR

☐ On Monday/ Wednesday or Friday, I can do some baking or spare a few hours in the Canteen:
Day(s) & Time Available: _____

☐ I would like to be placed as an Emergency contact: Day(s) Available: _____

☐ I would like to be rostered on canteen with: _____

☐ I would like to be rostered on canteen on the same day as in 2014: (existing volunteers)

