



FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Term I Friday 30th January 2015

Message from the Principal

Once again, welcome back to what I know will be another sensational year at Figtree Heights Public School. A very warm welcome to all our new students and families, we hope you have found your feet and enjoy being part of the Figtree Heights family as much as we do. We have another big term ahead of us so please make sure you keep an eye out for the term planner, available soon, with all those essential dates.

2015 Classing Arrangements

Students have transitioned exceptionally well into their new classes. The positive vibe around the school is a welcome addition to the new year. Although we were somewhat hindered by Department staffing decisions in the last few weeks of 2014 and could not announce teachers, the general feedback I have received regarding students finding out the cohort they would be with in 2015 was positive. Our aim was to support student's needs and ease the stress many children feel before the start of a new year. The students at Figtree Heights are always our first priority.

Swimming Carnival

The 2015 School Swimming Carnival will be taking place on **Tuesday, 10th February** at Unanderra Pool. The carnival will run from **12pm - 3pm**. At the Sports Captain Nominations a Swimming Carnival permission note was handed out, accompanied by a parent helper request note. If you are able to help out, even if it is only for an hour, it would be greatly appreciated. We could not run these carnivals without the ongoing support of our school community.

Textbook Sale Day

On Tuesday, February 17th we are having our annual Book Seller Day. Class Teachers will be in contact with families shortly to notify costs of textbooks and online resources. If all money could be handed into class teachers by this date it would be greatly appreciated.

Parent Online Payment System

The PoP system is here!! We will be rolling out this exciting addition to our payment options to make it easier for busy families to pay for student's school resources, events and equipment. The roll out date for this system is in Week 4. An information booklet will be distributed to allow for easy payment and set up.

Parent Information Nights

Next week, teachers will be sending out notifications of their upcoming information nights. As always, teachers try to accommodate for all families and work commitments, aiming to give the most sufficient notice possible. As you can appreciate, these information sessions need to occur in the first few weeks of school to ensure the year starts smoothly, so ample notice is not always possible. We again, thank you for your continued support in attending these meetings and shuffling your family commitments to attend.

P&C in 2015

The first P&C Meeting for 2015 will be held on **Wednesday evening, February 18th** starting at 6:30pm. Meetings will continue to be held in Sarah Thurston's room and child minding facilities will once again be available. Please note this meeting is *not* the Annual General Meeting. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 11th March (Week 7). At this meeting all Executive positions will become vacant and a new Executive Team will be elected. Returning Executive members are still eligible to run for positions and new nominations are very welcome. If you are interested, or know of someone who may be interested in an Executive position please contact me on skye.hayward1@det.nsw.edu.au or leave a message at the front office. Please do not assume all current Executive members will be running in the 2015 year, as this may not be the case.

Warm regards
Skye Hayward

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SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

What's Happening at the Heights?

Week Beginning 2/2

Tuesday 3 Feb

Mr Soccer. Whole school activity. No cost

Hot Shot Tennis. Whole school activity. No cost

School Uniform Update

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.

Band and Guitar Groups in 2015

Students from last year's performing groups have already been given information about lessons and rehearsals starting next week.

Earlier this week I sent home some expression of interest notes to other students who were interested in learning an instrument.

I have received a number of replies, particularly from students wishing to learn guitar. We have secured the services of a guitar tutor this year and I will be in touch with those parents early next week.

I do need any other notes returned to the office no later than Monday next week so we can get lesson times and instruments sorted.

Feel free to contact me on 0408271107 if you have any questions. Leave a message on my phone and I will get back to you.

Thank you
Greg Costello
Coordinator

Textbook selling day



Head-up for 2015!

Figtree Heights will be holding its textbook selling day on Tuesday 17th February 2015.

Textbooks are an essential part of classroom lessons and all students will be required to purchase books.

Cost of class textbooks will be sent out shortly.

Payment can be brought in on selling day. Thank you for your anticipated assistance



COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Lachlan Anderson, Kaylen Craft, Noah Grant, Isaac Maris, Clay Baldock, Morgan Davey, Piper Godfrey, Chase Grant, and Eliza Harvey

Canteen Committee

At the conclusion of 2014 a number of our long-serving canteen committee members decided it was time to hang up the aprons and pass the spatula on....

A very big thank you, on behalf of the Figtree Heights Community to **Elisa Stevanovski, Tracy Chichkan** and **Amanda Taylor** who have worked tireless hours, both inside and outside of our school canteen. They volunteered their time doing rosters, finances, ordering and helped to organise the general day to day running of this service for our children. We thank you for your time and effort in these roles and we hope to still see you around the school and maybe back in the canteen one day.

Due to these wonderful ladies stepping down, we are in need of a number of new faces to our canteen team. If you are interested in one of these roles, or even sharing a role with a friend, please contact the school. Even if you would like to just be on the roster and not take up a 'specific' role, please let us know.

A Canteen Committee Meeting will be held in the coming weeks to determine a way forward with the Fresh Taste Menu. Please remember without volunteers our canteen cannot operate.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Canteen News

If you are able to assist please in the Volunteer slip attached and return it to school ASAP.

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.



WESTS ILLAWARRA HOCKEY CLUB.

Ages 5-15 Boys and Girls welcome.

All enquires address to

juniors@westsillawarrahockey.com.au

Or contact David on 0437578963.

Players can register online at

www.westsillawarrahockey.com.au

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.

These advertisers support us, please support them:

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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

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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)**



Our annual school swimming carnival will be held on:

The cost will be \$8 for any student attending, whether as a competitor or a spectator. All students who are turning 8 this year are encouraged to attend the carnival, however, it is not compulsory. If a student does not wish to participate at the carnival they are encouraged to attend the carnival as spectators and cheer squad.

Please note there will be a code of conduct for students coming as spectators. If they wish to attend, but not compete, they **AT NO TIME** can enter the pool. They are at the carnival for cheering, helping and spectating only.

11.30am: Bus departs School

12pm: 100m Freestyle races (attached is a proposed timetable)

3pm: Students return to School. *Please note: Due to this carnival being in the afternoon if your child catches the bus home from school, alternate arrangements will need to be made by you as the students will not be returning to school until 3.15pm.*

What to Wear: Sports uniform - house colour T-shirt, hat and sunscreen.
House Colours- Kembla - Green Nebo - Red
Keira - Blue

What to Bring:

- Swimming costume
- Towel
- Goggles & swimming cap (if required)
- Food & drink for the day
- Sunscreen

Parents are encouraged to come and watch the carnival.

Please complete the permission slip on the next page and return it to school ASAP

Please fill out the permission note below, taking particular note of SPECTATOR and SWIMMING sections

Bus Permission Slip (everyone to sign)

I give permission for my child..... Class:..... to travel by bus to Western Suburbs Pool, Unanderra on Tuesday 10th February.

Signed..... Date:.....

Competitor Permission Slip (only competitors)

I give permission for my child..... Class:..... to compete in the Figtree Heights Public School Swimming Carnival at Western Suburbs Pool, Unanderra on Tuesday 10th February.

I acknowledge they can swim the distance of the events they have selected

Signed..... Date:.....

Spectator Permission Slip (only spectators)

I give permission for my child..... Class:..... to attend the Figtree Heights Public School Swimming Carnival at Western Suburbs Pool, Unanderra on Tuesday 10th February as a SPECTATOR only.

I understand that their role is as a spectator and I have explained to my child they must not enter the pool at any time during the carnival.

Signed..... Date:.....

Please highlight the events your child wishes to enter.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Age they are turning this year:

Before deciding on which events to enter please make sure your child is able to complete the distance.

OPEN EVENTS

(All competitors swim against each other regardless of age)

200M Freestyle

Junior Events (turning 8, 9 or 10 years old THIS YEAR)

200M Individual Medley

100M Freestyle

50M Backstroke

50M Breaststroke

50M Butterfly

Senior Events (turning 11, 12 or 13 years old THIS YEAR)

200M Individual Medley

100M Freestyle

50M Backstroke

50M Breaststroke

50M Butterfly

Age Events

50M Freestyle

TOTAL NUMBER OF EVENTS: _____

Please note if on the day your child wishes to withdraw from an event he/she may do so although it is not encouraged.



Figtree Heights Public School

Heights of Excellence

PARENT HELPERS FOR SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2015

Once again we are calling on parents to help at our Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 10th February, 2015 at Western Suburbs Swimming Pool. The carnival will run 12-3pm. Parents will need to be at the pool by 11:45 to ensure we are ready for the first race at 12pm.

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU CAN HELP

Please indicate below if you can be of assistance by numbering your first choice as 1, then 2, etc.

I am willing to assist in the following capacity.

- ☐ Time Keeper
- ☐ Place Judge
- ☐ Starter
- ☐ Swim Safety (Rescue qualifications essential)

Name: _____

Thank you, we appreciate your help.

Skye Hayward

Principal

Please return a.s.a.p.

Swimming Carnival Program

Following is an estimated Program of events for our School Swimming Carnival. (Please note these are ONLY ESTIMATED times)

Time	Event
12.10pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPEN Boys 100M Freestyle • OPEN Girls 100M Freestyle
12.25pm	<u>Age Freestyle Races</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8yrs Boys 50M Freestyle, 8yrs Girls 50M Freestyle • 9yrs Boys 50M Freestyle, 9yrs Girls 50M Freestyle • 10yrs Boys 50M Freestyle, 10yrs Girls 50M Free • 11yrs Boys 50M Freestyle, 11yrs Girls 50M Free • 12yrs Boys 50M Freestyle, 12yrs Girls 50M Free
1pm	<u>Breastroke</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jnr Boys 50M Breaststroke, Jnr Girls 50M Breaststroke • 11yrs Boys 50M Breaststroke, 11yrs Girls 50M Breaststroke • Snr Boys 50M Breaststroke, Snr Girls 50M Breaststroke
1.20pm	<u>Backstroke</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jnr Boys 50M Backstroke, Jnr Girls 50M Backstroke • 11yrs Boys 50M Backstroke, 11yrs Girls 50M Backstroke • Snr Boys 50M Backstroke, Snr Girls 50M Backstroke
1.45pm	<u>Butterfly</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jnr Boys 50M Butterfly, Jnr Girls 50M Butterfly • 11yrs Boys 50M Butterfly, 11yrs Girls 50M Butterfly • Snr Boys 50M Butterfly, Snr Girls 50M Butterfly
2.15pm	<u>Individual Medley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPEN Boys 200M I.M • OPEN Girls 200M I.M.
2.35pm	<u>Relays</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jnr Mixed 4x50M Freestyle • Snr Mixed 4x50M Freestyle

Estimated finish and return to school - 3pm