



FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Term 1 Friday 13th March 2015

Heights of Excellence

Congratulations to all our elected student leaders. Yesterday's Leadership Induction Ceremony was a very proud moment for Figtree Heights and our community. The Figtree Heights students look up to our leaders, not only as role models but as a team of fellow students that can make a difference to our school. With these leadership positions comes responsibility, and I know each and every student who took the leadership pledge, will lead our school with pride and dignity. Thank you to all the parents who were there to support our students.

P&C Annual General Meeting

On Wednesday evening, the AGM was conducted and all positions on the Figtree Heights P&C were declared vacant. After 3 years in the President's role, Steve Hailstone stepped down. On behalf of Figtree Heights students, parent body and staff, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Steve for his passion, dedication and commitment to our school and P&C Association. It has been Steve's vision, guidance and love of Figtree Heights that have significantly contributed to where the P&C and school are today. Without Steve's leadership, many fundraising activities would not have occurred; meetings would not be bursting at the seams with new members and over \$40,000 would not have been poured back into your children's education or experiences. Thank you does not seem to be enough! In happier news, it is with great pleasure that I announce our new P&C President, Stuart Wilkinson. Congratulations, Stuart, we are very excited to welcome you to the team. We look forward to working with you to continue our plight towards the "Heights of Excellence"!

Cross Country

Our school Cross Country Carnival will be held this coming Wednesday, 18 March at Figtree High School. Students are to be dropped at Figtree High School (O'Briens Road gate) from 8:30am when teachers will be available for supervision. The carnival will begin at 9am. In the event of wet weather a phone app notification, Facebook post and radio announcement (i98 and Wave FM) will be made informing families of the status of the carnival. **PLEASE CHECK THESE FORUMS** if you are unsure.

Sport in Schools Australia

Going home with students today is a wonderful opportunity for Figtree Heights Public School. In Term 2, Sport in Schools Australia will be visiting our school every Tuesday. The Personal Development, Health and Physical Education program will be delivered by trained teachers and follows the NSW Curriculum. The state of the art equipment and resources that come with this experience are second to none and both teachers and students are looking forward to participating in the program. Students will be encouraged to wear their sports uniform every Tuesday.

Front Office

The front foyer area is undergoing a makeover as we speak. The painting is currently being completed, ready for our 'Figtree' and super star wall of fame. Over the next few weeks pop your head into the office and take a look.

Community Noticeboard

As well as having a community noticeboard outside the front office, if you have any important reminders please send the information to our school email address to be included in the school newsletter. Often the school will also include information in this newsletter regarding opportunities for our students. Please keep your eyes peeled for these advertisements.

School Uniform

Our school takes pride in the Figtree Heights uniform and we encourage our students to wear full school uniform every day. We understand that children are continually growing and purchasing brand new school uniforms every few months can be costly. Please remember we still run a uniform pool here at school which offers great quality second hand uniforms at a very reasonable price.

Family Details

It is essential the school is kept up to date with current family details. All Public Schools in NSW are funded using a handful of indexes, one of which is the FOEI (Family Occupation and Education Index). The FOEI provides the DEC with information on the socio-economic background of our families. To ensure our funding is correct, it is imperative that if circumstances in a family change, the school is notified. We thank you for assistance in this matter.

Warm regards Skye Hayward

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

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

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

What's Happening at the Heights?

Week Beginning 16/3

Mon 16

Book Club closes

K & Yr 1 Pet education program

Wed 18

Cross Country

NO LUCH ORDERS at canteen today, snacks only

Thurs 19

Vision Screening for Kindies

Debating Camp

Stage 3 Minnamurra excursion

Fri 20

Yrs. 2-4 Nan Tien Temple excursion

Infants Campout

Week Beginning 23/3

Super Stars!

In very exciting news we have our very first **BRONZE** Super Stars this week! Congratulations to the following students:

3/4P

**Jaime Kiley
Abigail Jones
Zali O'Brien
Lara Limbrick**

Way to go ladies! Congratulations, we will see you at "Super Star Wednesday"

Let's get EGGcited

Don't forget to bring in items for your Easter Hat! We are also still taking donations for our Easter Basket Raffle. If you can spare any eggs, please donate them to the school.



If you would like to bring your supplies in early, please make sure they are in a bag, labelled with your name and class.

Happy Hunting!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Blake McKay who is off to NSW PSSA Swimming in Homebush. Blake will be competing in two events, 50m Butterfly and 50m Backstroke. All the best, Blake!

A big congratulations to Breanna Luke, who was selected as part of the Southern Stars Dance Troupe. We wish you all the best, Bree. We cannot wait to see you perform!



Infants Camp Out

A few quick reminders for the upcoming Infants Camp Out being held on **Friday 20th March, 2015.**

- Please **DO NOT** pay for the camp out via the PoP system or by cheque as our committee are using that money to purchase goods and cannot use cheques to buy food and supplies from Coles or other local businesses.
- The \$10 family fee does not include pizza. Pizza is sold separately for \$1.50 per slice.
- Reminder that this event is alcohol free, there are no exceptions.
- Set up of tents can occur from 2pm, however, no cars are to be on the back play area until 3:30pm. Pack up will be on Saturday 21/3 at 8:30am
- This event is run by a wonderful volunteer committee; any help that can be provided over the course of this event is greatly appreciated.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Joe Cooper, Ebony Pascoe & Liam Walter

Important Notice

We have had one confirmed case of 'School Sores' or Impetigo. If your child is presenting with any symptoms they cannot attend school until they have clearance from a doctor.

SPARE TENNIS BALLS

Calling for assistance from all families! Our gardens are eating our tennis balls and no matter how many we buy, it never seems to be enough... If you have any spare tennis balls at home could you please donate them to our tennis program. Thank you from the students!

Payment Reminders:

- **Reading Eggs** – all years \$17. Due now.
POP Description: Reading Eggs
 - **Nan Tien Temple** Yrs. 2-4 \$20 Due now.
POP Description: Nan Tien Temple
 - **ICAS competition** cost as per note.
POP Description: ICAS Spelling, ICAS Maths etc
 - **Minnamurra Rainforest** Yrs. 5 & 6 \$21. Due now. POP Description: Rainforest.
 - **Choir T-Shirt and participation payment – Yrs 2-4** cost \$35 POP Description:
 - **Infants Campout** (cash please) Infants and selected senior helpers.
- Please note: payments do not have to be done by POP. Cash and cheques can be sent into school.*
- Please DO NOT pay for textbooks, Paul Kelly Cup or Infants Campout by POP*

Primary Ethics

We have had a great start to the new school year with 3 ethics classes running at Figtree Heights, catering for Kindergarten, Years 1, 2, 5 & 6.

We also have a group of Year 3 & 4 students ready to start a Stage 2 Ethics class, but we are still looking for a teacher.

If you are, or know of a Parent/ Caregiver, Aunt, Uncle or Grandparent, who might be interested in teaching Ethics please contact me to find out more about the role and how you can apply.

figtreeheightspsethics@outlook.com

Amanda Bowen
Ethics Co-ordinator

Get Your Figtree Heights Newsletter....by email!

Last year our newsletter went paperless. Please be reminded: To receive newsletters by email send your email address to figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and we will add you to our mailing list. The newsletter can also be viewed on the school app.

New Kindergarten parents please send in your email address. Your paper newsletter will cease at the end of Term 1 unless you notify the office otherwise. Thanks!

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.

Canteen Roster

The canteen is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for recess and lunch orders.
Tuesday and Thursdays snacks at lunchtime only.

Mon 16/3	Mae Roberts & Ali McKenzie
Tues 17/3	Leesa Radic, Angela Godfrey & Nicky Lawler
Wed 18/3	SNACKS ONLY TODAY – NO LUNCH ORDERS Atared Latif & Sonia Latif
Thur 19/3	Pat Gibson & Shari Fox
Fri 20/3	Caro Simons, Gill Newton, Kerry Hatchman & Amanda Batchelor

LIFELINE BIG BOOK FAIR Family Day Saturday 21 March 2015 from 12pm – 5pm

Reading is not only great for your education, it is also valuable for your wellbeing and helps children build relationships with those they read with. To encourage as much reading as possible, we would like to offer you 20% off your purchase when you visit the Book Fair between 12pm and 5pm on Saturday 21 March 2015. WOW!

Write the name of your school here.

Illawarra Sports Stadium, Hooka Creek Road, Berkeley. Entry by gold coin donation and eftpos is available. For more information, visit www.lifelinesouthcoast.org.au/events. Voucher MUST be presented at the event to receive the discount

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Saturday
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Sport in Schools

In Term 2 we have taken the opportunity to implement a specialised Sport/PD/H/PE program here at Figtree Heights. This program will run every **Tuesday** for students K-6 and be delivered by a company called 'Sport in Schools Australia'.

At the end of 2014, students had an opportunity to try this program and there was an **overwhelming (100%)** response from students and staff to trial this program for a term. To gain parent support, this program was then introduced at a P&C Meeting where it was unanimously supported for a one term trial. *This program will replace the 'Dance2bfit', 'Gym Sports' and 'AFL' we have previously offered.*

Attached is a flyer explaining more about this program.

Details:

What:	Sport in Schools Australia
When:	Every Tuesday in Term 2 (10 weeks)
Cost:	\$45 per student (Family discount applies for families with 3 or more children at FHPS, please see office)
Uniform:	Students are to wear sports uniform every Tuesday
PoP Reference:	Sport in Schools

Payment due: Tuesday 9 June, 2015

Sport in Schools Permission Note

I _____ (parent) give permission for my child _____
in class _____ to be part of the Sport in Schools Program.

☐ I have enclosed \$45 in an envelope

☐ I have paid \$45 via PoP with reference number _____

FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

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SPORT IN SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA provider programs promote:

- > Physical Education
- > Games and Sport
- > Fitness & Boot Camp Days
- > Health & Safety Presentations
- > Team Building
- > Co-operative & Interactive Learning
- > Social Skill Development
- > Gross Motor Skill Development
- > Fundamental Motor Skill Development

What is SPORT IN SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA?

Sport in Schools Australia provides primary schools with the opportunity to implement a specialised Sport/PD/H/PE program at their school. This creates the opportunity for students to be exposed to specialists PD/H/PE and sports teachers throughout the program. Our program also aims to achieve the development of the skills base, links, progressions and knowledge of K-6 students in this area of the syllabus as additional preparation prior to their commencement of secondary school PD/H/PE.

There is also research data suggesting there is a number of correlated learning benefits for children who are leading an active lifestyle and being involved in regular physical activity as well as the associated health benefits.

Students gain the opportunity to utilise a diverse range of resources in this area of the curriculum that schools can not provide. Our unique and innovative resources are specifically tailored to the development of a wide and varied range of skills that can be implemented across a range of sporting activities and also directly relate to the K-6 age group.

The program is delivered in an environment that is conducive to young people gaining positive attitudes towards physical activity and exercise.

It is an innovative program designed to encourage students towards enjoying a positive, active, healthy lifestyle.

How is it organised?

The program is delivered in a range of complex stations that provide a wide and varied range of resources that are designed to inspire, motivate and excite students into optimal engagement throughout each weekly session. The result is an EXCITING carnival type atmosphere for all students.

Equipment

Sport in Schools has arguably the largest and most specialised range of physical education equipment within Australia. Our resources are imported from around the world and contain the latest innovations, concepts and trends to educate and develop students in this area of the curriculum and also inspire regular physical activity and exercise.

Our staff

Our organisation contains a diverse range of expertise with majority of our staff 4 year trained PD/H/PE teachers. Our teachers not only have the expertise and qualifications in this specialised area of education but are also highly motivated and value this important area of student education and teaching within the primary curriculum.

