



FIGTREE HEIGHTS

PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Term I Friday 6th March 2015

Heights of Excellence

Our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Excellence, Fairness and Care are an integral part of life at Figtree Heights Public School. In our quest towards the "Heights of Excellence" it is essential we explicitly teach our students what these values mean and what they look like in real life. Over the next fortnight our school will be focussing on the school value **RESPECT**. Teachers will be explicitly teaching our students this value and would love for this to be mirrored in their home life. Although respect is something that, as members of society we expect, it is important that we actually teach our students what it means to be respectful. Having the same focus at home and school will ensure our children know we are working in partnership to help them be their best self.

School Hours

A gentle reminder that school time is 8:30am – 3pm. Before 8:30am there is no supervision for students. We understand that due to work commitments, sometimes you may need to drop your child off early (never before 8am); however, you need to be aware that staff are not on duty until 8:30am. If you need to drop off your child before 8:30am please make sure you notify the office and instruct your child to sit on the green seats until the 8:30am bell. OOSH is currently looking into before-school care, however, this is a work in progress and not available yet. If you are interested in this before-school service please let the office know. If it is not a viable option for our families it may not go ahead. It is also imperative to inform the front office if you are unable to make arrangements to pick up your child at 3pm. If you are running late please let the school know so we can make suitable arrangements. If no arrangements have been made, students will need to be placed into OOSH at a cost to the family. We thank you for your continued support in these matters.

Morning Assemblies

If you have been to school in the past week you would have noticed slight changes to the seating arrangements at morning assemblies. We have placed silver seats at the perimeter of the COLA for parents to sit during morning assembly and other whole school events. The seating has been removed from the front of the assembly area to make a stage for our students to stand without intruding on parents and toddlers. If you could please leave the front stage area of the COLA for teachers and students only it would be greatly appreciated.

School Clashes

As the school year gets busier it is inevitable that we find some school and department events clash. We always endeavour to prevent these clashes; however, sometimes it cannot be avoided. In all circumstances we will try and make an alternate arrangement, but it is not always possible.

Allergy Awareness

It is impossible for any school to claim to be 'nut free' or make a direction for families and students to refrain from bringing nuts and nut products to school. However, we all must be aware that here at Figtree Heights, we DO have students who have life threatening reactions to nuts and nut products. If your child is bringing nuts to school please ensure they are aware of the steps they should take to ensure they do not expose other children to these products (safe disposing of rubbish, washing hands and mouth thoroughly, storage of lunchbox etc.) We do not want to see any child put at an unnecessary risk.

3D Printer Immersion Day and BYOD

Many of our Year 5 and 6 students had a wonderful opportunity yesterday to be involved in either a 3D printer immersion day or BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) day. Students in the 3D printing room designed, manipulated and now have a 3D printing project in the works. The students in 5/6C had the opportunity to bring their own electronic device to school and create an array of incredible projects utilising this technology. We cannot wait to share some of the creations from both these days.

Tell Them From Me Survey

Last week a survey permission note went home to all families with students in years 4, 5 and 6. The focus of the Tell Them From Me survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

www.figtreeheights-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Warm regards, Skye Hayward

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SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

What's Happening at the Heights?

Week Beginning 9/3

Wed 11

Paul Kelly Cup
Circus Visit

Thurs 12

Leadership Induction Ceremony

Fri 13

Stage 3 Debating workshop in the hall

Week Beginning 16/3

Mon 16

Book Club closes
K & Yr 1 Pet education program

Wed 18

Cross Country

Thurs 19

Vision Screening for Kindies
Debating Camp
Stage 3 Minnamurra excursion

Fri 20

Yrs. 2-4 Nan Tien Temple excursion
Infants Campout

Let's get EGGcited

Easter is quickly approaching and so is our annual Hat Parade! Over the next couple of weeks, we suggest that you start collecting items to use for your Easter Hat.

We will be decorating our hats at school on
Tuesday, March 31st.

The Easter Hat parade is on **Thursday 2nd April from 9:30am.**

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



Don't forget we are still looking for chocolate donations for our Easter raffle Baskets.

Happy hunting
Figtree Heights!

BOJ

Many of the children remember that our very own Ziggy Badans, in Year 5, plays the lead character in the cartoon series Boj. The Boj show is coming to an end and may not be available on free to air TV much longer. If you would like to continue to watch Boj and hear a FHPS student in his element, BOJ can be viewed on iVew or you can find more information on the BOJ website.



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.

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

Jacob Chichkan & Kaide Pratt

Reminder

- Yr 6 to Yr 7 High School Expression of Interest forms must be completed and returned to school by 10th March.

Even if students are not enrolling in a government high school forms must be completed and returned to school.

Thank you for your assistance

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

- Debating Team \$35** selected students. Due now. **POP Description:** Debating

- 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.

- Paul Kelly Cup** selected Stage 3 students \$2 (cash please). Due now

- 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

POP (Parent Online Payment) system has arrived!

- An information / instruction booklet has been sent out. Please read carefully and contact the school office if you are unsure of how to process your online payments. Spare books are available from the office.

- Please remember it is for school activities only- not P&C, uniforms, fundraisers or canteen business.

- If you make a mistake in your payment please contact the school the same day (if possible) as we have a small window of opportunity to VOID a payment.

- Student permission notes MUST still need to be completed and sent to the class teacher.

- All permission notes that require payment will have a '**Payment Description**' name on them. This name **MUST** be typed into the **Payment Description** box on the online **Payment Details** page. For the ICAS competitions (Yrs. 3-6 students) you **MUST** itemise each comp you are entering e.g. SPELLING \$11, English \$8 etc.

- Thank you for your assistance and please do not hesitate in asking at the office if you have any questions.

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 Monday 9/3 – Friday 13/3

Mon 9/3	Christine Bonacina & Simone Pratt
Tues 10/3	Karen Craft, Fiona Maris & Judy Warren
Wed 11/3	Hanna Bonacina & Jasmine Legge
Thur 12/3	Louise Christensen & Gerty Pelekanos
Fri 12/3	Belinda Monkman & Alix Murphy

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