



FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Skye Hayward

respect, responsibility, care, integrity, excellence, fairness

Term 3 Friday 11th September, 2015

SCHOOL INFORMATION & EVENTS

What's Happening at the Heights?

TERM 3	
14 th September – 17 th September Junior Music Camp	
14 th Sept	Regional Spelling Bee Finals Japan Day K/1E & 1T
18 th Sept	Last day Term 3 Colourful Run & BBQ
TERM 4	
6 th Oct	First day for teachers & students
7 th Oct	2016 Kinder Orientation Night
12 th October – 23 rd Oct School swimming scheme program	
12 th Oct	Yrs 2, 3 & 4 Science Centre Excursion
14 th Oct	2016 Kinder Orientation session 2
19 th Oct	2016 Kinder Orientation session 3
28 th October – 30 th October Scholastic Book Fair	
22 nd Oct	Grandparents Day Yrs 3-6 First Aid Course
28 th Oct	P&C Meeting @ 6:30pm
29 th Oct	Talent Quest Night Kinder Orientation session 4
3 rd Nov	Band rehearsal @ Helensburgh
5 th Nov	Guitar Ensemble in Hall
9 th /10 th Nov	Stage 2 Camp Stanwell Tops
18 th Nov	Instrumental Festival @ Figtree High
15 th Dec	Presentation Day @ Figtree High

Please make sure you check this section of the calendar for important dates.

Payments Due:

- * Science Centre excursion Yrs 2, 3 & 4 POP description: Science Centre. \$15
- * Stanwell Tops camp Yrs 3 & 4. Cost \$168

Earn & Learn Promotion

Our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school.

We're now at the important stage of the promotion where the sticker sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week, please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn sticker sheets and any loose Earn & Learn stickers you may have by **Monday 14th September**. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they may be stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps. Thanks again for all your support!

Year 6 Fundraiser - McDonalds Figtree THIS coming TUESDAY

Show your support by dropping in to McDonalds Figtree between **5pm and 7pm** for dinner or even a snack at McCafe. 15% of all money spent is given directly back to the school. Let's show our support!

K-1 Japan day Monday 14th September

To celebrate the end of our Term 3 unit students in K/1E and 1T are reminded to come dressed in a Japanese outfit or in any red coloured clothing this coming Monday.



RUN WOLLONGONG – Sunday 18th October

This year we will again be entering our school in **RUN Wollongong**. If you are interested in participating in this event please come and see Tessa Baldock, our RUN Wollongong ambassador, at her information booth every morning next week under the COLA.

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

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At Figtree Heights, we strongly believe in community consultation and having open forums to discuss important issues at our school. At the recent P&C Meeting there were discussions regarding school practices and procedures and we had the opportunity to seek feedback from our parent body. Many suggestions were made and discussion about how to better structure some of the current systems at Figtree Heights occurred. After long conversations with staff and groups of parents, Term 4 will see a few changes to streamline our processes here at school. These changes will begin on day one of Term 4 to ensure we have all kinks and issues ironed out, ready for the new school year. To support these changes, and with the help of a 'Community Consultation' grant from the Department of Education, we will be hiring another office administrator, one day a week align many of the procedures necessary to keep parents well informed and to strengthen school and community communication channels.

Changes to Absence notes

From day one, Term 4 all absence notes are to be **directly** handed to the school office, **not the classroom teacher**. There will be a letterbox in the front office that students and parents can slip the absence note into ready for the office ladies to process. This change will ensure all notes are accounted for and all student absentee slips are recorded in a streamline manner. At the end of every week an absentee record will be administered and any student who has not informed the school why they were away, a note, similar to the ones handed out last week, will be issued. This process will ensure reasons for absence are given in a timely manner as per legal and audit requirements.

Changes to Money and Permission Note Procedures

Very similar to the absence notes, a letterbox will be erected in the front office for the collection of money and permission notes. This means there will not be any money or notes given to classroom teachers; instead **students and parents can safely deposit envelopes into the locked letterbox at the front office**. There will be a variety of letterboxes for different events to make counting and sorting easier, but letterboxes will be clearly labelled to ensure there are not mix ups.

Changes to Canteen Ordering

Again, a very similar system to ordering will be used for the canteen, however, the letterboxes will be erected in the canteen, not the front office. Each class will have their own letterbox, clearly labelled and students or parents are to deposit lunch orders in these letterboxes at the school canteen before school.

These changes are to assist students, parents, volunteers, teachers and office staff in the day to day organisational procedures. There will be less disruption to classes, money for events will be in one safe spot, permission and absence notes will be monitored and stored in one location and the canteen volunteers do not have to wait until the baskets arrive from classrooms. We understand there will be some teething issues in the first few weeks of these new procedures, but hopefully it will not take long to streamline this process.

Permission Notes

Another way to further streamline our administration procedures will be introducing a '**permission note day**'. From the start of Term 4, all permission and information notes will be handed out on a **Friday** with the newsletter. This will ensure everyone knows to check their child's bag on a Friday. It also provides the school the opportunity to scan and attach all permission and information notes to the school newsletter or app for those parents who receive an electronic copy. By no means are we asking those families who receive electronic newsletters to print their own notes, it just provides parents with another copy in case the one sent home from school is somehow lost. Another benefit to having a 'permission note day', will be if your child is away on a Friday you know you can come to the front office, or send your child to the office and ask for all notes sent out that week.

As mentioned, these changes will begin on day one, Term 4. We do expect some teething issues but know that in the long run this will be a more effective and streamline system for everyone. We appreciate your patience whilst these changes are being implemented.

World of Wonder

Don't forget if you have an interested learner at home who is keen to think creatively and expand their brain you can head to my webpage for some challenging tasks. figtreeheightspublicschool.weebly.com

Have a great weekend!

Warm regards, **Skye Hayward**

Happy Birthday to students who are celebrating their birthdays
Harry Athanassopoulos, Kobi Hayward, Mauve Hicks, Rohan Hicks,
Samoil Kuzmanovski-Ellsley & Chloe Reh



Super Stars!



Very exciting news, we have new **SILVER** Super Stars this week! Congratulations to the following students:

Ella Cook	Xavier Cooper
Piper Godfrey	Eva Davey
Destiny Coelho-Strat	Brannon Ware
Sharnie Radford	Tyla O'Brien
Anastasia Popovska	Jacob Chickhan

We also have new **GOLD** Super Stars! Congratulations:

Alysha Telenta	Gus Newton
Angelina Petrovskia	Charlotte Neill
Kaylee Monkman	Nathan Mitreski
Emily Rutledge	Ben Parry
William Burns	Zoe Pascoe
Joshua Hailstone	Chelsea Neill
Bryn Fuller	Kyla Nowlan
Oliver Rainford	Kirra Synott
Destiny Coelho-Strat	Kyara Christensen
Poppy Tomczynski	Kavindu Herath
Amahle Masuku	Ellie Reh
Caiden McPherson	

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



Wellbeing Snippet

If you need perfection to be happy with you,
you'll always notice things wrong with what you do.
When you know you're already perfect in every way,
you will see perfection in what you do everyday.

-Cindy Russell-



We are talking about this Wellbeing Snippet in our classes next week. Have a chat to your child about what this snippet means and use real life examples. Empowering our children is a major focus at Figtree Heights Public School and using common language between home and school helps our children make connections in the real world.

Pre-loved Uniform Shop

A huge thank you to **Angie Dennis** for tidying up our pre-loved uniform shop.

Parents are reminded there is still assorted new stock for sale as well as good quality used uniforms.

Parents can self-serve at the shop then bring the items to the office to pay.

www.yourstoryspace.com

Colourful Run BBQ

A reminder that all orders for the Colourful run BBQ need to be in to school by Wednesday 16th September. Any orders after this date cannot be filled as we are ordering the sausages on Wednesday afternoon.



New Books ... Check out these new titles!

Astrosaurus
Wild Rescue
Star Fighters
Clever Lollipop
Terry Deary
Poison Pen
Alien Invaders
Wishbones
Dinosaur Land
Ballroom Bonanza

Billie B Brown - The complete series
Picture Books Illustrated by Quentin Blake
Food Art
Yobbos Do Yoga
Angelina's Halloween
Animal Investigations - Red Eye
The Lilac Ladies
Collins First Book of Myths and Legends
Extreme Rainforest
Leonardo Da Vinci

Available to borrow next week!

Happy Reading! Mrs Thurston

Checkout The Hive's webpage: <http://www.figtreehts-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/classes-fhps/the-hive>

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:** figtreehtsp

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

Smith's Hill High School Gipps Street, Wollongong, 2500 **EXPO NIGHT**

Wednesday 7th October, 2015
6.00 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Smith's Hill High School is a public selective coeducational high school catering for gifted and talented students.

Applications for Year 7 2017 close on November 16th 2015

Year 5 students and their parents may wish to take the opportunity to see the school with a view to applying for admission in 2017. Year 6 students who sat the entrance test for 2016 admission and their parents are invited to attend our Expo to view our facilities and programs. Phone enquiries directed to the school on 42294266.

Next Week's Canteen Roster -Term 3

The canteen is open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for recess and lunch orders.
Snacks are available at lunchtime only on Tuesday and Thursday.

Mon	Alice Zhou & Simone Pratt
Tues	Angelia Godfrey & Nicky Lawler
Wed	Atared Latif & Sonia Latif
Thurs	Shari Fox & Lindsay Sbrinovski
Fri	Gill Newton & Kerry Hatchman

Canteen Volunteers needed.

Canteen volunteers are needed for various Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in Term 4. If you are able to assist contact Christina Bonacina 0407895515.

Your help is greatly appreciated by our students and staff. Without help we may be unable to open on some days so please consider

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A Snapshot of 5/6C...



During our year in 5/6C, we have been doing 'Power Learning Hour'. Power Learning Hour has made all of us become more mindful of what we do. We have talked about heaps but my favourite is Mind Up where we calm our amygdala and ignore everything around us.

I also like the super heroes. Team Reciprico, Innovatrix and Strategex are my favourite. I think I am like them. Year 5 has been my favourite year so far.

- Madilyn Ladmore

This year 5/6C have done amazing things such as going to camp and performing our assembly. We have an awesome teacher.

In Term 1, we went to Minnamurra Rainforest because we were learning about rainforests in HSIE. We loved all of the trees and the waterfall.

Last term, 5/6C went to Canberra. We went to Questacon, New and Old Parliament House and the Institute of Sport.

We have had some teams in Debating and Tournament of Minds and they all have been very successful.

The athletics carnival was my favourite carnival because I came first in the 800m.

- Aleksia Petrovska

This year in 5/6C we have been learning a lot in maths. We've done heaps of things about number. We have learned so many new things.

Here are a few examples of what we have learned:

- volume and capacity
- multiplying and dividing
- data
- fractions
- converting measurement

Year 5 has been one of my favourite years and 5/6C has been my favourite class.

- Matteo Ciarrocca





Every day we do literacy groups. In these groups we have set tasks. Some examples are comprehension cards, Harry Potter book summary, reading with Miss Corcoran, researching a town or city in China and many more tasks.

We are allowed to choose what tasks we want to complete in any order. After we have finished the must do tasks, we can do optional tasks. We are studying Harry Potter and love seeing the differences between the text and film.

- Hunter Griffiths

In science this year we have been learning about changes and reactions. We've looked at chemicals making each other change. For an example, we put mentos in coke and it fizzed up. This is an example of a chemical reaction causing bubbles of gas.

We also learned about what reactions are called. Some reactions can be called physical reactions and some are called chemical.

In HSIE this year, we've learned many things. We did role plays where we passed bills in education.

- Amber Clarke



We do a range of different creative arts activities. Some specific areas are dance, drama and visual arts. In visual arts we have learned about many different clever and artistic people for example, Andy Warhol who created some amazing Pop Art. We also loved doing our portraits. We have made posters and expressed in drawing that mistakes are a part of life.

We learn a lot in PDHPE. In that we have learned how to keep our bodies safe and healthy. We enjoyed visiting Happy Harold this week!

Almost every day we take time out of our precious learning time after recess for about 15 minutes to do fitness. We love it when we do fitness circuits and have teams that compete to get the fastest time.

- Genevieve Krizsan

Please visit our class page on the school website to see more of our amazing learning.