Book week celebrations a hit

Some of our happy “book characters” hanging out in “The Lorax Forest”

Book Week 2015 has been a huge hit so far at Ferny Grove State School. The week kicked off with a dress up day and parade where students could come as their favourite book character. We saw lots of creativity in costumes for students and teachers alike. A big thanks to all of our parents who helped to pull together outfits for this celebration on Monday. The week has continued with Spy day in the library—hundreds of students showed up to follow the clues and solve the mystery! For lots more photos from the parade and the photo booth, head to our Facebook page.
Book Week

The theme of this year’s Book Week is ‘Books Light up Our World’. It was wonderful to see so many students and staff dress up as their favourite book character but there is also a serious message here. Books are the single biggest contributor to children’s’ literacy development but only when they come off the shelves and are read and enjoyed.

It is interesting to note that concentration is widely recognised as one of the biggest challenges for the next generation of young people. They have become so used to rapidly changing images, swiping screens repeatedly and flicking from one web page to another that their capacity to stick at a task for an extended period is being potentially compromised.

We take for granted that we will always have access to quality children’s literature when in fact over 57 million children across the world have no access to school or books. Over 60% of these students are girls and therefore can’t read or write as a result. How lucky we are and how important that we don’t take this access for granted.

Our Library Coordinator Mrs Dunn has planned a range of engaging and interactive activities in our library this week. I have no doubt that students will be all over our library this week and after all isn’t that what we want. I was recently reading an article sent to me by one of our parents. The author’s second to last paragraph stated the following.

‘Parents need to restrict the amount of time children spend on the internet and in front of screens and ensure that children are surrounded by books and spend plenty of time in physical activities.’ Not bad advice really. My challenge to the students for the next week was to turn off the screens, open a book, get outside, challenge the brain and the heart muscle and feel better for it.

Brett Shackleton, Principal

Japanese Students

Twenty–two Japanese students have arrived from Ritsumeikan Uji Junior High School, Kyoto, and we are very happy to be hosting students from this school again this year. Each morning the students will be attending English lessons and every afternoon joining classrooms from Prep to year 6, physical education, music and German lessons. The students have been buddied with our senior leaders as this is a wonderful opportunity for both our students acting as hosts and our Japanese visitors to share their differing cultures, learn and play together. We hope all our visitors enjoy their Ferny Grove experience both at school and with their host families.

Belinda Evans, Deputy Principal
School Support Staff Recognition Week
31 August to 4 September

Next week we are recognising our school support staff and celebrating their contribution to quality education at Ferny Grove State School.

We will take some time to celebrate in various ways next week and recognise all our school support staff which are many here at Ferny Grove...

- **Cleaners x 5** - (George, Irene, Mary, Leeanne & Stephen)
- **Grounds staff x 2** - (John & Tony)
- **Office staff x 4** - (Judy, Desley, Mandy & Dione)
- **Computer Assistant x 1** - (Matt)
- **Community Liaison Officer x 1** - (Vanessa)
- **Business Services Manager x 1** - (Marg)
- **Teacher Aides x 20** - (Bernie, Michelle B, Sonya, Fiona, Leane, Debbie, Liz, Michelle J, Cindy, Denise, Dell, Jacinta, Jan, Robyn, Susan, Danielle, Tracey, Kim, Jessica & Drew)

Our support staff keep our school running and contribute to the daily life of the school – phones are answered, ovals are mowed, gardens are maintained, toilets/classrooms are clean, excursions are organised, computers are networked, bills are paid & communication is up to date.

Our teacher aides provide a wide range of support for students who need assistance to achieve learning outcomes by assisting in classrooms and delivering specific programs.

What would we do without them...

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**Early years news**

**Age Appropriate Pedagogies**
If your child is in Prep R, G or W can you please ensure you return the permission slip for our Age Appropriate Pedagogies project. I am happy to answer any questions you may have about this as are the classroom teachers.

**No Early Years Assembly**
As we held a whole school parade on Monday because of Book Week there will be no Early Years Assembly this Friday the 28th of August. All children who wished to present parade in 3E, 3JM, 3SB and 3R have now presented. At our next Early Years Assembly we will commence with 3P presenters.

*Jacki Schott, A/Deputy Principal*

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**Date Claimers**
- 3 September
  - Father’s Day Stall
- 7-11 September
  - Expressive Arts Week
- 13 September
  - Showcase for Success
  - Parenting Diverse Learners

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**Father’s Day Stall**
The Father’s Day Stall will be held in the Hall on Thursday 3 September, 2015.

All classes will be visiting the stall during the day. All students will have the opportunity to buy something for their Dad, Carer or special someone.

You can send cash (on the day) or pre-purchase a $5 or $10 voucher through Flexischools ([www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)).

Prices range from $2 to $10. Don’t forget to bring a bag to hide your special surprise on the day.

Helpers are also required to assist on the Stall during the day. Please sign up here - [www.volunteersignup.org/BJRPK](http://www.volunteersignup.org/BJRPK)

**Fundraising and Social Team, P & C**
Sports news
It certainly has been a bumper year for Ferny Grove in the field of sport. We have had record numbers of students recognised on parade for representing District and Regional Teams and our congratulations again go to all those students.

We had a wonderful District Track and Field event recently where almost 40 of our students were involved. From that event we now have 9 students represent the North West District at the Regional Carnival this week. Those students are: Sierra Jeh, Zanden Jeh, Kiara Kemp, Hayden Kent, Georgia McCulloch, Braiden Ode, Zachary Webster, Joe Whitney and Isaac Newsome. WELL DONE AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL THOSE ATHLETES!!

A particular thanks should go to all of the students involved in this event and Mrs Reid, Mr Wheeler and Mr Thompson for their dedication to our school by giving the students additional training sessions in the lead up to the District and Regional events.

In addition, we have also had one of our students, Jasmine Cherry represent the Met. North Region at the State Tennis Championships in Cairns. At that event Jasmine did very well achieving an individual medal and the Team itself won the State Championship.

We have also had two students, Zanden Jeh and Georgia McCulloch, representing Met. North Region at the State Touch Championships in Toowoomba.

As you can see Ferny Grove is doing very well in the representative sport arena thanks to our very talented students!

If that is not enough, Interschool Sport commenced last week where we saw for the first time our Year 4 students given the opportunity to participate. All reports thus far indicate a successful season ahead as well as giving many of our students the rare opportunity of experiencing a team sport in a very supportive environment.

Gary Kirby, PE Specialist

STOP PRESS
Congratulations to the Ferny Grove 12 years boys 4 x 100m relay team for winning at the Met Nth Regional Championship yesterday. Great effort Zanden, Hayden, Braiden and Joe!

Chaplaincy news
I am happy to announce some exciting events in the chaplaincy service at Ferny Grove. Here are the details of what you need to know.

Registration for the Hills to Hinterland camp is still available but places are limited. If you are in Grade 5 or 6 and would like to come along for a week of adventure and fun please come and see me at the Chappy Room before and after school or during first break for more information about this fantastic event.

The Chappy Pancake breakfast has been rescheduled and is now in week 9 on Thursday the 10th of September. We will begin serving pancakes and fruit at 7:30am and will serve the last pancake at 8:45am. A gold coin donation is required.

I am also looking for student volunteers in grades 4, 5 and 6 who are willing to come to school early to set up tables and chairs, serve pancakes and fruit, and wash-up the dishes. If you are interested in coming to help out please come and sign up at the Chappy Room.

If you have any questions or queries regarding camp or the chappy breakfast please contact me via email lorindaq@chappy.org.au or call me.

Chappy Lorinda

Expressive arts update
Expressive Arts Week is coming up in week 9. Talent quest heats have been continuing over the past few weeks. A reminder that all visual art entries are due by Monday 31 August. All artwork needs to be taken to Mrs Cash’s room (1/2C) no later than 3.30pm. We are also looking for any parent volunteers who can help to display artwork and class canvasses for Expressive Arts Week - we are setting up on Thursday 3 and Friday 4 September so if you can spare any time please let Vanessa know at vbair4@eq.edu.au.
Instrumental Music News

Expressive Arts Showcase – Thursday 10th September

All instrumental music and choral students will be performing on Thursday 10 September. The evening commences at 7pm and entrance is a gold coin donation per person. Raffle tickets will be available at the door. Tickets are $2 each and 3 for $6. Refreshments will also be available from the canteen before the evening commences.

Children are asked to arrive at 6:15 and move to their warm up area.

Warm Up Areas are as follows:-

- **Choir members**, both Senior and Junior – Stage – enter via the tutorial room door
- **Senior Band** – C4- Ms Green (2G)
- **Strings** – F1 and F2 - Ms Conners (2C) and Mrs Beg(2B)
- **Junior Band** – K Block- Ms Olsen (4O) and Mr Howard (4H)

Senior choir, and all instrumental music students are required to wear their performance uniform – the blue performance shirt, black trousers, black socks and black leather look shoes, no joggers. Long hair is to be tied back with a royal blue ribbon. Junior Choir members, Years 2 and 3 students, wear their school uniform and white socks for their performance. (To save changing Year 3 string students may wear their performance uniform whilst performing in the choir.)

This evening is always a highlight for our school community as our students have been rehearsing for several weeks and enjoy performing for family and friends. For many families this is the first opportunity to enjoy their sons and daughters performing in an ensemble.

Parade Performances

- **Monday 31 August**  Senior Strings ( children to meet at the hall at 8:30am. No uniform required)
- **Friday 4 September**  Junior Choir performing on Early Years Assembly
- **Monday 7 September**  Junior and Senior choir performing on parade (No band uniform required for Senior Choir)
- **Monday 14 September** Junior Band performing (No band uniform required )

Belinda Evans, Deputy Principal

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Donation Stations - Everyone invited to donate no matter which year level you are in - keep an eye out for flyers for each Donation Station. Donations collected at Tuckshop and Uniform/Stationery store (unless otherwise mentioned). Each Donation puts your child in the draw for the Golden Armband at Festival (Free Armband - jump the queue and take a friend!)

- **Week 7 (from 24 August)**  Treasure Trove - Books, good quality toys, CDs and DVDs (Prep)
- **Week 8 (from 31 August)**  Plant Stall & Jar Junction (Yr 4)
- **Week 9 (from 7 September)**  & 10 - Hamper raffles - a theme for each year level - keep your eyes pealed for collection buckets in classrooms!
All classes in Prep to Year 3 prepared a display of a science topic or experiment as part of the Science Fair. These displays were bright, informative and relevant to all visitors throughout the week. From germs to bugs and from walking water to chemical reactions, students displayed their knowledge and enthusiasm with pride.

Excitement and working like a scientist were the main aims behind the all day science experiments on Wednesday. It was plain to see on each child’s face that science is universal in its ability to entertain, engage and electrify.

Other activities included a Science Club excursion to the Ferny Grove duck ponds for collecting and observing wildlife, plants and landscape features. Students drew scientific diagrams, answered quiz questions and won prizes for their efforts. Guest speaker, geologist Stuart Watt also shared his experiences and samples of marine fossils in a special Science Club session.
Library news

*Book Week*

Book Week got off to a great start with our whole school parade on Monday. It was lovely to see so many students and staff getting dressed as their favourite book character. We had lots of characters come to the library at break time to capture their fabulous look. Check out all the photos on the school Facebook page.

Tuesday we had our spy day where students were tasked with solving the mystery of who stole the iPads from the library. First they negotiated the laser beams before searching the library for any clues the thief had left behind. We narrowed it down to 3 prime suspects, Mr Shackleton, Mrs Evans and Mrs Schott. Our very clever detectives cracked the code to get the final clue. With their help we were able to recover all the iPads form the offender Mrs Schott. Our budding detectives can borrow from a big range of mystery/detective books in the school library.

Students had lots of fun making mini books on the deck with Mrs Wilson at first break on Wednesday.

*The Premier’s Reading Challenge*

The Premiers Reading Challenge finishes on Friday, can you please remind your child to bring their completed forms to the library by then.

*The Great Book Swap*

Next week we are holding our book swap where students can bring money to buy books their friends have donated. It’s a great opportunity for your child to get some new books that their friends have enjoyed reading and for only $2 each. All the money goes to buy books for children who live in communities that have very little access to the books we take for granted. Books can be donated up until Monday next week.

*Fathers Day*

Thursday 3 September we will be making Father’s Day gifts on the library deck.

I would like to say a very big thank you to Jane Watkinson who has been an amazing help, without her many of the fun activities we have in the library would not be possible. Lastly I wanted to say how proud I am of my fabulous library monitors who have been helping during book week - you are doing a great job. Thanks.

*Leane Dunn, Library Coordinator*
Special Education news

In conjunction with the Morcombes visit to our school, the SEP hosted a visit from Snr Constable Deb of Ferny Grove Police Station.

Deb guided a discussion with our students around staying safe:

- **Staying safe at school** – always remaining within the school grounds, with your class group or supervising teacher.
- **Staying safe in the community** – React to your body, butterflies in your tummy is a warning sign. Respond to this, run away, scream. Report what happened to someone you trust. We nominated 5 people, one for every finger on our hand, that we could talk to if we needed help.
- **Staying safe in the care** – seatbelts to be worn at all times. Kids in the back seat because airbags are made for adults and can hurt kids more than the accident itself.
- **Staying safe online** - 13 years is the minimum age for most online games and social media like facebook. Play it safe use closed systems.

We each made a card showing our finger print and had the opportunity to have a closer look at Deb’s handcuffs, capsicum spray and Taser.

We found out that not only do the police catch people doing the wrong thing but they are also there to protect us and help us remain safe.

*Stacey Day, Head of Special Education Services (HOSES)*

More Book Week happenings…

**Year 3 author visit**

This week the Year 3’s were fortunate enough to have Brisbane author Janet Reid visit them. She spoke to them about what the job of an author involves, the inspiration for her books and much more. She read the first chapter of one of her books and the children had lots of fun creating a Tiger ring like in her story, ‘Granny Rags’. Twelve selected Year 3 students were also lucky enough to participate in a one hour Writers Workshop with Janet where they learnt about character tags, making your setting sparkle and more! Janet donated a copy of ‘Granny Rags’ to the library and you can find ‘The Ruby Bottle’ in the library also. Many thanks to Janet for volunteering her time to give our Year 3’s a glimpse into the life of an author and sharing some of her top tips – many of the children were quite starstruck and greatly appreciated the experience!

...the Parade continues!

Oh what fun our Whole School assembly was on Monday with the parade of colourful and creative Book Week costumes. Find more great photos on our Facebook page!
SHOWCASE FOR SUCCESS
Parenting Diverse Learners

INFORMATION BOOTHs
Lots of helpful information to help you in parenting and supporting your diverse learner.

WORKSHOPS
- Emotional Resiliency
- Sensory Processing
- Fussy and Picky Eaters
- Impacts of Disability on Family Relationships
- Talking about Puberty
- Education Options
and more

KIDS DAY OUT PROGRAM
Fun Kids Day Out program available. Limited places. Bookings are essential!

Free Entry!
REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL for participation in Workshops

Keynote Speaker: Professor Tony Attwood
Clinical Psychologist and leading expert on Asperger’s syndrome
Making Friends: Strategies to improve social understanding and friendship skills for children with an ASD

Bookings: http://www.ivvy.com/event/O1QKZF/

Sunday 13th September 1 - 5 pm
Ferny Grove State School Hall, Cnr McGinn & Archdale Roads, Ferny Grove
Further Information: showcaseforsuccess@gmail.com
THIS IS A FERNY GROVE STATE SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENT
Defence news

**Deployments**
Dear Families, please make sure you let your Teacher, the Office and DSTA know if you have a member away. We like to ensure all students are supported during what can be a challenging time and allow them the chance to share their experiences with other students going through similar events. Additionally, if you are having difficulties or would like a chat, come in and see us or contact us via phone or email. Your Defence Aides are located in C Block, accessible via the back stairs facing the Years 1/2 playground and families are most welcome to drop by any time for a chat. The lovely ladies at the office can direct you or give us a call if you would like our assistance. Again, please make contact as we are here to help in any way we can.

**Postings**
The hint and likelihood of posting orders are just around the corner, with a few already having an idea of where they will be heading. Remember to let your DSTA and Teacher know if a posting is looming, we can support your student and offer you any information regarding your new destination. While posting can be stressful we can help make it a positive experience for your children.

**Defence Parents Coffee Morning**
All Defence Parents are invited to join us as our guests on Tuesday 1 September to share a real cuppa from our Coffee Cart. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jessica De la Jara & Liz Heddershaw
Defence School Transition Aides
Important Dates
August
28 Success Coffee Morning
September
13 Showcase for Success - 1-5pm Hall
14 FAST Meeting - 7pm Library
16 P & C Meeting - 7pm Library
October
10 FESTIVAL- 3-10pm

Coffee Cart
Special deal for newsletter readers….. this Friday the 28th of August tell us you read the newsletter and recieve $1:50 off your drink. See you Friday.

Stationery & Uniform Store
OPEN MONDAY & FRIDAY 8-10AM, WEDNESDAY 2-5 PM
Madonna Morton, Uniform Convenor
3550 5359 (0409 272 062)
uniformstore@fernygrovepandc.com.au
Charyl Cawles, Stationery Convenor
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)
stationery@fernygrovepandc.com.au

Tuckshop
Did you know about our online ordering system called Flexischools? Register now and order lunch hassle free. We also have EFTPOS facility available at the tuckshop.

Reminder: All hot foods are pre ordered. To avoid missing out, orders MUST be placed before 9:00am.
Only basic sandwiches, snacks and drinks available for late/missed lunches. Prompt payment appreciated
Birthday treats are now available mini muffin and icy pole $1.00.
Term 3 Menu will carry on till Term 4. But check out flexischools for updated specials.
Big thanks to current volunteers and we are always looking for new volunteers. Come and see us!

Liz Mu, Tuckshop Convenor

ENROLMENTS FOR GERMAN IMMERSION FOR 2016

We are in the process of finalising enrolments into the German Immersion program at Ferny Grove SHS for 2016. The German Immersion program at Ferny Grove SHS offers students a great opportunity to become highly proficient in the German language, experience a challenging and fun learning environment and work with other motivated students.

If you are interested and require further information, please contact Mrs Fi Hudghton, Head of Department Languages at Ferny Grove SHS on 3550 5785 or email fhudg1@eq.edu.au. (Staff room phone is 3550 5783)

All expressions of interest forms should be submitted to Ferny Grove SHS as soon as possible to ensure enrolment. The enrolment process involves completion of an expression of interest form and an interview with German Immersion staff prior to acceptance into the program.
Get your family active and eating well

Families in Brisbane North can now sign up for the free healthy lifestyle program called PEACH™ - Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health. Registrations are open for a new group to commence in term 4, 2015.

The program is fun for kids and helps parents and carers make healthy eating and activity a part of every-day life. It is available to families with a child aged between 5-11 years who is above a healthy weight their age and consists of 10 group sessions that run for 90 minutes each.

Topics covered include nutrition skills, reducing screen time and being more active as a family. While the parent sessions are taking place, children enjoy active play with a trained child physical activity facilitator.

What: PEACH (Parenting, Eating and Activity for Child Health) program
When: Term 4, Tues 4-5.30pm (weekly)
Where: Mitchelton State School
Cost: FREE

The program is funded by the Queensland government and being delivered state-wide by the Queensland University of Technology.

If you would like more information about the PEACH™ program or to register please contact free call 1800 263 519 or visit www.peachqld.com.au
**INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH PROJECT**

Parents of children with and without disabilities aged between 6 and 18 years are invited to complete a questionnaire about their parenting experiences. This study will investigate the inter-relationships between parent wellbeing, support, coping, and child behaviour, which are known predictors of positive parenting experiences. The research findings will support the creation of profiles of the parenting experience, which could enhance current disability services such as improved identification of families and children in need of additional supports. This research is being conducted in collaboration by a team of researchers from the University of Queensland and RMIT University.

**How you can help:**

Complete a 30 minute online or paper questionnaire. The online questionnaire can be accessed at [https://goo.gl/HJocGd](https://goo.gl/HJocGd) and the password to access this questionnaire is *profiles*. To request a paper version of the questionnaire, feel free to contact Maria [07 3247 5080, maria.vassos@uq.net.au] or Susana [03 9925 7710, susana.gavidia-payne@rmit.edu.au].

**To thank you for your time and effort:**

Those who participate can go into a raffle to win one of four $100 Coles Myer gift cards!

**If you have any questions:**

Feel free to contact Maria (details above) if you have any queries about this study.

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**Play Softball Over Summer & Have a Massive Dose of Fun**

Want to keep fit and active and play sport over the summer months, meet new friends and have fun, fun, fun? We’re all about enjoying ourselves. Wilston Grange Softball Club is now recruiting for the summer season. We have under 13 mixed teams, an under 15 girls’ team, an under 15 boys’ team and open women’s C1 and B2 teams. If you’ve never played softball before it doesn’t matter, as we’ll get you up to speed quickly. Plus softball is relatively cheap compared to other sports. We play on Saturdays at Downey Park, Windsor, commencing in October 2015 through to March 2016 with a four week break over Christmas. Training is on Wednesday nights at Keith Beavis Oval, Windsor Park, Blackmore Street, Windsor. So come down and have a try out at our first training session on Wednesday 2 September (5:00 pm for juniors up to under 15 and 6:00 pm for seniors) and meet our family friendly committee and some of your potential teammates. See if softball is for you and remember, we cater for all ages and abilities. Everyone is important and receives the coaching and encouragement they deserve.

For more information please contact Julie-ann Williams, Club President, by email wgsc74@gmail.com or mobile 0419 604 001.
Community news

Fun, creative and unique school holiday workshops

The Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts is running DeadlyArts—indigenous culture workshops for primary school aged children this September holidays at its fabulous Kangaroo Point studios. Deadly Arts brings Aboriginal culture to life. DeadlyArts opens children’s minds to a world of holiday dreamtime. Let your child learn first-hand about the inspiring and age-old culture of Australia’s first people. Contact ACPA on 33924420 for further information and bookings, or email admin@acpa.net.au

Deadly Arts

INDIGENOUS CULTURE FOR KIDS

23rd SEPTEMBER 2015
1st OCTOBER
5.30 AM TO 4PM

How to book:
Book on the phone.
Email: admin@acpa.net.au
Call: 07 3392 4420
http://acpa.net.au

Fun, creative and unique school holiday workshops

Deadline for inclusion in the Ferny Grove News is 12 Noon on Mondays. Email to newsflash@fernygroves.eq.edu.au. It is emailed every second Wednesday. If you are not receiving it please advise your updated email details to the above address.