VALUES IN ACTION

Ferny Grove State School has a strong reputation for its community spirit, inclusivity and shared values. Being new to the school, it’s interesting to see these aspirations enacted day-to-day.

Great kids & families

One characteristic of great kids is that they “own their own behaviour” … they are self-aware and accept responsibility. This trait is clearly being nurtured at Ferny Grove and supported at home.

Ferny Grove’s sister school, Humani, holds a special place in many of our families’ hearts. “Barefoot in Africa’s” Michael Jeh, who has helped build the Humani connection, will speak at our P & C Meeting on Wednesday night 21st August starting at 7.00pm in the Library. If you are interested in hearing more about Humani and the best ways to help, or asking questions about Humani, please join us.

Great staff

Research tells us that teachers make a substantial difference to individual students and the quality of education. During classroom visits I have seen dedicated, prepared, friendly and engaging teachers who are trying to balance the need for “fun in learning” with ever increasing curriculum demands. It is evident that all staff members at Ferny Grove are committed to making a difference and are very proud of their school.

Great learning opportunities

Global engagement in today’s world is vital to developing well-rounded learners. Over the next few weeks we are hosting a group of Japanese students from Kyoto. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to broaden their cultural horizons while sharing Australian traditions and language.

It’s an honour to be the principal of Ferny Grove State School while Mr Shackleton is enjoying some well-earned leave. The warm welcome I have received is much appreciated.

Larissa Vecchio (A/Principal)
**EARLY YEARS NEWS**

**Prep Playground**
Watch out for some upgrades to our prep playground in the coming weeks. Today new boulders were delivered. These will be installed on the weekend. Further upgrades are soon to commence.

**Prep & Year 12 Read Out Students**
Our volunteer (40+) Year 12 students will finish their weekly reading to Prep students on 28 August. This program that commenced this year has grown the love of reading and truly enriched our current prep students. I wish all of the volunteers best wishes as you prepare for end of Year 12 assessments. I so hope you look back on your time spent with our kids with great memories. Thank you for your commitment and dedication.

Paul Cooke (Deputy Principal)

**EXPRESSIVE ARTS WEEK**
It’s that time of year again. Time for kids to showcase their talents at this year’s annual Talent Show on 13 September. Start practising! - the heats commence at the beginning of week 7. Nomination forms are available from class teachers. Get Creative — if your children have an interest in arts and crafts they can collect an Art Entry Form from their class teacher.

Entries are due in at the end of week 9 - 6th September.

Have Fun!

**EXPRESSIVE ARTS SHOWCASE UPDATE**
Two notes go home this week about the Expressive Arts Showcase. All Choral and Instrumental students will be performing at the annual showcase on Thursday 12th September 2013.

One note will give details about times, warm up rooms and uniforms. The other note is written on behalf of the Integrated Music Parent Committee requesting support to fill the gourmet baskets which will be raffled on the evening. Please look out for these two notes. If you don’t receive the notes further copies can be sought from the office.

**JAPANESE STUDENTS**
We are delighted to be hosting our Japanese students once again. For the next two weeks fourteen delightful students are learning English each morning and integrating into classes every afternoon. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet and greet fellow pupils from another country and share their experiences, lifestyle and culture.

Paul Cooke (Deputy Principal)

**POETRY ASSEMBLY**
2013 has been a year of enjoying and promoting poetry. Students are currently completing their poetry units of work. Next Monday our “People’s Poet”, Rupert McCall will present class poetry champion medals to Year 1 to 7 students for excellence in poetry presentation and poetry writing. Prep presentations will be advised. Please join us for this special Poetry Assembly next Monday morning, in the hall.

Belinda Evans (Deputy Principal)

**CLASS PARENT REPS**
Our next CPR meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 28 August from 2:00pm in the library. Please forward agenda items to Paul by this Friday, 23 August.

Paul Cooke (Deputy Principal)

**GOTCHAS:** Well Done!
These children were caught ‘doing the right thing’ and were rewarded with a licitick voucher from the tuckshop.

Eleanor O PH, Jessie R 1KK, Tyler B 2B, Charlie McD 3P, Josh B 5O, Elle B 5F, Connor H 5F, Taya B 7T, Caitlyn M 7T.

**SUN SAFETY**
Just a reminder that as we are a sunsafe school. **It is important that all children have a named broad brimmed hat to wear at school.** Without a hat students are not allowed to be in the playground during breaks. Baseball caps are not a suitable alternative. This is an important safety issue for our students.
Things to Remember

1. Buy your Ride Armbands now for $28 on flexischools.com.au. Armbands can be collected from 11.30am on Festival day. Rides run from 12.30—5.30pm on 31 August.

2. Raffle Tickets due back Wednesday 21 Aug.

Our silent auction is going live on eBay this year. It will go live today (Wednesday) after 6 pm. Go to ebay.com.au. Choose advanced search and look for “fgssfestival” under sellers. Browse and bid at your leisure!! Bidding will be possible on the day via our iPad station in the Auction room.

FATHER’S DAY STALL
Father’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday, 29th August (same week as Festival) in the Hall. Students will have the opportunity to visit with their class during the day. Most items will be $5-$10. Pre-paid vouchers are now available on Flexischools. We will have a record of vouchers. Please remember to send a bag for students to carry/hide their presents in.

HELP! HELP! HELP! NEEDED (9AM-2PM)
We realise that this is a very busy week for everyone. Unfortunately, some of our regular helpers are unable to assist on the day, so if you have a little time to spare (especially when the younger Grades come between 9am and 11am) we would love to have you! Please text or call Katrina Collins on 0423 856 804 if you can help.

HELPING HANDS
We’ve had some budding Master Chefs at OSHC making some yummy fruit smoothies and cooking cheese tarts. Our Snap Happy photography course is a huge hit with the children who have been snapping away and will soon be creating their own scrapbook.

Statement of Purpose: Personal Excellence - Supportive School Environment - Quality Teaching and Learning

Are you harbouring a future ASHES HERO?
Join the Ferny Fireballs Junior Cricket Club
Sign-On for Ages 5 - 17
10am-midday Sunday 25th August,
Tramway Street, Ferny Grove
(take the Tramway Museum entrance opp Police Station)
Also meet club representatives and sign on at the Ferny Festival from midday Saturday 31st.
Super 6s format for U8-10 available on Friday nights played at Brendale.
Sign up and payment available online.
For more details Email – registrar@fernyfireballs.org.au or Call Grant Hastie – 0438 154 699

HOLIDAY LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Festival from midday Saturday 31 August
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Gail Loose (Coordinator)