FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL ZONE FLASHING LIGHTS TO GO AHEAD
Thank you to all those parents who signed the petition requesting flashing lights at the entry to McGinn Road school zones. The following is an extract from a letter signed by the Minister for Transport. ‘I am pleased to advise I have approved the installation of flashing school zone signs at McGinn Road for students attending both Ferny Grove State School and Ferny Grove State High School as part of the 2013-14 program.’

TREE SAFETY AUDIT
We have been asked about the small silver tags appearing on trees around our school. You would all be aware of the large number of very mature gum trees around our buildings and grounds. Over the last few years a number of tree limbs have fallen in quite dangerous circumstances resulting in damage to cars, buildings but fortunately not people.
As a result of these occurrences I have engaged a company to conduct an audit of all trees to ensure we know which ones represent a risk to safety and should be removed. This does not mean all trees will be removed and in fact those that do have to take out will be replaced by semi mature suitable species. We are particularly concerned about the trees immediately adjacent to buildings. After we receive the report we intend to institute a five year replacement plan for the trees of most significant concern. The natural environment of Ferny Grove is one of our greatest assets and we certainly intend to maintain this whilst minimising risk to students, staff and visitors.

TWILIGHT CHRISTMAS MARKET
It is hard to believe it is that time of the year again when thoughts turn to Christmas shopping. Our school’s Twilight Market provides a terrific opportunity to make start on the shopping and enjoy good food at the same time. Join us for the international food fair, Santa, face painting and much more from 5-9pm in and around the school hall.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL
It is pleasing to note that attendance rates for our school are at a five year high with 86% of students attending more than 90% of compulsory days. Our next target will be to lift this figure to 90% of students in 2014.
The only worrying part of the data is the figure of 6% of students attending school less than 85% of the time. This represents a loss of nearly one day per week which translates to 40 days per year or 520 days over the 13 years of school. If this pattern were to continue across the time a child attends school, it would mean that by the time they finished Year 12 they could potentially have missed two complete years of school or in real terms they have only graduated Year 10.
Our report cards indicate the number of student absences and particular the number of unexplained absences. If you haven’t yet provided the class teacher with an explanation please do so as soon as possible.

Payment days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday ONLY. Payment options are:
• Over the counter from 8.30am to 11.30am ONLY on the above days
• Credit card - Ph: 3550 5333 after 8.30am or complete the form on the Bulk Bill letter

Class | Activity | Activity Date | Cost | Last date to pay
---|---|---|---|---
Prep | Timbarra Show | 28 November | $6.00 | 21 November
Yr.1 | CSIRO Show | 5 December | $5.00 | 28 November
Yr.6/7 W; Yr.7 | Movie Preview | 12 December | $20.00 | 28 November

Brett Shackleton  PRINCIPAL
JUPITER FLUTE LOST
A green Woolies bag containing a Jupiter flute in an unnamed black case plus Kiara Devoy’s band folder and music book went missing at 3pm on Monday 4th November. The items may have been left outside 2NS on that afternoon. If anyone knows the whereabouts of these items please return or advise the office as Kiara is unable to participate in the music program without her flute.

FERNY GROVE STATE HIGH SCHOOL
Instrumental Music Auditions _ Tuesday 26 November
All Year 7 students continuing with instrumental music at Ferny Grove High school in 2014 will audition at our school next Tuesday. The children have been given their audition times and are reminded to bring their instruments and music book. NO SCHOOL BANKING IN LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL!!! Some stocks may run out, so if choosing in last week of banking, please give a second preference.

DEFENCE NEWS

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVALS - 2013
The Interhouse Swimming Carnivals will be conducted in week 9 of Term 4. Students are reminded that caps must be worn as a requirement of use of the pool, and that girls participating must wear 1 piece swimming costumes. The wearing of broad brimmed hats and sunscreen is also required. House colours may be worn for the day, and all articles brought to the pool should be clearly named.

Dates: Thurs 5th December Years 3 & 4
VENUE: Ferny Hills Pool

VENUE: Mon 2nd December Years 5, 6 & 7

Ferny Hills Pool

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL(S) HELP FORM
I can help with timekeeping at the
☐ Yr 3 and 4 Carnival
☐ Yr 5/6/7 Carnival (tick one or both)

Name: ...........................................................................

INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS

Liz and Jess (D.S.T.A.s)

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL(S) HELP FORM
I can help with timekeeping at the
☐ Yr 3 and 4 Carnival
☐ Yr 5/6/7 Carnival (tick one or both)

Name: ...........................................................................

DEADLINE for all items for inclusion in the current Newsflash is 3.00 PM ON MONDAYS.

Email to Newsflash@fernygrovess.eq.edu.au
ABSENCE LINE – 3550 5360 – FOR STUDENT ABSENCES – Phone any time, Wait for the BEEP, Slowly and clearly state — your name + your child’s name + roll class + date of absence + reason for absence.

P & C UPDATES & COMMUNITY NEWS

STATIONERY and UNIFORM STORES
OPENING HOURS: Monday & Friday 8.00 – 9.00am.
Cheryl 3550 5359 (0431 265 068) Vanessa 3550 5342 (0433 325 452) www.fernygrovepandc.com.au

BACK TO SCHOOL UNIFORM & STATIONERY STORES
2014 Booklists - home last week. Prices effective now. If you need to download booklists use ONLY the school website www.fernygroves.eq.edu.au

(Do NOT use the old P & C website. It is no longer active & even if you can access it, it DOES NOT have the new booklists loaded.)

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HELP still required in January 2014: Saturday 19, 8-12; Wednesday 22, 8-11am; Thurs 23, 4-6pm
Labels & book covers are available from the following websites. Quote the relevant school code for each to receive a discount/rebate for the school.
www.younameitlabels.com Code fgsp1103
www.ezcover.net.au Code ZFA186

TUCKSHOP ROSTER November
Tuckshop will be open up to and including Wednesday 11th December 2013.
Thur 21 Heather D Fri 22 Kate N; Katrina C; Susan B. Mon 25 Jodie B; Tue 26 Carolyn G; Anne F; Wed 27 Traci M; Thur 28 Deb C; Christine Z.

FAST UPDATES (Fundraising and Social Team)
Volunteers are needed for the Twilight Christmas Market on 22 November from 5.00 — 9.00pm. We also need donations for the bake stall which can be dropped at the hall canteen anytime on that Friday. Contact vbair4@eq.edu.au or Vanessa on 0433 325 452.

COFFEE CART Open 8.00 - 9.00am daily.
THANK YOU to everyone who came and supported the Think Pink Choices Program fundraising morning tea at the coffee cart on Friday 1st November. We had a great morning and together we raised $746! Thank you also to GET PINKED for their fashion and support.

Yvette - 0409317553

F.G.S.H.S UNIFORM FIT OUTS – YEAR 8, 2014

AVOID QUEUING IN DECEMBER/JANUARY
Phone Melissa or Christine on 3550 5792 for an appointment Please bring your child with you & allow 30 minutes. Uniform items are to be purchased at the time of the appointment.

Uniform Store & Second-Hand Uniform Store
Open normally – 8.15am – 9.15am on school days
Monday to Friday 18 Nov to 29 Nov 9.15am to 1.45pm

CHRISTMAS IN KEPERRA
The annual Christmas in Keperra Community Festival is on with a week of Cafe nights from 16 - 20 December culminating in the Christmas Carols Festival on 21st December.

The Cafe nights run from 7pm each night. Come and explore the Christmas lights, wander past the window displays, or simply take a load off and listen to the live music while enjoying free tea, coffee, refreshments and gourmet food. Child-minding is available for children under 5 while you relax.

Our Christmas Carols Festival starts at 4pm, featuring a jumping castle, gift bags, face painting, an animal farm and a sausage sizzle, with a guest appearance by the clowns ‘Peebo and Dagwood’.

Bring a chair or blanket and revel in a night of Christmas Carols and performances sure to delight the whole family.

ALL ABOARD Sunday 24 November
Blackwood Street Chamber of Commerce
Steam Locomotives travelling from Mitchelton return to Roma Street
For times and prices call 0412 181 328

FOR SALE
Blessing trumpet for $500. Contact Marie on 0417702381

TENNIS COACHING – DAVE PRICKETT (acc. TPAA) - Phone 3351 4483
Coaching is at Ferny Grove State School
Monday: 3.00 pm — 3.45 pm

NEW BEGINNERS receive FREE new racquet
To Enrol: Phone Coach Dave Prickett – 3351 4483
Cost: $100 per term

P & C NOTICEBOARD Wednesday 20 November P & C Mtg. 7.00pm in Library

Tuckshop – 3550 5361 Uniform Store - 3550 5342 Stationery Store – 3550 5359 OSHC Mon- Fri
8.30-12.00 pm Mon & Fri 8.00 - 9.00 am Mon & Fri 8.00 - 9.00 am Gail 3851 2196

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