## Events

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<th>Thursday 13</th>
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<td>Year 2 Swimming commences</td>
<td>8am - 3pm District Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>8.50am Middle Years Assembly Years 4 – 7 Swimming - Years 1 and 5</td>
<td>Year 1 Morning Reading</td>
<td>2pm Class Parent Representative Induction in library</td>
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<td>10.45am Junior Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>2 pm Early Years Assembly Expressions of Interest due back for Class Parent Representatives</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews begin</td>
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<td>7pm P &amp; C Meeting in library</td>
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<td>3.00pm Chaplaincy Committee Meeting</td>
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## From the Principal

### Effort Counts

Our teachers have been discussing the importance of effort in achieving success with learning. On Monday morning parade I discussed how effort impacts on learning and encompasses such attitudes as perseverance and hard work. That which is worth learning often involves more effort than less worthy and low level skills and knowledge. I shared the following facts with our students in Years 4-7:

- 530 students received an ‘A or B’ for behaviour in semester 2 2013.
- Only 21 students received a ‘D’ for behaviour.
- 76% of students received an ‘A’ or ‘B’ for effort in 2013.
- Only 24 students received a ‘D’ for effort in 2013.

This data indicates that our students are turning up for school with the right attitude, prepared to learn and work hard. We can, however, still improve and we are aiming for more students with an ‘A’ for effort and behaviour as well as the attendance goals I outlined last week.

I have one tip for parents in this area and that is to highlight effort and perseverance when your child has success rather than using comments such as ‘you are such a clever boy/girl’ or ‘aren’t you smart’. This is because the child can begin to attach success to notions of smart and therefore potentially failure can be viewed as the opposite of this eg. ‘I must be dumb when I can’t get something right’. Focus on effort and they begin to understand that attitude is just as important as ‘smart or not’.

### Communication with parents

Ferny Grove has been working to improve communication with parents for some time now. Whilst not perfect, we are certainly providing information in many more formats and technologies than before. It is important to us that we have up to date and accurate personal contact details so if your email or phone numbers change, please inform us as soon as possible. Remember to check the following:

- FGSS website
- FGSS Facebook page.
- Weekly online newsletter.
- Sign up for Q Schools via our website.
- CPR email lists
- Staff email contacts via our website.

We are always open to feedback so please let us know if you can think of a better way for us to keep parents informed.

Brett Shackleton
Ferny happenings

Early years news

Student Resource Scheme: Prep
Parents and carers are asked to make payment by 26 February. The annual participation fee is $130.00. See “Payments Due” on the front page for details of when payments can be made.

Early Years Assemblies
The first EY Assembly will be held this Friday, 14 February from 2:00pm in the hall. All parents of Prep - 3 students are welcome to attend. Please refer to the school calendar for other dates.

Read It Again – Foundation Q
Next Tuesday Prep teachers are being introduced to the “Read It Again – Foundation Q” program. This will involve each teacher implementing 2 x 20 – 30 minute lessons weekly to build student skills in four key areas of language and literacy: vocabulary, narrative, phonological awareness and print knowledge.

Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal

Birthday visit from Prep class

Principal Mr Shackleton celebrated his birthday last week with a surprise visit from Prep R who sang “Happy Birthday” and presented him with a very special birthday card.

On parade

At Middle Years Assembly this week Merit awards were presented to students, our Senior Band again played the National Anthem and our Head of Curriculum Mrs Read sat in to show off her newly learned saxophone skills!

Gotchas awarded
Anastasia H 5F
Kiera D 5G
Adrian T 5L

You were caught doing the right thing!

Prep - 3 parents are welcome to join us for Early Years Assembly at 2pm, this Friday in the hall.
Mr Bryant would like to welcome two new members to the AV Crew. Joshua and Ryan B will join Ryan F and Will to assist with AV duties both for parade and in the library. The team do an amazing job at setting up the data screen, operating the PA system and controlling the lighting computer. In the library they help with managing the iPads, setting up the Wii and trouble-shooting on the touch screen search computer. The AV Crew are a small yet highly valued team. They are a wonderful asset to the school and we’re sure that 2014 will be a year with some great productions.

Reminders

**Morning Routines - 8:40 Daily Start**
Please start the year as we want to continue. Students at school before 8:10 can access Helping Hands - our Outside School Hours Care Services. If arriving after 8:10 and before 8:40 students not with a parent are asked to walk directly to the covered tuckshop area. This way all students are safe and in one place. Unsupervised students should not wait in areas around classes before 8:40. Please escort Prep students to classes daily from 8:40. Please escort Year 1 students to their classes in the first few weeks until they feel independent enough to walk by themselves or with friends from under the covered area. Year 2 - 7 students are encouraged to walk to class independently from the covered area for commencement of class at 8:40.

**Class Parent Reps Program (CPRs)**
Each class is seeking a CPR for the year to represent parents in their class. Please return the forwarded expression of interest to your child’s teacher by [this Friday, 14 February](#). The first CPR meeting is next Wednesday, 19 February. Appointed CPRs will be notified by email on Monday, 17 February.

**Tuckshop Volunteers**
Thank you to the few parents who have returned volunteer forms for our Tuckshop. At Ferny Grove we are very lucky to have Tuckshop available every day of the week. Unfortunately this relies on volunteer support and we still have a number of days with no volunteers. If you can help even one day a month please see Julie or Kellee at the tuckshop or email tuckshop@fernygrovepandc.com.au.
Library News

Mr Bryant has had an overwhelming response to applications for Library Monitor positions. Over 50 students have applied and it will be extremely tough to choose the 20 successful applicants for 2014.

Library Monitors work before school and in first break to help operate the front desk, scan, return, shelve and organise resources. Students will be notified with news of their application by 17 February.

Junior Choir

Our first Junior Choir practice of 2014 with Mrs Bryant. Lots of enthusiasm from our excited Grade 3 students.

Ready Readers News

Call for volunteers for Queensland Ready Readers Program – Come and help in our schools! A great opportunity to volunteer in our local community.

Registrations have again opened for volunteers to take part in the ‘Queensland Ready Readers’ program to read with children in classrooms at Ferny Grove State School.

The program has been developed based on national and international research that has proven that well-trained and supported community volunteers can make a big difference to children’s learning. Once trained and approved to work with young children you can volunteer to read with or support young children to read. (Minimum of 1 hour per week)

All volunteers will be trained in the “support a reader” process and will be required to go through the standard checks for working with children. Free Training is now being offered. Come along and help support a young reader!

Parents, carers and wider community personnel are invited to attend this training day to be held at:
Ferny Grove State School Library
Finvoy St, Ferny Grove
Thursday, 27 February and Thursday, 6 March: 9:00 – 10:00.
Light snack will be provided

TO REGISTER:
Contact Vanessa Baird, Community Liaison Officer on 3550 5333 or ybair4@eq.edu.au by 21 February.
Winter Interschool Sport
Presently Years 5, 6 and 7 students are selecting and trialling for our winter school sport program. Friday interschool sport commences on Friday 7 March and concludes on the 13 June. Children will travel to and from sporting venues on Friday afternoons by bus.

Late next week children will bring home an information sheet regarding their selected sport. Permission forms will need to be returned to the sporting coach by Thursday 27 February and payment made by Thursday 6 March. The $70 cost was advertised on Term 1 Bulk Bill.

Our aim is to have as many children as possible playing a winter sport. Parents are encouraged to volunteer to manage the team at the Friday afternoon sporting events. The task is not onerous. Managers sit with the students and ensure children move on and off the field when required and assist the teacher with general supervision. Please advise the coach if you can assist as manager for all or some of the games.

Belinda Evans
Deputy Principal

Parent Teacher Conferences
Following the Information Evenings this week, parents and carers are invited to make a time with teachers to discuss matters pertaining to individual students. Notices will be sent home with teacher availability so that parents can nominate their preferred time.

School banking—day changed to Thursday!
Welcome back to school banking for 2014. All children in P-3 will have received a pack explaining the program and the rewards – spare packs at office. $5 to school for every account that commences school banking at FGSS. Minimum deposit 50c. Great rewards for every 10 school banking deposits. Reward cards arriving soon. Just bring Commonwealth Bank YouthSaver account with deposit to school office and we will process on Thursday.

Anyone willing and able to help gratefully appreciated. Meet at office 8:45 on Thursday morning. Hopefully with enough volunteers we will only have to do every 2-3 weeks.

Please phone Xanthe 38514089 or 0437266530 with any queries.

Mad Scientist
If you’re looking for some fun science experiments for kids then you’ve come to the right place. This program is full of fascinating hands-on experiments that are a great way to enjoy the world of science. This fantastic program is available to all the children at Ferny Grove.

On this extraordinary 5 week science journey, children will have the opportunity to engage in messy, gooey, bouncy, exploding and interactive science fun with the Mad Scientist, including experiments such as elephant toothpaste, slime, egg drop and bouncy balls. The program will look at chemistry, energy, biology, movement and the world around us.

Over a 5 week program, you will be guided by our scientist to learn some fun and exciting experiments!

For more information or to book onto this exciting 5 week program please contact Helping Hands Ferny Grove on 0467 677 763 or email fernygrove@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Booking forms will also be available from the school office and Helping Hands Ferny Grove service.

Gail Loose, the coordinator of Helping Hands - Out of School Hours Care (OSHC), is retiring on Thursday 13th February. Gail has been with OSHC for 17 years. Throughout this time Gail has been a very valuable and much loved staff member. Her contributions and hard work ensure that OSHC is a great place for children to go. Gail will be greatly missed by all staff, parents and children. We thank Gail for all that she has done. We will miss you! We are holding a morning tea on Thursday morning from 9am near the coffee cart. Parents can come down and say good bye and wish Gail all the best for her future. If anyone would like to bring a plate of food to share, it would be much appreciated.
Welcome to the second Ferny Grove State High School column in your newsletter. Through this column we hope to keep you up-to-date with relevant news and events of interest to families at Ferny Grove State School. We would like to thank your Principal Brett Shackleton for inviting us to be involved with your newsletter this year.

You can also find out more about Ferny Grove SHS:
- by visiting our [website](#);
- by ‘liking’ our [Facebook page](#);
- by reading our fortnightly [newsletter](#);
- by adding your email address to our database of prospective parents. We regularly email out information of interest, including our school newsletter, to parents of primary school students who are considering enrolling their students at Ferny Grove SHS.

How to join our parent email list
If you would like to be added to the list, please email our Head of Junior Secondary, Katie Stubbings, kstub5@eq.edu.au. We have been finding that some of the emails in our database have been bouncing, so if you are on the list already and have not received anything this year, please send Katie your new email address.

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**P & C News**

**Integrated Music Parent Support (IMPS) Group**
Welcome back to another year with lots of musical activities to look forward to. If you would like to find out more about what’s in store for your child this year or would like to provide feedback, raise issues/concerns, or be a Committee member - then come along to the next IMPS Meeting & AGM to be held on **Monday 17th February at 7pm** in the staffroom.

All parents/carers of children involved in the choral or instrumental music groups are invited to attend these meetings. So please join us on the 17th, find out what 2014 holds for your child and be involved in music at our school.

**Amy Martin**
**IMPS Secretary**

**Coffee Cart**
Coffee cart really need some more volunteers. Please contact Yvette at yve.eds@gmail.com.

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**Year 9 Recognition Morning Tea**

A group of Year 9 students was treated to a morning tea last week in recognition of their achievements in academic, effort and/or behaviour areas during Term 4 last year. Congratulations to these students - we look forward to your continuing efforts this year. Great to see some past Ferny Grove State School students among these high achievers!

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**Important Dates**

**February**
- 17th IMPS Meeting
- 7pm - Staffroom

**March**
- 19th P & C Meeting
- 7pm - Library

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**P & C Meeting - All Welcome**
Our first P & C Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th February at 7pm in our library. Our P & C supports volunteering and resources to enhance our children’s learning. This is a great place to find out what is going on at school or to raise any topics of interest.

**Prep Committee**
Thanks to the parents who attended the first Prep meeting yesterday. We are still looking for some more parent helpers from each Prep class. If you missed the meeting but would like to be involved, please email Vanessa on vbair4@eq.edu.au.

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**Stationery Store**
Open Monday and Friday 8-9am.
Charyl Cowles, Convenor
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)

**Uniform Store**
Open Monday and Friday 8-9am.
Year 6 and 7 parents need to keep an eye out for the Year 6 and Year 7 shirt order forms that will go home later this week. Shirts are $38 and will have the names of each child on the back. There will be separate Year 6 and 7 shirts.

Vanessa Baird, Convenor 0433 325 452

**Tuckshop**
Tuckshop Volunteer Roster
Thu 13 Feb  Heather D, Devi
Fri 14 Feb  Kate N, Jodi B
Mon 17 Feb Jodie B
Tue 18 Feb Carolyn G, Anne F
Wed 19 Feb [Volunteers Needed](#)
Thu 20 Feb  Christina Z

Julie Haslam & Kellee Gyles, Convenors 3550 5361

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Julie Haslam & Kellee Gyles, Convenors 3550 5361
Our Community

Samford Netball Club
Calling all men and women (16 years +) who want to get fit and have fun at the same time. If that’s you, then the Samford Netball Club’s MIXED COMPETITION is waiting for you! Join us of a Thursday evening at Samford Parklands. For information and registration: www.samfordnetball.org.au

Tennis Lessons—Pure Tennis
Morning tennis lessons are back up and running again this term at the usual time of 7.45am. If you are interested in starting tennis lessons this term it’s not too late! Call Pure Tennis Ferny Hills on 3851 0444 for more information.

Samford Rangers FC

Sign on now for Soccer Season 2014, boys & girls, Juniors U12-U16, City U18, Miniroos U6-U11, Squirts 3-5. Pre-season training underway now on Wednesdays. For more information or to sign on go to samfordrangers.org.au or call 0409 997 596.

Pine Hills Netball Club
Join many FGSS girls and play netball for Pine Hills. Training at James Drysdale Reserve and games on Sat at Downey Park starting 29th March. Register online now: http://pinehillsnetball.com.au Registrations close 13th Feb 2014 with grading on this Saturday. Contact Rosemarie with any queries: 0431 835 885 or president@pinehillsnetball.com.au.

BrisAsia Festival
Council’s BrisAsia Festival began on the 31st January and will continue through to Saturday 1st March.
Council places a high value on Brisbane’s creative events and vision that strengthens the city’s liveability as a vibrant, creative hub. The festival seeks to strengthen awareness of Asian culture in Brisbane through a series of events and hands on workshops.
Council has more than 50 events organised including art exhibitions, martial arts and karate demonstrations, paper lantern workshops, free music by the river and more! Information about these events can be found online at Brisbane City Council’s website, or visit the BrisAsia Festival page.