Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 20</th>
<th>Friday 21</th>
<th>Monday 24</th>
<th>Tuesday 25</th>
<th>Wednesday 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Swimming 10.50 - 11.30am Senior Choir Rehearsals commence 1.10-1.40pm Junior Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>2 pm Early Years Assembly Jr choir performance</td>
<td>8.50am Full School Assembly - Student Leader Induction Senior Band playing - Uniform required Swimming - Years 1 and 5 Ready Readers commence in Years 1-3</td>
<td>8am Year 1 Morning Reading</td>
<td>10am Year 12 Readout Program begins in Prep</td>
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</tbody>
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From the Principal

Parking safety around Ferny Grove
Each year it is necessary for me to make very explicit, the expectations I have of parents in relation to parking around our school. Each year it astounds me that a small number of parents continue to put our students at risk by parking illegally both on and off the grounds. The latest problem area is the gravel car park on Archdale Rd. It is not a parking or pick up area for parents and students. There are literally hundreds of parents and students exiting onto Archdale Rd including many children younger than school age. It only takes one parent to reverse without checking and one child to run off into the car park for a tragedy to occur. There is NO onsite parking for parents unless you have written permission from me and this will only be permitted in circumstances where disability requires access to our Finvoy St car park. I will personally be patrolling Archdale Rd this week and next to ensure compliance. Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who park safely at all times and I look forward to safety being the number one thought in everyone’s mind at 2:50pm.

Parent-Teacher conferences
Parents will shortly be given the opportunity to meet with class teachers to discuss the progress of their child/ren. It is a valuable experience at the beginning of each year to sit and share the improvement goals we have for each student. I would encourage all parents to take advantage of this opportunity.

District swimming
Congratulations to all the Ferny Grove competitors at the district swimming trials last Friday. There were many worthy efforts and results from our students. Thanks to parents and staff for helping out on the day.

Student leaders
On Monday morning 24/2 we will induct our 2014 school leaders. The role of school leader, no matter what form the role takes, is an opportunity for students to experience a little of what it means to step up and push yourself into a task you wouldn’t normally do. Our leaders are active and it is expected they will uphold the highest standards of behaviour and effort. This year’s school captains have already demonstrated both a positive attitude and a willingness to listen to Mrs Evans as she guides them through what is going to be a big year for all of them.

The 2014 cohort includes leaders from both year 6 and 7 as we begin the final transition of year 7 to high school in 2015. It will certainly be a momentous occasion for Queensland Education, right up there with the introduction of Prep. For Ferny Grove it will mean over 170 students departing at the end of the year.

Brett Shackleton
Ferny happenings

Farewell to Gail after 17 years

Our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) facility, now run by Helping Hands, has been ably led by Gail Loose for the last 17 years. A morning tea was held last Thursday to give parents and her fellow staff the opportunity to say goodbye and thank you.

Gail will be missed by her team and our school families alike. Congratulations to Diana Armanelli who will be the new coordinator for Helping Hands at Ferny Grove.

After 17 years with OSHC Gail enjoyed her last ever afterschool care before retirement. She had a great afternoon and would like to thank everyone for their well wishes.

Early years news

Year 12 Read Out Program

Next Wednesday, volunteer Year 12 students from Ferny Grove State High School commence reading one on one with Prep students. The volunteers have been trained over the last fortnight. Thank you to our Learning Support Teachers Lena Roberts and Lyn Vickerson. Thank you also to our dedicated High School volunteers who are giving up part of their “study day” to read with our Preps.

Paul Cooke - Deputy Principal

On parade

A new challenge for our Senior Band on Middle Years Parade with a performance of “Battlesong”.

Our 2014 library monitors were introduced - all 29 of them! With 64 applications it was a big job for Librarian Mr Bryant to narrow the numbers down.

Mr Kirby shared an update about our District Swimming Carnival and congratulated all of our participating students on their great effort.

Gotchas awarded

Niki B 5F        Dillon B 5F
Cameron J 5F     Declan B 6R
Joshua T 7T

You were caught doing the right thing!
**District swimming**

On Friday 14 February, 22 swimmers from our school competed at the North West District swimming trials at Samford pool. The swimmers displayed enormous commitment and effort in representing Ferny Grove. Many placed well in races, however, not all were selected in the district team to compete at the Regional Carnival in a couple of weeks.

Our warm congratulations go to Georgia T and Joshua J who will be representing our district, along with students from other schools in our district. We wish them and the team well at this next level.

The day could not have been as successful without parent involvement and our sincere thanks to Mrs McConachy for being our team manager on the day and to Mrs Jones for taking on timekeeping duties for the day.

*Gary Kirby - PE Specialist*

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**Great volunteers at work**

**Call for Ready Reader volunteers**

This year we are seeking to expand our team of volunteer parents and community members to train to become Ready Readers in our school. The program has been developed to train each volunteer in the “support a reader” program and requires you to go through the standard checks for working with children.

Free training across 2 compulsory sessions will occur in the school library on Thursdays 27 February and 6 March, from 9:00 – 10:00. Each volunteer will read one on one with children (minimum of one hour a week).

If you would like to join us or know a neighbour or grandparent who might be interested, please contact Vanessa Baird on 3550 5333 or by email vbair4@eq.edu.au. Also look out for the article in this week’s Northwest News.

**Class Parent Reps program (CPRs)**

Class Parent Representatives who are serving the parents and teacher of each class met this week. They each will be inviting you to provide your contact details (phone and email) if you want to belong to a communication tree. In this way you can stay in the communication loops and also assist with class projects, needs and priorities. Please get to know your child’s Class Parent Representative (CPR).

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**TUCKSHOP NEEDS YOU!!!!**

Our tuckshop is widely used by the school community, and with over 840 students, you can imagine that we get quite busy. We are open for the whole five days unlike some schools that only open a couple of days a week. To be able to open for the five days we rely on volunteers.

After our last request for helpers we have had two replies. Unfortunately we need to fill 11 spots. We have a lovely bunch of volunteers now who are doing multiple days because we don’t have enough volunteers. If you can help out one day a month on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday after morning drop off until approximately 12pm we would be very grateful.

It’s an opportunity to meet new people, help your school and can be used as a reference when parents choose to return to work. Please contact the tuckshop either by popping in to see Julie or Kellee or contact us at tuckshop@fernygrovepandc.com.au
Looking good

The latest upgrade to our Prep playground - look at the beautiful (artificial) grass. Our Preppies love it already!

Many of you will have seen a number of improvements around the school that happened over the last few months.

- Replacement of old paving with concrete in front of Year 1 and Year 4 blocks.
- Sandstone edging, garden planting and now new artificial grass in the Prep playground. Also a second shade sail to cover the Prep eating area. A big thank-you to our Prep Committee who provided $13,000 for these upgrades.
- First stage of curtaining on the stage in the hall. A big thank-you to our Fundraising and Social Team (FAST) who provided $20,000 for this project.

And if you have noticed the sandstone piles around the school, they will be used in the new concreted areas to provide seating and contain gardens.

School reminders

Choir rehearsals

Junior Choir - Rehearsals now start just before second break on Thursday from 1:10pm-1:35pm. Currently all Year 3 students are welcome with Year 2 students participating after swimming concludes in Term 1. Junior Choir will perform at Early Years Assembly at 2pm on Friday.

Senior Choir - will commence on Thursday this week, starting just before first break from 10:50am-11:30am. All Year 4-7 students are welcome to attend.

School banking—Thursdays

Welcome to the 16 new school bankers who joined last week – CONGRATULATIONS: you have begun your saving journey and earned the school $5 each just by joining. Thanks to some new volunteers too!

We had 63 bankers last week and we are hoping to get over 80 this week – PLEASE ensure the class for 2014 is on the front of your bank book!!!! Simply bring your school banking to office before school on Thursday or if in Prep-3 your class has a satchel which needs to be brought to the office soon after school starts.

Rewards are not at the school yet, but once available you can order a handball or scented pencils (or some old rewards from last year – headphones, torches, some moneyboxes) in Term 1. You are able to access a reward after 10 school banking deposits are made. Please include rewards card (completed) or even a note with name, class, student ID and reward required.

If you would like to be a part of school banking – the easiest way is for a parent to join you up at any Commonwealth Bank (open a Youth Saver account) and once you receive your deposit book you can start banking. Any queries phone 0437266530.

Student health alert

We have a student within our school whose sibling is immunosuppressed, meaning that this child has a lower immunity and can’t fight infections in the normal way. This is a result of undergoing chemotherapy to treat Leukaemia. Viruses that cause Measles, Chickenpox, Shingles, Type A & B Influenza (flu), Gastroenteritis (gastro) could make this child extremely unwell and be life threatening. Therefore I would be grateful if you would contact the school immediately on 35505333 if your child was found to have one of these illnesses.

If we know that there has been exposure to Measles, Chickenpox, Shingles or contraction of Type A & B influenza (flu) or Gastroenteritis (gastro), medicine can be given within 48 hours to lessen the side effect of such an infection to this child.

Paul Cooke - Deputy Principal

Mad Scientist

Become a wacky 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.
Our first P & C Meeting will be held tonight 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.

Next month on March 19th our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held. All Executive positions will be declared open. Start to think about the contribution you can make to your child’s education by putting your hand up to be involved—you really can make a difference!

Coffee Cart
We all love a coffee to kickstart our day. Our great Coffee Cart can only be open every morning if we have volunteers to run it. At the moment we are really looking for a Monday volunteer, but if you can help on another day, we might be able to revise our roster. If you have any barista experience or would like to learn, please contact Yvette at yve.eds@gmail.com.

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 Year 7 shirt order forms have gone home 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. CORRECTION to notice - order and payment deadline is Wednesday 26th February not 26th March as appeared on the notice.
Vanessa Baird, Convenor
0433 325 452

Tuckshop
Tuckshop Volunteer Roster
Thu 20 Feb Volunteer Needed
Fri 21 Feb Christina Zevenbergen, Jane Waterston
Mon 24 Feb Jodie Parker
Tue 25 Feb Bianca Wyllie
Wed 26 Feb Jenny Owen
Thu 27 Feb Kylie Lawrence
Julie Haslam & Kellee Gyles, Convenors
3550 5361

Our Festival for 2014 will be held on Saturday, October 11. We are seeking a co-convenor for our Festival this year as well as convenors for each of our year level stalls. If you are interested please join us for a brief meeting at the library at 9 am next Wednesday, February 26th or email vbair4@eq.edu.au.

High School News

Year 8 Meet and Greet Sessions
Year 8 parents were welcomed to the school with a “Meet and Greet” afternoon tea last week. The afternoon began with a short presentation, followed by the opportunity for parents to meet with key school staff.

Due to the popularity of the session, a further session is being held tonight, Wednesday 19 February from 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the Auditorium for parents/caregivers who weren’t able to attend the first session.

Ferny Grove State High School Junior Student Leaders for 2014

Student Leaders
Last week we recognised our 2014 Junior and Senior Student Leaders at their Badge Presentation ceremonies. As well as receiving their badges of office the students read an oath stating their commitment to their roles and to leading our student body in 2014.

This is an important milestone for our school community and I congratulate these young leaders on their achievement.

It was wonderful that the parents and families of these students were able to join us for these ceremonies and for refreshments afterward. I wish all of our young leaders the very best in their roles this year.

Mark Breckenridge, Principal
Ferny Grove State High School
**Our Community**

**Dave Prickett’s Tennis Clinic**

*With Dave Prickett (Acc TPA - Former Queensland & Rosebowl Champion)*

Learn to play tennis - the most skillful game of all!

Beginners at Ferny Grove State School

Monday 3 - 3.45 pm $100

Certificate every term. Free Racquet first term

For enrolments or enquiries please phone 3851 4483 or 0403 820 907

**Picabeen Community Centre**

Join in the spirit of Picabeen to celebrate the wonderful diversity in our community.

**Art Competition and Exhibition**

Create a piece of art that represents what diversity means to you. Join together with other local artists to showcase your work on Harmony Day. Prizes awarded in age categories, 0-10 yrs, 11-25 yrs and 25+yrs. Open to all. To register, please see details below.

- **Date:** March 21st 2014
- **Time:** 5:00 - 7:00pm
- **Where:** Picabeen Community Association Inc.
  22 Hoben St Mitchelton

RSVP: Monday the 24th of February 2014

Do you cook?

We are looking for people to bring and share a dish from their culture. If you would like to offer to bring a dish, we’d love to hear from you.

Please contact us on the information below.

Phone: 3354 2555 or email info@picabeen.org.au or check out our facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/picabeen](https://www.facebook.com/picabeen).

**NAB AFL Auskick is running at your local club now!**

Where: Ferny Grove Falcons Junior Australian Football Club

When: First session is on Friday 21st February 2014

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

Length of program: 8 Weeks*

Cost: $65

When you participate in Auskick you also receive your very own football, backpack with a hat, stickers, pump plus heaps more!

For more information visit aflauskick.com.au or call 3865 8700. Register and Pay Online for Free Tickets to a selected AFL match*

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**Mitchelton State High School**

High School Experience Days are conducted each term to give students a taste of high school life. In 2014 dates are as follows:

- **Year 7 Term 1:** Thursday 6 March
- **Year 6 Term 2:** Wednesday 6 April
- **Year 5 Term 3:** Monday 25 August
- **Year 4 Term 4:** Friday 17 October

Transition Days are offered to students who are intending to attend Mitchelton State High School in 2015.

- **Year 7 Term 1:** 18 – 23 December
- **Year 6 Term 1:** 28 – 29 December

Just call the school office 3280 1111 to book your child’s place for any of these events.

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**TRY RUGBY UNION**

Everton Park Junior Rugby Union (Enoggera) is looking for boys and girls aged 5 to 16 to play a team sport where they can get fit, and make great mates.

Rugby is an exciting, fast and free flowing game combining the skills of passing, catching, running and evasion.

No experience is necessary. Our accredited coaches will teach all aspects of the game in a family-friendly club.

**New Under 9 to Under 16 players receive a FREE uniform worth $80.00**

Registrations closing soon.

For more information:

Email: rugby@epjru.com.au or
Visit: www.epjru.com.au

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