### Events

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<td>9am New Ready Reader Training - Library Year 2 Swimming</td>
<td>Winter Sport Commences 2pm Early Years Assembly</td>
<td>8.50am Full School Assembly Student of the Month Swimming - Years 1 and 5</td>
<td>8am Year 1 Morning Reading</td>
<td>7.30am Junior Band rehearsals commence Year 3 &amp; 5 Raw Art Prep R Bunyaville Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>P - 3 Disco 5.30-6.30pm 4 - 7 Disco 7.30-8.30pm</td>
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### From the Principal

**Great Results Guarantee**

The Queensland Government is investing an additional $131 million in 2014 to improve student performance in Queensland state schools through the Great Results Guarantee. Over 4 years almost $800 million will be invested in Queensland state schools. This additional funding is provided by the Federal Government under its *Students First - A fairer funding agreement for schools initiative*. All 1233 state and Independent Public Schools will receive a share of the funding and enter into an agreement that commits them to guarantee that every student will either:

- achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for their year level or
- have an evidence-based plan, developed by the school, in place to address their specific learning difficulties.

Ferny Grove State School will receive approximately $186000 to further improve student learning and teacher professional learning. A copy of our Great Results plan can be viewed here.

**Principal Absence**

The Metropolitan Region, Education Queensland provides each Principal with the opportunity to take part in a leadership coaching program every three years. The coaches in this program are experienced Principals who undergo training and are themselves coached in their work by an Executive Coach external to Education Queensland.

During 2014 I have been asked to be a Principal Coach, coaching six other principals in the region as part of their leadership development. I am looking forward to not only working with these other school leaders but also building my own leadership skills as part of this process.

My coaching role will occur across ten weeks, three weeks this term March 10 - 28, three weeks in term two June 10 - 27 and four weeks in term three August 18 - September 12. During these periods I will be absent from the school working with my six ‘coachees’. In my absence Mr Cooke and Mrs Evans will fulfil the Principal role at Ferny Grove SS.

**Communication Protocols**

Ferny Grove State School has worked very hard over the last couple of years to enhance both the accuracy and frequency of our communication. A school of 840 students can never be perfect but we do strive to be as timely and helpful as possible. Communication is however a two way street and lately I have witnessed and had reported to me some less than respectful communication directed at staff of the school including;

- Entering classrooms while teachers are teaching and wanting to discuss something with the teacher.
- Speaking disrespectfully to office staff who are forever attempting to pass messages to students accurately.
- Refusing to comply with parking rules after and before school.
- Criticising teachers (in the presence of children) when invited into classrooms.
- Social media gossip and criticism of staff.

Please remember our children learn much more from what we model as adults than they will from what we tell them to do.

_Brett Shackleton_
Ferny happenings

Bug lady visits Year 1 students
Our Year 1 students had a visit last Thursday from entomologist, Dr Lani Heslin, otherwise known as The Bug Lady. Students learned why insects are the most diverse and successful group of organisms on Earth. The topics included: how their insects’ bodies are designed, what they eat, strategies for eluding predators and how they cope with life in harsh environments. Getting up close and personal to some of the live insects is very exciting for the kids who are always fascinated by the many different kinds of bugs that the Bug Lady brings.

School disco - Prep - Year 3 from 5.30-6.30pm $4   Year 4 - Year 7 from 7.00-8.30pm $5
Our disco for Term 1 will be held tomorrow, Thursday 6 March in the hall. Tickets on sale at Tuckshop area from 8am tomorrow. All money raised will go towards our School Chaplaincy program. Slushies are on sale for the evening - $1 for Prep - 3 and $2 for Years 4 - 7. This is a fully supervised school function and we ask that parents drop of and pick up their children at the conclusion of the event. Parents are not permitted to accompany children into the hall but can hand them over to teachers at the door.

On Parade
Lots of merit awards on Middle Years Assembly this week for students who have been recognised for their work and effort. Our Senior Band continues to entertain us each week - for some photos see our Music update on Page 6 of the newsletter.

Gotchas awarded
Dylan C 5O   Zoe E 5L
Maxwell D 5F   Sophie E 6T
Ella M 6T   Jordan R 7T
You were caught doing the right thing!

Don’t forget to join us for Early Years Assembly at 2pm this Friday and a whole school parade on Monday at 8.50am for Student of the Month awards.
Winter Sport starts Friday. Don’t forget to send your child with any jerseys or equipment (e.g. shin guards, mouth guards) they may need. They may also like a water bottle if it is a warm day.

Shave for a cure

We will hold a special whole school parade at 8.50 on Friday 14th March to again support Shave for a Cure, raising money for research into blood cancers like leukaemia. Three of our students will have their heads shaved in support of this cause - Dylan Malpass, Jettzia Hyde and Josh Ryan.

Please support our students by visiting our fundraising page.

Students will also be able to have their hair sprayed—50c per colour. We are seeking donations of coloured hair spray so that all funds raised can go directly to our Shave for a Cure total. Please drop donations of hairspray at 6R or the Uniform and Stationery stores by Thursday 13th March.

Book club

The first Book Club catalogues for 2014 will go home this week with your child. Book club is optional but many parents find it is a great way to purchase low cost books for their children’s evening reading or birthday presents. Orders and money

Sponsor for Aussie Rules jerseys

We are ordering some new jerseys for our Aussie Rules teams that play in second Semester. We have an opportunity for any interested local business to appear on the jerseys as a sponsor. The 30 jerseys will be used for many years and will be seen at a number of venues across the area. Please contact Vanessa Baird, Community Liaison Officer at vbair4@eq.edu.au if you are interested in supporting our school in this way.

Helping hands update

The children at OSHC celebrated National Red Balloon Day on Friday 28th February. This is a day to celebrate and thank the Fireys. In that theme the children decorated a poster and red balloons. We all had discussions about the great work the fire men and women do. The Mad Scientist program also started last week. All the children involved were very enthusiastic and eager to learn about Science.
A big adventure for our student councillors last week with an early morning trek to Ferny Grove SHS to see this amazing hot air balloon. Pilot Andrew Parker brought the balloon as part of the UNICEF “Flying High for Kids” program. Our Student Council held a Free Dress Day last year (in conjunction with Ferny Grove SHS) with the funds raised going to victims of Typhoon Hainan via UNICEF. Only 5 schools in Australia will be visited by Pilot Parker as he travels 112 countries over the next 4 years to promote the work of UNICEF. Thank-you to Mrs Reid, Mr Shackleton and Mr Bryant for escorting the councillors to the High School for this unique opportunity.

Up, up and away!

We have had a great response to our call for new Ready Reader Volunteers. During our training last week, we worked with 14 volunteers with a mix of parents and members of our broader community. We will be training another 10 this week. These volunteers work in our Year 1 - 3 classrooms for an hour each week, reading one-to-one with our students. It is highly valued program for the support it gives our young readers and the enjoyment and satisfaction it provides for our volunteers.
Happy Birthday Dr Seuss!

March 2, 2014 marks Dr. Seuss’ 110th birthday! The famous children’s author, whose real name was Theodor Geisel was born in 1904. More than 20 years after he passed away his stories are still entertaining and teaching millions of children with his unforgettable characters and quotable rhymes. To celebrate Dr Seuss’ Birthday, 1C has been enjoying some fun activities.

Students from 1C can be seen experiencing a non-Newtonian substance we call “Oobleck”! When they punch it, it feels like a brick, but gently set a finger in it and it’s like quicksand; the finger sinks right to the bottom. Very cool stuff! The students describe it as goopy, gloppy, green gunk!

Mrs Cash also came decked out as Cat in the Hat for Dr Seuss Day, sharing some of his quirky tales with her class.

Using a cool iPad app, the students also transformed themselves into Dr Seuss characters - some of Mrs Cash’s efforts below!

For those of you have not seen it on Facebook, [here is the link](#) to 1C singing their Dr Seuss tribute song.
Music happenings

Former Ferny Grove SS student honoured

Many may recall Ferny Grove past student Tetsuya Lawson as our regular Trumpet Player at our Remembrance Day Parades. Tetsuya commenced learning trumpet at Ferny Grove State School when in year 5 just like any other year 5 beginner instrumentalist. This week it was announced that he received 1st place in the "English Family Prize for Young Instrumentalists". This is a huge honour. As a winner Tetsuya will perform as a soloist with the Queensland Symphony Orchestra. We are most proud and we wish him all the best.

Music reminders

Our Senior Band (Years 6 and 7) continue to entertain us on parade. Here are some of our trombone, flute and percussion students in action at this week’s Middle Year’s Assembly.

Junior Band commences

Rehearsals begin next Wednesday, March 12 from 7.30am in the Hall. Junior Band includes Year 5 Woodwind, Brass and Percussion students. Please remind students to bring their instruments and arrive on time to maximise rehearsal time.

Choir rehearsals

Students are still welcome to join Choir for 2014.

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.

Senior Choir - Rehearsals are on Thursday, starting just before first break from 10:50am-11:30am. All Year 4-7 students are welcome to attend.
Coffee Cart
The Coffee Cart will be open during the disco tomorrow night, so if you need a cuppa to keep you going or an evening hot chocolate we've got you covered.

Our prices are:
- small $3.50, large $4, jumbo $5, tea $2 any size. Speciality milk or syrup add $0.50, we have soy and oat milk, and caramel, vanilla, hazelnut and chai syrups. $0.50 off when you bring your own cup. And remember your 10th drink is FREE with our rewards card.

Welcome to Natascha who has joined the team this year and did her first solo morning yesterday.

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

Uniform Store
Open Monday and Friday 8-9am.
Vanessa Baird, Convenor
0433 325 452

Tuckshop
New item on Tuckshop Menu
Want something nice and healthy try our new Pasta Salad for $2.00 or with Chicken or Tuna added $3.70.

No Large notes please!
It is becoming a common practice that we are getting $50 notes at the tuckshop. Unfortunately, as stated on our menu, we do not carry change for this. Please take this into consideration when sending Tuckshop money as it very difficult to give change when we get two people on the same day giving us these large notes. To avoid this issue, please order online, send a smaller note or make sure you have correct change.

Tuckshop Volunteer Roster
Thu 6 Mar Jodee Harris, Melissa Halliday
Fri 7 Mar Kate Newnham, Katrina Collins
Mon 10 Mar Robyn Jones
Tue 11 Mar Kim Born
Wed 12 Mar Simone Howes, Andrea Netto
Thu 13 Mar Heather Darlington, Devi Ajjarapu
Julie Haslam & Kellee Gyles, Convenors
3550 5361

Important Dates
March
10th FAST Meeting
7pm - Library
19th P & C Annual General Meeting
7pm - Library

P & C Meeting - March AGM
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! Summaries of the positions are below:

Roles of P & C Executive
President
- provide leadership
- act as a representative of the P&C
- ensure time is used effectively
- ensure decisions are made and followed up
- oversees accountability of the Association
- ensure everyone has a say
- manage dominant personalities
- foster good communication between the P&C, school and community
- encourage participation
- conduct meetings in an efficient and timely manner
- be familiar with rules, operations & meeting procedures

Vice-President
- consider this position as the president’s understudy
- provide support and assistance to the president and other Executive team members
- become familiar with P&C operations, rules and meeting procedures
- help the executive take the P&C into the community and promote the successes of the school
- can act as Chairperson for Sub-committees

Secretary
- maintain attendance records and register of members
- assist in preparing an agenda for each meeting
- collate agenda papers for each meeting
- prepare and present minutes of each meetings
- record and deal with correspondence in/out
- generally organise, record and maintain information pertaining to the activities of the P&C

Treasurer
- has overall responsibility for the financial management of the P&C, including all subcommittee accounts.
- comply with the Accounting Manual for P&C Associations
- prepare an annual budget for the P&C
- supply a financial statement at each meeting
- prepare annual statements, which must be audited
- monitor Wages for staff in P&C businesses
- discuss and address any issues raised by the auditor
- ensure all accounts are current and reconciled

If you have any questions regarding more detailed Role descriptions please contact Jodee at fgsspc@bigpond.net.au. Jodee is our paid P & C Business Operations Manager who is responsible for most of our P & C finance responsibilities.

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

It was wonderful to be able to share the UNICEF balloon visit with our Ferny Grove State School friends last Friday. Pilot Andrew Parker spoke to a very enthusiastic audience and answered questions about UNICEF and his travels. Even Principal Mr Breckenridge got in on the act, when he was taken up above the treetops in the balloon. Luckily he had climbed out before the basket tipped over after it had landed! We wish Andrew the very best with his continuing travels in an effort to spread the word about the work of UNICEF globally.

German Exchange Visit

On Tuesday evening 25 February, we welcomed colleagues and students from our sister school from Luitpold Gymnasium in Munich, Germany, following their week-long tour through North Queensland. We have 25 students and 2 teachers visiting us until 6 March. Our visitors are now discovering life at our school and are being billeted by our very generous families and students. Our Year 10 German students will be travelling to Munich later this year to experience life on the other side of the planet and will enjoy living with their new German friends. We hope that the German students’ stay is full of great learning and adventures. Thank you to all who have welcomed them to FGSHS and into their families.

Mark Breckenridge, Principal

Our Community

**Pure Tennis**

Pure Tennis enrolment forms were handed out last week for any pupils interested in having tennis lessons before school. If you missed out on an enrolment form please don’t hesitate to contact us on 07 3851 0444 for more details or to join in. Please note children wishing to participate in the before school tennis lessons will only be allowed on the court once a completed enrolment form has been handed to the coach or pro shop.

**Westside Soccer**

Westside Sports are looking for boys & girls interested in playing soccer for season 2014. We are looking to fill some teams and have the following vacancies.

- U6 - only 4 spots left!
- U7 - FULL!
- U8 - only 2 spots left!
- U9 - only 4 spots left!
- U10 - still 7 spots left!
- U11 - only 2 spots left!

If you are interested in getting involved and having a go please contact the Squirts and SSF coordinator so you can secure a spot. Season starts on 15 March. [squirtssf@westsidesports.com.au](mailto:squirtssf@westsidesports.com.au)

Samford Stags Rugby League

The Rugby League season is about to kick off, but it’s not too late to join the Samford Stags. Be part of the great game with the Stags and enjoy the fantastic family atmosphere, quality coaching, top class facilities but most of all, lots of fun with your mates. Boys and Girls starting from Under 6 are welcome. Contact our Registrar Shaylene Hoffman on 0416 058 196 or register online at [www.samfordstags.org.au](http://www.samfordstags.org.au).