Events

Thursday  
July 24  
7.20am String Ensemble  
1.50pm Years 5-7 Summer sports trials  
2.00pm Early Years Assembly

Friday  
July 25  
7.30am Senior Band  
Middle Years Sports Parade  
8am Year 1 Reading

Monday  
July 28  
7.30am Percussion Ensemble  
8am Year 1 Reading  
2pm CPR Meeting  
6.30pm IMPS Meeting

Tuesday  
July 29  
7.30am Junior Band  
2pm CPR Meeting  
6.30pm IMPS Meeting

Wednesday  
July 30  
7.20am String Ensemble  
5.30-6.30pm Prep - Year 3 Disco  
7-8.30pm Years 4-7 Disco  
1.50pm Years 5-7 Summer sports trials  
2.00pm Early Years Assembly

Thursday  
July 31  

Friday  
August 1  

From the Principal

Celebrating Excellence and Achievement

On Monday morning we held our celebration of high academic achievement on parade. I talked to the students about the importance of three things that will maximise our chances of success:

- Turning up. Being at school, at work, at band practice, at sport training etc. all contribute to success. If you don’t turn up how is it you will improve?
- Effort counts. Turing up in body is one thing, turning up with your brain and body ready to learn is another thing entirely. Be mentally as well as physically present.
- Most importantly, be aware of what you are good at. We can’t all be the best at everything however we each have the capacity to be great at something. What is that something? Too often we talk to our kids about what they need to improve when what they also need to hear is a sense of what their strengths are and how best take advantage of them. Just because I can’t understand a note of music doesn’t mean I can’t love the music others create and equally work hard to be great at leading people.

Congratulations to our academic achievers and to the many students who turn up to school every day.

School Opinion Survey

Parents/Caregivers, school staff and the representative sample of students are encouraged to take part in this year’s School Opinion Survey and share their opinions about what this school does well and how this school can improve.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey have been sent home with students—these are not linked to individuals, and you cannot be identified in the survey results that will be reported back to the school, or by the department.

Parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school. School computers will be available upon request. The survey will remain open until 3 August 2014.

If you haven’t received any survey access details by the end of this week, please contact the school on telephone 3550 5333 or email the.principal@fernygroves.eq.edu.au.

Mr Cooke’s Absence

I have been asked by some parents for an explanation of Mr Cooke’s absence since term 1. I need to reassure our community that he is not ill and is, in fact, exploring other personal and professional opportunities for himself. Paul has requested leave from Education Queensland until the end of 2015 and this has been approved. I am unsure of Paul’s intentions beyond that. There is no doubt Paul has made a significant contribution to FGSS over the last 7 years and we look forward to being able to acknowledge this sometime in the future. Unfortunately, the relatively short notice of his leave prevented a more formal celebration of his contribution to Ferny Grove. Mrs Jackie Schott is Acting Deputy Principal until the end of 2014 with a decision on 2015 to be finalised later this year.

Brett Shackleton
On parade

Monday saw our Academic Parade for Years 4-7. Class awards for Semester 1 for English, Maths, Music and German were presented. Our Senior String Ensemble also performed for everyone’s entertainment. Attendance awards were handed out to those students who had 100% attendance for Semester 1. Congratulations to all award recipients. Prep - Year 3 students who had 100% attendance for first semester will be awarded certificates at Early Years Assembly this Friday. Middle Years assembly next Monday will highlight Sports Awards.
Celebrating 100 School Days

Last Thursday was not only a great experience for the preps but also for the school captains. We loved seeing all the smiling faces and hearing what the preps thought about creating a time capsule. Although the prep students were upset about burying the capsule they were just as happy to wait until grade 6 to dig up the capsule and see what they were like in prep.

We all had lots of fun celebrating 100 days of schooling with the prepps.

*Stefany Gray, School Captain and Mia Young, Vice Captain*

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**Disco**

Next Thursday July 31st, the Student Council will be holding the School Discos for term 3. Tickets on sale mornings next week outside the Tuckshop.

- Prep - Year 3: 5.30-6.30pm Tickets $4 and snowcones $1
- Years 4 - 7: 7-8.30pm Tickets $5 and snowcones $2

The Barefoot in Africa team will be running an African BBQ (boerwers $3 and regular sausages $2) from 4.45pm outside the hall to raise funds for food for the orphanage in South Africa that Michael Jeh visited last time. Easy dinner before or after the disco! Coffee Cart will also be open.
General news

Sports Parade
Winter sport season has finished and children will be awarded with Coach’s and Best and Fairest Awards on Monday the 28 July. Parade commences at 8:50am and the Junior band will be also entertaining the audience with their first formal performance. If you have a spare hour do join us for this presentation.

ICAS English
Those children in years 3 to 7 who entered the ICAS English competition will sit the test on Tuesday 29 July.

Intermediate Music Camp
Eligible students took notes home last week. This musical experience inspires our students to continue learning, playing and enjoying their musical instrument. The camp takes place on Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th August.
$70 payment and medical forms are to be returned by Thursday this week.

Belinda Evans, Deputy Principal

Integrated Music Parent Support (IMPS) Group
The next IMPS meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th July at 6:30pm in the staffroom. All parents/carers of children in the choral and instrumental music groups are invited to come along.

Amy Martin, IMPS Secretary

Early years news

GOTCHA Awards
These were awarded on last Friday’s Early Years Assembly for students caught doing the right thing!
Lilli 1VH  Amber 3PR
Charlie 1K  Jak 2P

Attendance
The students with 100% attendance for Semester 1 will be recognised with a certificate at our Early Years Assembly this week.

Deputy Principal Award
Congratulations to Ellina Lee from Prep G who was presented with the Deputy Principal Award at last week’s Early Years Assembly. Ellina was nominated by her teacher Miss Gejas for being helpful and always giving 100% effort in all activities. Keep up the fantastic work Ellina.

Jacki Schott, A/Deputy Principal

Meet & Make is a group of parents who get together to work on different craft projects for our upcoming Festival Craft Stall.

Meet & Make will be on tomorrow Thursday 24 July at Yarn Over, the knitting shop at 265 Blaker Rd, Grovely (right next to the train station). Gabby has offered us her studio space – and we will be making jewellery, Elsa capes & crowns and shopping bags.

Come and join us for a fun morning, starting at 9.30am. Everyone welcome. We would really appreciate any time you can spare.

Next week will be held at Jenny’s place again.
RSVP to Jenny – jennyowen@aanet.com.au or 0403 367 936.

1-2-3 Magic Classes for Parents Of Children aged 2 to 12
The parents of students currently in Years Prep - 2 are invited to attend 2 evening sessions based on the 1-2-3 Magic Program, to be held in our school Library on Tuesday evenings 5th & 12th August starting at 7 pm.

Peter Wheeler (Student Welfare and Engagement Teacher) will be presenting 1-2-3 Magic covering the areas of –
- Reducing undesirable behaviours
- Managing children’s testing and manipulation of the boundaries
- Encouraging positive behaviours
- Strengthening parents relationships with children

The classes (7pm to 8:30) will include a power point, discussion and worksheet, so please bring a biro / highlighter.

Please indicate your interest in participating, by emailing Peter at pwhee3@eq.edu.au by Thursday, 31st July.

Peter Wheeler, Student Welfare and Engagement Teacher
PE and sports news

We had a wonderful finish to Semester 1 with three days of sport action! The number of students participating augers well for sport at Ferny Grove and the subsequent benefit that has for the health and wellbeing of our students.

The carnivals over the three days were a great success due to many things, including parent support, the dedication of our teachers and of course the high level of participation from our students. A number of records were broken with many students achieving personal bests and so many others just “having a go”.

Thanks must go to all of our teachers and to those parents who stepped in the help on the day. Of course we need to extend a big thanks to our House Captains and other Senior Leaders who did such a magnificent job over the three days. Well done!

Results for the Carnival were;

First – Koalas
Second – Kookaburras
Third – Kingfishers
Fourth – Kangaroos

Our Age champions this year were;

9Yrs – Zachary Webster and Sierra Jeh
10Yrs - William Sheedy and Sophie Batchelor
11Yrs – Joe Whitney and Georgia McCulloch
12 Yrs – Cameron Parry and Kalin Franks
13Yrs – Benjamin Gould and Kiarra Devoy

Well done to the winners and to all student who participated.

A record number of our students are now heading off to represent our school at the North West District Carnival. We wish them well for that event.

At our school sport and physical activity has always been more than just winning or even the sport itself, but moreover the benefits to our students in terms of their health and their ability to further demonstrate their understanding our school values by how they “play the game”.

The conduct of our students at this year’s carnivals demonstrates that at Ferny Grove we value our sport for the sake of sport and will continue to strive to ensure our school community maintains that sense of integrity in sport amongst our students and our community.

Gary Kirby, PE Specialist
Defence news

Welcome back for another exciting term and a special welcome to our new defence families. This term we are looking forward to some exciting games and activities for all defence students including a sausage sizzle in week 3. Our defence students have exclusive access to the defence Catch up club on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at second break. Our term 3 Catch up Club activities’ timetable is displayed in every classroom and is available for you here. We hope to see many of our defence students joining in the fun in term 3.

Jessica De la Jara & Liz Heddershaw, DSTAs

Catch up Club Activities Timetable

Term 3 – 2014

Week 1  Colouring
Week 2  Skipping
Week 3  Outdoor Game/Tails
Week 4  Bring a Friend to Catch up Club
Week 5  Poison Ball
Week 6  Mask Decorating
Week 7  Fathers’ Day Craft
Week 8  Fathers’ Day Craft
Week 9  iPads
Week 10  End of Term Party

Lightning strike

For those of you who heard the amazing thunder and way-too-close lightning on Tuesday afternoon, here is an update from our intrepid librarian, Mr Bryant.

“I went for a drive yesterday afternoon to find “ground zero” after the strike. It hit a paperbark tree just between 2 & 6 Sarah Crescent, just behind the day care centre across the road from the school.

You can see in the pictures that the lightning blew bark off the tree all over the ground and car. There’s also a small hole in the ground, and dirt was sprayed over another car.”
Important Dates

July
30th IMPS Meeting 6.30pm
Staffroom
August
11th FAST Meeting 7pm
Library
20th P & C Meeting 7pm
Library

P&C Presidents Report

There has been a lot happening in the P&C of late. To start with FAST (Fundraising and Social Team) achieved their target of raising funds for the completion of the Hall stage curtains. This is an amount of $13,000 after their efforts last year to raise the $20,000 for the initial installation of curtains. A big thank you to Peta Kimball, the FAST team and all who helped with the fundraising events in making this possible. The P&C and FAST committee will now set a new goal and you will be notified shortly of our new fundraising target.

IMPS (Integrated Music Parents Support Group) voted on the purchase of a new PA System for the Hall to the value of $9,500. This system will be a great improvement to the hall and benefit all who use it. Another thank you to the IMPS committee for their support.

The Coffee Cart continues to do a great fundraising job and their “Beans for Books” fundraising goal is fast reaching the $10,000 target. The Coffee Cart as part of “Beans for Books” purchased new bookshelves for I Block to help with the recent internal refurbishment. Sorry to those who may of missed out on a coffee recently (myself included) with the failure of their grinder but a new one has arrived and we are back in business.

The P&C has engaged professional services for the design and technical drawing of the Outdoor Learning Centre near the Year 1/2 playground as we continue to push forward with this project.

The results from the recent Tuckshop survey are in and there are some great comments and some clear directions that school community has suggested, I will keep you informed as we formalise these.

With the Festival fast approaching the P&C has designated the funds raised from it, to go towards a technology upgrade for the school.

As you can see there is a lot happening and all thanks to some very dedicated parents and volunteers. If you would like to help it would be greatly appreciated and you can find out more at our next meeting on the 20th August at 7pm in the Library.

Tony Clark, President

Coffee Cart

We have 2 new additions to the Coffee Cart team this week.

1st we are very happy to welcome the lovely Miss Peal to our team, she will be running the cart on Tuesdays this term. She loves us all so much she just couldn’t stay away, even when on leave.

2nd we are sad to announce the passing of our trusty Breville coffee grinder. It put up a great fight (especially as it was just a domestic grinder and this year alone we have made over 2500 coffees!). BUT the great news is we have a beautiful new commercial grade coffee grinder! To celebrate our shiny new baby needs a name. To enter please post your suggestions to FGSS Coffee Cart on Facebook. The winner will receive FREE coffee! Or Hot Chocolate.

Stationery & Uniform Store

Open Monday and Friday 8-9am.

We have a large number of second hand fleece and microfiber jackets in stock at the Uniform Store. Why not come down and pick up a spare winter jacket for your child?

Charyl Cowles, Stationery Convenor

3550 5359 (0431 265 068)

Tuckshop

Volunteer Roster

Thu 24 July Jodee Harris, Melissa Halliday
Fri 25 July Kate Newnham, Katrina Collins
Mon 28 July Robyn Jones
Tue 29 July Claire Tyler
Wed 30 July Simone Howes, Andrea Netto
Thu 31 July Heather Darlington, Devi Ajjarapu

Julie Haslam & Kellee Gyles, Convenors

3550 5361

Can you help us? We are still seeking a Convenor/s for the Year 6 Novelty Stall - lots of help provided!
Also need a convenor for our BBQ - it is one of our major money makers! Again lots of helpers, just need someone to help coordinate beforehand and roster for the day.

Contact Vanessa at vbair4@eq.edu.au or 0433 325 452 if you are able to help!

Saturday 11 October, 2014

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.
Kokoda Challenge

Congratulations to the 23 teams comprising 93 students and 23 parents and teachers from Ferny Grove State High School who participated in the Kokoda Challenge last Saturday in the Gold Coast Hinterland.

The course, designed to emulate the original Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea, is acknowledged as one of Australia’s toughest team bushwalking events, testing competitors’ stamina, fitness and mental determination. Most of our teams competed in the 48km Jim Stillman Cup, while one team attempted the 96km Stan Bisset Cup – the distance of the original Kokoda track - with one of our students, James King, and one of our teachers, Phil Rorke, completing the full 96km, blisters and all!

All participants were required to raise a minimum of $75 to go towards the Kokoda Challenge Youth Program, and some raised much more.

Congratulations to all our participants – what a fantastic effort from them all!

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*Entertainment Books*

Our Prep Committee is still selling Entertainment Books with lots of excellent deals to save money on restaurants and attractions all over South East Queensland. Hurry– hard copies nearly sold out!


*Flexischools*

For a chance to win $500 Flexischools credit, simply top up using PayPal from the 21st of July and we will enter you in the draw.

*T&Cs apply, ACT TP 14/09677 NSW LTPS/14/0402 SA T14/650 VIC 14/4289*
Are you aged 6 to 11 and want to learn FUNdamental Basketball skills? Dragons Club is again conducting their highly successful B.L.A.S.T.™ 6eleven non-competitive skills development program from Saturday July 19 for 9 weeks. Now in its thirteenth season, over 450 children have participated in B.L.A.S.T.™ since inception. Numbers are strictly limited and filling fast. For further information, email blast@northbrisbanebasketball.com.au or visit our website www.northbrisbanebasketball.com.au.