Events

Thursday Dec 4  Friday Dec 5  Monday Dec 8  Tuesday Dec 9  Wednesday Dec 10
Last day school banking
9am Ready Readers Morning Tea
6.30 - 8.00pm Year 7 Social

NO Early Years Assembly
5 - 9 pm Twilight Christmas Market

8.50am Middle Years Assembly - Sports Awards
5pm BBQ
6.30pm P - 3 Carols

Prep - Year 6 Reports home
7pm Year 7 Graduation

8.50am Middle Years Academic Parade
Prep Timbarra Show
Year 7 Reports home
6 - 7.30pm Year 6 Social

Thursday Dec 11  Friday Dec 12  Monday Jan 26 2015  Tuesday Jan 27  Wednesday Jan 28
Class Celebration Day
Year 5 Chermside Cinema
Year 6 Bounce Tingalpa
Year 7 Chermside Cinema
Last Day of School 2014
Australia Day Public Holiday
8.40am School Commences
FGSHS Orientation Day for Year 6

From the Principal

Significant Moment for Primary Schools
For the first time ever in Queensland’s education history, we will graduate two cohorts of students over the course of these last 2 weeks. On Monday night we officially farewelled our Year 6 students who will be the first ever group of Year 7 students to commence High School in 2015. Congratulations to all these students for the wonderful contribution you have made to our school.

Next Tuesday night we graduate our Year 7s who have proven themselves to be a terrific bunch of young people. This cohort were the first Prep students at Ferny Grove and many will complete their entire 8 year journey in the one school. I look forward to celebrating your official farewell on Tuesday night. Good luck to the 180 students leaving us to commence the next stage of their lives in High School next year.

I would also like to extend a warm farewell to the many parents leaving us as well, many of whom have had a number of students attend FGSS. Some have made really significant contributions to the life of our school over that time and I thank each and every one of you for that. Great schools need great parents who in turn develop great young people. Thankyou for all that you have contributed.

As usual there is a lot happening over the course of the last two weeks so buckle up and enjoy the ride. Thanks to our wonderful parent groups who contributed so much this year - P & C, IMPs, FAST, CPRs etc. You all add to the fabric of our school. 2015 is shaping as a very exciting year.

Farewell
We also farewell several staff who have made significant contributions to our school.
- Heather Barralett retires after many years teaching German to year 5-7 students.
- Sandra Bryce has retired after many, many years as a teacher aide at FGSS.
Both these ladies have seen the growth of Ferny Grove over the years and have been part of making it the quality school it is today. Our best wishes to both of you.
- Rose Abundo will be on leave for all of 2015 as will Jennifer Mould who will be enjoying a year in England.

2015 Admin Team
Your Admin Team will remain the same in 2015 with me as Principal, along with Belinda Evans and Jacki Schott as Deputy Principals.

Brett Shackleton, Principal

Finvoy Street
Ferny Grove QLD 4055
(07) 3550 5333
fernygrovess.eq.edu.au

Bulk Bill will be available early in Term 1 2015.
Payments can be made at the school office between 8:30 and 11:30 on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday ONLY.
All payments must be made by due date or student will not be able to participate.

Student Absence

Finvoy Street
For news, photos and latest events, “like” Ferny Grove State School on Facebook.
Ferny happenings

Whole School Assembly

Our whole school assembly on Monday 24th November saw our special guest, Michael Jeh present the latest instalment of our sister school story. Michael took two parents, Vanessa Baird and Shona Wilson to Humani, our sister school in Zimbabwe in October, where they delivered funds and supplies that have been donated by our school community. Michael shared a video of some of the highlights from the trip. A great way for us to reinforce our value of “care and compassion” by reminding our students how their actions can help those less fortunate than themselves! (Click through to video below)

We also thanked our Peer Mediators who have shown their merit as role models in our school this year, helping students learn the values of respect and co-operation in the playground.

Gotchas (for those caught doing the right thing!) were awarded to:
Rebecca W 4A  Tanika H 5L  Max T 1C

Early years news

Twilight Market
Come along to the Twilight Market this Friday the 5th of December in our hall from 5pm-9pm. There are over 35 stalls, a great opportunity to start your Christmas shopping if you are anything like me or perhaps find that last difficult to buy for gift.

P-3 Carols
The Prep to Year 3 Christmas Carols will be held on Monday the 8th of December in the hall. The Sausage Sizzle will be from 5pm and the Carols will begin at 6:30. Classes have been busy rehearsing for a few weeks now and would love you to come and see them perform.

Merry Christmas
I would like to wish everybody a very Merry and Safe Christmas. I hope that you all find time to relax over the holidays after such a busy year, and that Santa brings many goodies. Thank you all for a great year and I am really looking forward to continuing in this role next year. Merry Christmas.

Jacki Schott, A/Deputy Principal
Volunteers Needed
We are seeking volunteers for our Twilight Market (Canteen/Setup/School Stall) this Friday and Prep - 3 Carols (BBQ) on Monday. Please email me if you can help - vbair4@eq.edu.au. This is also a great opportunity to support your school and have a fun night out!

Vanessa Baird, Community Liaison Officer

Instrumental Music News
Our year draws to a close and the Year 6 and 7 students head off to high school. Final arrangements are in hand in preparation for our new beginners to commence the program in 2015.

Sadly we say goodbye to John Grainger as he has been transferred into the Indooroopilly cluster. John has been with us for the last ten years and will be sadly missed. He has always brought joy to his students’ lessons and performances. All his students and the Junior band will have lasting memories of their marching band performances at our athletics Carnivals.

Tania Savage, our percussion teacher, is also off to complete her Masters of Music Research. She has reduced her teaching load for 2015 and will be replaced by Brenden Schick. Although Tania teaches a small group of students the majority continue their love of learning percussion throughout their schooling and return to entertain us with their spectacular high school performances. It will be very sad to see her go after sixteen years teaching at Ferny Grove State School.

Week 10 Assemblies
Monday 8 December – Years 4-7 Sports Parade
Wednesday 10 December – Years 4 – 7 Academic Parade
Both occasions commence at 8:50am. Everyone is invited to come along.

Christmas Greetings
As this is the final newsletter for the year I would like to wish each and every family a relaxing and safe holiday. Those children moving to new schools I wish them every success in the new year. For those returning in 2015 I look forward to seeing you at the beginning of the new school year.

Belinda Evans, Deputy Principal

Crossing at St Andrews
Please be advised that the supervised crossing on Upper Kedron Road at St Andrew’s Catholic school will cease operation on Friday 5 December at 12:00 noon as St Andrew’s finish to 2014. The morning crossing will be as usual but there will be no afternoon crossing on that day. The crossing will not be operational again until Wednesday 28 January 2015.

Parents are asked to speak with their children about being cautious when the crossing is not supervised.
General news

Hope for Christmas
Don’t forget last chance to donate to hampers in the classrooms so we can put together some Christmas hampers for some of our families who need to feel special at this time of year. List of items is on the website here - drop off by Friday 5th December. Thanks for your thoughtfulness!

Eleisa Harris, School Chaplain

School Banking program
Thanks to the many bankers we have had over the year and Merry Christmas to you all!

Thursday 4th Dec is the LAST DAY of school banking for 2014. As mentioned in some previous newsletters, no rewards can be claimed this day. Tokens carry over to next year and some of this year’s rewards may still be available, along with a whole lot more!

We will bank the first Thursday back at school in 2015 (Jan 29th) so please bank to get the year off to a great start! PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD’S NEW CLASS on the front of your bank book before you bring it in next year. Also – if you or a younger sibling (even babies) are not banking yet, why not open a Youthsaver account over the holidays and start saving from week one next year.

Special thank you to Heather, Natalie, Sandra and Yumi for all their help through the year – without them, this programme would not be running in this school. We have made over $1300 for the school this year (5% of every deposit comes out of CBA profits into school and every new banker to programme attracts $5 for school).

NEW HELPERS AND NEW BANKERS WELCOME IN 2015!!!!!

Xanthe Sansome, Banking Coordinator

Fundraising news

Here’s what happens when a bunch of our male staff decide to grow moustaches for a good cause! Our Mo-Bros raised $460 for men’s health and entertained other staff and students alike! Nice work guys!

Let there be cake!
Our Twilight Market will be held on December 5 this year from 5.00 – 9.00 pm as part of our new monthly boutique markets, My Favourite Things.

The Fundraising and Social Team (FAST) will take this opportunity to raise money for our school via school run stalls. One of these stalls will be the bake stall. All donations to the stall are appreciated—keep an eye out for the flyer with the ingredients tag at the bottom to make it easy for labelling your yummies!

We are collecting your lovely baked goods on Friday 5th December from 2.00pm onwards, in the hall canteen area.

For any queries, please contact Fiona Deegan on 0419 690 996.

Helping Hands Ferny Grove School Community Survey - $100 gift voucher to be won.

To assist us in providing an OSHC program that meets both your and your child’s individual requirements, we would appreciate if you could please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey.

Please include your name and contact details to be eligible to go into the draw to win a $100 gift voucher. (One survey per family).

Follow this link to complete the survey online; https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S27XR6 or email accounts@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au to get a copy emailed to you.

This is your last opportunity to participate as the survey will close on Friday 13 December 2014.

Thank you for your feedback.
Swimming carnival

What a great couple of days with our Years 5-7 Swimming carnival on Monday and our Year 3-4 Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. Great effort by all who participated including those who just came along to cheer on their house!!
**P & C news**

**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.

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**Stationery Store** - help STILL required on the following days/dates:
- Sunday 18 January 8-10am
- Wednesday 21 January 4-6pm
- Thursday 22 January 4-6pm

**Stationery Orders** - '2 days time' orders should be collected by this Friday. Orders for the last week of school should be placed by this Thursday 4th Dec (or on Flexischools by 3.50pm Sunday 7th). If collecting your order in January, we recommend placing the order by Friday 12th December to ensure that stock is available. Payment can be made at the time of collecting the order. Credit card authorisations for January orders are processed on Thursday 15 or Friday 16 January. Orders can still be faxed through until Friday 16 January, or placed on Flexischools until Sunday 18 January. **RECORDERS** - are back in stock. If you have already collected your 2015 order and the recorder was not included in your pack, please call at the Stationery Store to collect one.

Charyl Cowles, Stationery Convenor  
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)  
stationery@fernygrovepandc.com.au

Madonna Morton, Uniform Convenor  
3550 5342 (0409 272 062)  
uniformstore@fernygrovepandc.com.au

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**Tuckshop**

We would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped in the tuckshop this year, without your help we wouldn’t be able to run the tuckshop as efficiently as we do. Hope to see you all next year.

Just a reminder that tuckshop is open up to and including Wednesday 10 December and will reopen on Wednesday 28th January, 2015.

**Volunteer Roster**

Thu 4 December  - Kylie Lawrence, Rebekah Armistead  
Fri 5 December  - Donna Bassett, Marie Kinshela  
Mon 8 December  - Tania Hyde  
Tue 9 December  - Meg Leslie, Uli Esser  
Wed 10 December - Liz Kubler, Emma Ney

Julie Haslam & Kellee Gyles, Convenors  
3550 5361

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**Coffee Cart**

Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year. The profits from the coffee cart this year have so far been used to buy $10 000 of new books, and new book shelves for the grade 5 classrooms. We are also in the process of supplying new book shelves to more classrooms around the school. The Coffee Cart will be open for the Twilight Market this Friday and P-3 carols Monday night. Looking for the perfect teacher’s Christmas present? We have Christmas themed coffee vouchers for $4 each (large coffee).
Enrolments for 2015
Information packs were sent out earlier this month to parents/carers of all students enrolled for Years 7 and 8 2015. If your student has been enrolled and you have not received a pack, please contact the office on 3550 5777. The pack contained a variety of information, including notice of our orientation days, which will be held during the week of 01 to 05 December. If you wish to enrol and have not yet made an interview appointment, please contact the school as soon as possible on 3550 5777 so that classes can be finalised for 2015.

Our students meet President Obama
Five of our students and our Principal Mr Breckenridge were privileged to meet President Obama after being invited to attend his address at the University of Queensland during the G20 Summit. School Captains Max Crane, Ab- bey Pearson; Vice-Captains Brayden Eckert and Amy Stay; and Student Representative Council President Ashleigh Shea were asked by the President which school they attended, and the girls even managed to snap a ‘selfie’ with him, which appeared in various newspapers and on the UQ Twitter feed. The students were also interviewed by several radio stations. Mr Breckenridge said the President’s speech “really struck home the importance of young people in creating their world.

“He told the students to make sure they continue to strive to make a difference ... something we push very strongly here at Ferny Grove State High.”

The students also snapped a photo with Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove.

FERNY GROVE

Twilight Christmas Market

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FAIR
OVER 40 MARKET STALLS

5pm – 9pm
Friday 5 December 2014

Santa Claus arrives at 6.15pm!
Willmore Kindergarten & Pre-School

Enrolments for 2017 will be open from 20th January 2015.

If you would like to enrol your child please come into the centre on Tuesday or Thursdays between 9.00am and 12.30pm. If these hours do not suit, please email us at admin_willmorekindy@bigpond.com and we will forward you a waiting list application.

Willmore Kindergarten & Preschool  Ph: 07 3351 2022
14 Iruka Crescent, Ferny Hills (PO BOX 293, Ferny Hills, Q. 4055)
E: willmorekindy@bigpond.com
W: http://www.candk.asn.au/willmore
FB: https://www.facebook.com/willmore.kindergarten

Where children come first for over 100 years

DRAMA with Brisbane Youth Theatre
Keeping kids and teens engaged and creative
with like-minded peers

Are you a keen performer and want to know what BYT is all about? Bring your friends or make some new ones! Do you want a joyous dose of drama in your school holidays? Then join us at our Paddington venue!

Summer Holidays Drama Workshops
Tuesday – Friday
13-16 January for ages 7-11
20-23 January for ages 12-17
Time: 10am-3pm, 4 days

After School Drama Classes Term 1 2015

Website: www.brisbaneyouththeatre.com.au
Email: info@brisbaneyouththeatre.com.au
Phone: Heidi Manché 0404 220 465

HOOK IN2 HOCKEY ~ COME & TRY PROGRAM

Your local hockey club, Pine Hills, welcomes boys and girls aged 5 to 13 to play in the upcoming HOCKEY IN2 HOCKEY.

Hook in2 Hockey is for boys and girls who have never played club hockey before and introduces the basic skills of hockey using games. It is the ideal opportunity to try hockey ahead of the 2015 season.

Cost: $50 per player
Who: Boys and girls aged 5 to 13
When: 3 x Friday evening sessions: 6, 13 and 20 February 2015
Time: 6.00-7.00pm
Where: Pine Hills Hockey Club grass fields:
James Drysdale Reserve, Jinker Track, Bunya

Every player receives a beginners equipment pack to keep that includes:
• Hockey stick
• Shin guards
• Hockey ball
• Mouthguard
• Replica Australian playing singlet
• A hockey stick bag to carry your new gear in!

**REGISTER NOW FOR HOOK IN2 HOCKEY**
to ensure your pack arrives in time for the first session

For all enquiries & registration details:
Visit  www.pinehillshockey.org.au
Email  join@pinehillshockey.org.au
Or call  Megan on 0414 340 643
Holiday Fun at NumberWorks’nWords

NumberWorks’nWords provides specialist Maths and English tuition for students from Prep to Year 10. They are a leader in specialist tuition with 30 years of experience. The Ashgrove centre invites Ferny Grove students to join them for their intensive (but fun) holiday program. Hit the ground running and ahead of the curve in 2015. Holiday sessions are 2 hours and run on 20, 21, 22 January. Each session costs $100. We book on a first come, first served basis. Visit www.numberworksnwords.com.au for more information or to trial a free lesson, or phone on 3366 8888.
Kindy Spots Available at Gaythorne Kindergarten - Play - Explore - Learn

Nestled in a quiet, tree-lined pocket of Gaythorne, backing up to the Enoggera Military Barracks, Gaythorne Community Kindergarten provides early childhood educational programs for children aged 2 years to 5 years. Our professional and dedicated teachers provide a program that enables children to learn through exploration and stimulating experiences. We aspire to create an environment that provides enjoyable and creative learning. This is achieved through activities designed to support your child in all areas of growth.

Our quality early childhood program is based on C&K Early Years Learning Framework curriculums.

Pre-prep Unit Operations

Group Days
- Group A: Monday, Tuesday, Alternate Wednesday
- Group B: Alternate Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Session Times
Monday to Friday: 8:30am - 2:30pm across the school term

Age Group
Children aged 3.5 to 4.5 years (your child must turn 4 by 30 June the year they attend Pre-prep)

To nurture our future generations of thinkers, play remains an essential part of the Gaythorne Kindergarten experience. Please drop in during office hours to take a tour.

For further information please contact the kindy on 3355 6181 or www.gaythornekindy.com