## Events

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday July 11</th>
<th>Tuesday July 12</th>
<th>Wednesday July 13</th>
<th>Thursday July 14</th>
<th>Friday July 15</th>
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<tr>
<td>7.15am Senior Band Rehearsal</td>
<td>3 - 5pm SPAG BOL Rehearsal</td>
<td>7.15am Junior Band Rehearsal</td>
<td>7.15am Senior Strings Rehearsal</td>
<td>7.30am Percussion Ensemble</td>
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<td>7.45am String Sectionals</td>
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<td>3pm Senior Band Sectionals</td>
<td>3pm String Sectionals</td>
<td>1.50pm Summer Sport Trials</td>
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<td>8.40am School recommences Term 3</td>
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<td>Years 4-6</td>
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<td>8:50 Whole School Assembly</td>
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<td>2pm No Early Years Assembly</td>
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<td>8:50 Middle Years Assembly -</td>
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<td>Sports Parade</td>
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<td>10am Brisbane Bands Festival -</td>
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<td>8am Year 1 Morning Reading</td>
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<td>7pm P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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## Great way to celebrate with our Under 8s...

Facepainting, balloons, artwork and smiles....another wonderful Under 8s day!

Under 8’s day is a morning of celebration focused on creativity, fun and friendship. It allows our younger students to have a great time visiting over 25 activity stations ranging from bubbles to photo booth, music and art. A big thank you to the teachers and upper school helpers as well as the parents who joined us to celebrate. We hope you enjoyed all the “treasures” they brought home!
As we approach the end of another huge term at Ferny Grove State School I wanted to take the time to thank our community for their vigilance over the last month as we pulled out all stops to prevent further damage to our infrastructure and hopefully catch those responsible for the previous damage. Thanks to all of you and the very proactive actions of Qld Police, four individuals were arrested on our grounds a couple of weeks ago. We will continue the high level of security over the holidays as it represents the next possible high risk period.

Gonski

I am sometimes asked about this thing called Gonski and what it actually is. David Gonski was tasked by the Australian Government to determine the level of resourcing schools needed to effectively cater for the needs of all students. He handed down a report that detailed a comprehensive funding model based primarily on need ie. The schools with most need would receive most funding. This funding started to flow in 2014 and has continued to grow since then. In our school in 2016 that means an allocation over and above regular funding of $240 000. So, what does that look like in our school and how are we using the money to make a difference. Examples of our work are listed below.

- Purchase of one day per week of additional Speech language pathologist time to support the transition of Prep students into school, particularly in their language skills.
- Purchase of additional teacher aide hours to support Quicksmart, a program designed to support older students still experiencing difficulty in Maths.
- Purchase of additional teacher aide time to support Multi Lit, a program designed to help older students struggling with literacy.
- Purchase of additional Support teacher time to maximise help for students struggling with their reading across all year levels.
- Funding for implementation of Developmental Reading Assessment so that every student in years 4-6 is comprehensively assessed for their reading progress twice per year. Students in P-3 are also assessed 3 times per year using the PM Benchmarks assessment tool.
- Additional teacher time to assist teachers across all year levels to extend high potential students in their literacy and support those in need of personalised instruction.

None of this would have been possible without this funding and I congratulate the bi partisan approach of both recent Queensland Governments for their commitment to directing the resources to schools rather than into the bureaucracy itself. Now what we need is for the Australian Government to do likewise and continue what has been transformational resourcing for all schools across the country.

Brett Shackleton, Principal

General news

Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)

Group Triple P classes will be offered in Term 3. Classes will be on Thursdays, 18 August, 25 August and 1 September at 6:30 pm in the staffroom.

Classes are free and include a workbook for participants – all Ferny Grove State School parents are welcome.

Please indicate your intention to join us for the program (3 classes) beginning with the first class on August 18th by emailing Peter at pwhee3@eq.edu.au.

Upper Kedron Road upgrades

We have been advised by Cedar Woods Properties Limited that they will shortly commence road widening and intersection (including traffic light) upgrades on Upper Kedron Road. These improvements will enhance the safety of those roads for both parents as they commute and also our students who walk, bicycle or scooter to school. More information about the upgrade can be found here.
Early years news

**Prep Creative Play Area**

It is easy to take things for granted at times as we are very fortunate to have the play spaces that we do here at Ferny Grove. Our facilities are amazing, and it is crazy to think that with the vision of some and the hard work of others we manage to make things even better. A vision of a creative play space in the unused out of bounds area in prep was born only months ago with a collaboration of ideas from our wonderful prep teachers and teacher aides, it wasn’t long before the very clever Tony Clark was busy mapping out a plan and within four weeks that unused area has been transformed. It is safe to say that his hard work and ability to bring to life the many ideas that we had in mind has left us all speechless. We now have a creek, tepee, mud kitchen, car track, stage, laser beam course, water wall and many other spaces that encourage the imaginative play so important in the early years. I cannot thank Tony Clark enough for his all of his hard work in making this happen. Needless to say the prep students think it is all pretty amazing too!!

**Happy Holidays**

Holidays are here after a very busy 11 week term. I am very proud of all of our little people who have achieved so much this term. Have a wonderful holiday and ensure you make time for fun but also enjoy some nice quiet relaxing time. Stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all next term.

*Jacki Schott, Deputy Principal*

jscho62@eq.edu.au
Middle years news
Not only has it been an action packed term this past eleven weeks, but it has been an amazing semester; half a year in your child’s life and education. This week you will have received your child’s report card home. This document is intended to provide parents with information that captures a semester of school. This information can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride; it can also cause concern, frustration, and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period marks a new beginning to set goals and reflect on past habits, achievements, and challenges. Most importantly, it is a time for you to communicate with your children and determine a path for future academic enrichment and social-emotional growth. The following is specific to middle years students; a phase of learning where they need to regularly reflect on their learning habits and identify areas to develop.

Focus on the Positive
Regardless of the grades your child brings home, first focus on positive aspects of the report. This is not always an easy task. For some, this might mean highlighting a strong effort or behaviour mark, or praising an academic accomplishment or a perfect attendance record. Starting on a positive note shows your child that you truly care about the accomplishments, not only areas that need improvement.

Ask the Right Questions
Be careful not to overreact to low grades, or grades you view to be unsatisfactory. Instead, use this time to look at past performance and plan for what’s next. Talk to your child, asking questions to understand how a particular grade was earned:

Was the work too difficult?
Could the pace of learning be inappropriate (too fast, so that your child feels "lost," or too slow, causing your child to feel "bored")?
Does your child complete all homework and ask questions when problems arise?

The answers you receive might indicate a need to review your child’s study habits. Does your child have a specific nightly homework time (Monday through Thursday) when he cannot be disturbed? If not, this would be a great time to establish one! If so, is it long enough? Does your child have a specific place to study where resources (including someone to answer questions) are available and distractions are minimized? Is your child completing all homework on a nightly basis, or are assignments being turned in late, or not at all? Once you have determined the problem, you can begin to create a solution.

The Next Step
Creating a plan to maximize future academic success is an important part of every child’s education. Help your child set realistic and attainable goals. Outline ways in which these goals can be met, as well as rewards and consequences if they are not. Type the "official plan" and post one copy in a prominent household location, and forward another to her teacher. Involving your child gives her ownership and importance in this process, and this makes the report card important not only to you, but also to your child.

As parents and teachers, we want the best for children, but in too many cases this is measured only by the number of A’s and B’s brought home. Emphasize to your child the importance of doing the very best job that he can. Encourage him to succeed, and measure his progress in realistic terms, letting him know that you care and are available to help. Break tasks into small steps, so that even the youngest child can measure her growth, and the most advanced child can monitor her progress. By reviewing the report card, and developing a plan for the future, you will help your child find the road to success. Most importantly though, if something doesn’t seem right and you need further information, please contact your child’s teacher.

I wish you and your families a wonderful mid-year break.

Katie Stubbings, Deputy Principal
kstub5@eq.edu.au
Tuckshop news

Our school businesses, Tuckshop, Uniform and Stationery Stores are managed by our P & C Executive, who are responsible for all decisions about these business operations. Our Tuckshop Convenor has been advising parents for 6 months that we would be implementing a “Flexischools only” policy, to facilitate the improvement of tuckshop delivery procedures from the beginning of Term 3. The use of the Flexischools online ordering system as the only method of payment for Tuckshop orders is a decision made by the business managers, our P & C Executive. This also means that orders will need to be placed by 9am.

Flexischools has been in place for the past 7 years now, so there has been ample opportunity for everyone to learn and adapt to this system. There are many benefits of the Flexischools system, with the following key points below;

- Flexischools enables students who have insufficient funds or unable to write their names down the ability to order without missing out on their lunches.
- Flexischools enables students who may have allergies to explicitly state their food requirements and ensures this responsibility remains with their parents.
- With Flexischools, there are no late lunch orders, missed lunches, less accounting, no debt recovery and provides the ability to order meals in advance, either daily, weekly or even throughout the entire term.
- Flexischools also allows the Tuckshop to accurately forecast and subsequently prepare the necessary amount of food for orders, which leads to less food wastage.

These are the reasons why the Tuckshop actively encourages everyone to get on board and use Flexischools and would like to take this opportunity to thank those who currently utilise and support this system.

With declining numbers of volunteers, it is necessary for us to work with our Tuckshop staff and respect their concerns with regards to issues that impact their ability to work efficiently. Flexischools allows us to reduce time pressures and stress on our valued convenors, ensuring that we retain staff and can continue to open each and every school day.

We are committed to working with parents to overcome any barriers to using Flexischools during this time of transition. We reiterate that our staff will always do their best to accommodate extenuating circumstances and nobody will ever go hungry. We appreciate that some may have concerns regarding fees and disclosing credit card information to Flexischools. No fees are charged on direct bank transfers to your Flexischools account (this also avoids using your credit card) and Flexischools now holds an AFSL (Australian Financial Securities Licence), governed by ASIC.

We know that during this time of transition, that parents will remain respectful to our Tuckshop Convenors. The P & C Executive can be contacted at pandc@fernygrovess.eq.edu.au to arrange assistance if you need help signing up or ordering, or you can access the information below.


We appreciate your ongoing support of our P & C businesses as they allow us to return funds to the school for enhancement of learning opportunities and environments.

Tony Clark, P & C President

More fun from Under 8’s Day

![Images of children](image1.png) ![Images of children](image2.png) ![Images of children](image3.png)
SPAG BOL news

Thank you from “Cactus” cast and crew

Wow! What a triumph of the talent we have here at Ferny Grove SS! Cactus played to the biggest combined crowd yet for a SPAG BOL Production. Over 700 people witnessed a fantastic, fabulous and funny show full of action. Thank you all who came along and supported our students.

Director’s award

Special congratulations go to Declan E., the recipient of the Director’s Award for Cactus. Declan impressed in a leadership role within the backstage crew and his reliability, dependability and attitude shone through in this production. An excellent acknowledgement of the highly essential, yet so often overlooked, role played by students to help others develop their creativity. Well done Declan!

Semester Two production

Believe it or not, but SPAG BOL members are currently undergoing the ordeal of auditions for our Semester 2 production – ‘The Robber Baron and the Baker Thief’ a musical comedy. Stay tuned for more news next Term!

David Sandilands, Drama Specialist

No collector cards

Due to increasing incidents contrary to our Responsible Behaviour Plan, students will no longer be allowed to bring any form of collector cards (Pokémon, Yu-gi-oh etc) to school.

Although these types of games can support positive social interactions, we are concerned about the negative affect the increased competitiveness is having on our students.

Please support us in ensuring your child leaves their cards at home. Thank you.

Katie Stubbings, Deputy Principal
Sports news

Prep – Year 3 Sports Day – 2016 - Thursday 23rd June

## March past approx. 8.45am – then events as per timetable below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>PREP</th>
<th>YR 1&amp;2</th>
<th>YR 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Sprints</td>
<td>Relays</td>
<td>Tabloids Year 3/4 oval</td>
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<td>Main Oval</td>
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<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Tabloids</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.50 pm</td>
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Library news

It was lovely to see so many students excited about books at our recent Book Fair. Thank you to everyone who supported our fair. The money made at the book fair has enabled us to buy some fabulous new books for our library.

EKKA

The school holidays is a great time for any students who are interested in creating something to exhibit in the EKKA to represent our school. The categories that we have entered are “Create a playground plan” (Year 1 & 2), Design and create a Flood warning poster "If it’s Flooded Forget It!" (Year 3 & 4) and the Year 5 & 6 project is to design and create your own weather vane. For details of each category follow the link [http://www.ekka.com.au/media/2783/2016-education-on-show-schedule_final.pdf](http://www.ekka.com.au/media/2783/2016-education-on-show-schedule_final.pdf)

I can’t wait to see what you create.

Leane Dunn, Library Coordinator

Chappy news

The Following is taken from a page out of a book I received at Christmas. Its called 'Start Today' by M.H. Clark

*Today has a lot going for it:*

*Its here, it's now and it's already yours.*

*Today is the only day that comes with a guarantee.

You've been waiting for today, even though you might have been calling it something else. You might have been calling it "tomorrow" or "someday" or even "the future". But now, it's the present and the best thing to do with any present is open it, delight in it, and appreciate it for what it is.

Begin something - something small or something bold, something that will grow bigger with time. This might just be the day you've been waiting for. So start here, start now, start today.

In light of those words I would encourage you to plan and do something in the holidays that allows you to delight in the opportunity for fun and connection with your families. Delight in the opportunity to spend time together and explore some new part of Brisbane you haven’t been to before. Go for a picnic, bushwalk, ride the bikes along the great bikeways, or try a new craft activity. Perhaps you could get up early and watch a sunrise or maybe you stay indoors and create delicious food. I'm not sure what's important for you, but I know that starting small and building on it can create special things that last a lifetime and create a space for fun. Have a safe and restful holiday and make the most of each day and not take it for granted.

I will be exploring the great outdoors on a kids camp at Mapleton as part of my work. It will be awesome.

Alexia Hoffman, School Chappy
Instrumental Music & Performing Arts

Well what a fabulous end of term Ferny Grove has seen in performing arts. David Sandilands and his extraordinary support network of staff, parents and students brought the Wild West to our school hall with “Cactus” across two evening performances. Our amazing hall was the centre point again for the recent cluster Advanced Music Camp concert; a spectacle of singing, dance and music. The alumni orchestra, brought together to celebrate 20 years of advanced music camp showcased the musical talent bred right here in our cluster. We are very fortunate to have such a well-equipped venue to be able to stage these events, as well as Kurt Bryant and his AV team whose expertise ensures high quality and professional productions. 50 students participated in each of these activities. In many cases they were the same students meaning the same parents backed up each early morning and late evening rehearsal, coffee cart, BBQ, working bees, set design and costume workshops. I saw parents share the load with baking goods and carpooling. We can never underestimate the power of a strong community that comes together to support our students. Thank you everyone!

Auditions for the next production have commenced and our next major performance for instrumental music is just after the holidays with Senior Band and Senior Strings playing in the Queen Street Mall at the Brisbane Bands Festival. As has been requested for past music performances, we will be hiring buses to transport the students and their instruments to the Queen Street Mall and back on Monday 18th July for 12pm and 12:15pm performances respectively. There will be some availability for parents to travel with us; buses will be leaving from Ferny Grove at 10:15am and return around 1:30pm.

Communication

Facebook – we are endeavouring to streamline our communication for the Instrumental Music page. With multiple ensembles, sectionals and lessons it’s really important that we get the information to parents in an effective and timely manner. The Instrumental Music page will be updated each evening with information relevant to the following day. Please check here if you are not sure about rehearsals. We will continue to put timely information in the newsletter (the newsletter calendar is usually correct) and email when necessary. Please contact your child’s instrumental Teacher Rhonda Haringcaspel - rhari1@eq.edu.au or Nicola Seneviratne – nsene1@eq.edu.au for:

* Any queries about your students’ progress
* Repairs or issues with instruments
* Absences from rehearsals or lessons (Please notify the FGSS office absence line if your child is away from school the entire day, however for just a lesson or rehearsal time contact the teacher)

Upcoming Events

18 July – Brisbane Bands Festival
9th and 11th August – Intermediate Camp
Musicfest – Venue Ferny Grove State School
13 October – Primary Strings B grade from 11am
13 October – Primary Strings A grade from 2pm
13 October – Senior Concert Band from 6pm
27 October – Junior Concert Band from 5:30pm
3 November - 2017 recruitment night

Katie Stubbings, A/Deputy Principal
Defence news

Catch Up club News

The last two weeks of term have been lots of fun for our Defence students and their friends at Catch up Club. Students enjoyed creating a bright display of chalk drawings on the pavement at the end of C block and building some interesting creations with Lego on the last week of term. Some of our students have been requesting Lego to play with at Catch up club for some time, so it was wonderful to be able to provide this activity for them as an end of term treat. The students have thoroughly enjoyed it and we look forward to seeing more of their creations in terms 3 and 4. We wish all Defence students and their families a safe and fun holiday and look forward to seeing you in term 3.

Support for the Children in Juba, South Sudan

What a generous community we have at Ferny Grove State School! Thank you to everyone who has sent donation items for the children at the orphanage in Juba, South Sudan. I am sure the children will be delighted with the beautiful items that are heading their way. A special thank you to Nicole Grace who has been helping with the collection of items and who will be helping us send the items to South Sudan. We will continue collecting items for the first couple of weeks of term 3 so there is still time to bring items in. Thanks again for your generosity.

Jessica De la Jara & Liz Heddershaw, Defence School Transition Aides

Bridge Engineers Test their Work

After 5 weeks of designing, building and engineering, our collaborative teams of Year 1 to 3 students made some last minute adjustments before testing of their straw and masking tape structures began. Tension was high and breaths were held as each bridge was tested for its ability to carry traffic across a 40cm span without support. All passed the initial traffic test and so students began stress-testing to determine the breaking point of their design.

Nate (3/4E) and Zeke’s (2CC) design (the Golden Nate Bridge) held an amazing 1430g before plummeting to the floor below. Dylan (2OV), Will (3SB) and Riley’s (3V) Sydney Harbour Bridge held 1035g before it shared the same fate.

The elegant designs of Olivia (3R), Leah (2B), Veronica (1/2F) and Thomas (2C) and Claudia (1K), Melissa (1P) and Merrick (3P) and were able to hold less weight during stress-testing but both certainly showed all groups that bridges could also be objects of beauty and style. Next term, a new group of students will begin work on their project to build a catapult. Watch out teachers and parents!
Festival news
With the holidays fast approaching, it is a great chance to sort through possible donations for our Festival, being held on October 8 this year. Can you help with any of these? Drop off times will be in Term 3.

Treasure Trove
Work on cleaning out any books, DVDs, good quality toys and games that you no longer need ready to donate for our Prep Treasure Trove.

Take cuttings from your garden and pot them up for our Garden stall.

Jar Junction
In 2015 there was not a single jar left at the end of the day and we are busily preparing for another sell out. We are currently looking for donations of clean glass jars as well as the finished product! Some ideas on what we are seeking (but not limited to) include clean empty jars of any size, sweets, small toys (marbles, small dinosaurs, craft items, bath salts, pens/pencils, small cars, paperclips, loot bag items), labels, homemade preserves/jams/chutneys or even just a vege­mit/e­past­a sauce filled jar from the grocery store. We appreciate any help and donations. Thank-you.

Melanie-­Al­ly­ce Bennett, 1M

Second-hand kids clothing
This year at the FESTIVAL we will be having a second-hand kid’s clothing store. If you have any pre-loved kids clothing in good condition that you would like to donate please drop to the Uniform/Stationery Store in Term 3.

Lena Jackson, 1/2F
**Important Dates - July**
11 July FAST Meeting - 7pm Library  
20 July P & C Meeting - 7pm Library  
23 July IMPS Meeting - 6pm Library

**Stationery & Uniform Store**  
**REGULAR HOURS**  
MONDAY & FRIDAY mornings 8-10am  
2-5pm WEDNESDAY afternoons  

Charyl Cowles, Stationery Convenor  
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)  
stationery@fernygroves.eq.edu.au

Madonna Morton, Uniform Convenor  
3550 5342 (0409 272 062)  
uniform@fernygroves.eq.edu.au

**Tuckshop**  
The Tuckshop has implemented many positive changes in the past 18 months. Our student menu items consist mainly of freshly prepared onsite meals, which remain affordable, continue to have generous serving sizes and remain in line with the Smart Choices guidelines prescribed by Education Queensland. In addition, we also offer our Teachers and Staff, an adult menu, with newly created dishes for each term. The Tuckshop also provides a catering service, with the ability to cater for anywhere from 50 to 400 people, with this being one of the many services the Tuckshop is able to provide.

**Flexischools**  
As of term 3 we will be moving to a “Flexischools only” model for payment of Tuckshop orders. Please refer to information from our P & C President in this newsletter regarding this change. Orders will close at 9am, and for those who miss the cut-off for orders at 9am, there will only be basic sandwiches, snacks and drinks available (this includes phone orders when a child has forgotten to take their lunch).

Have a great school holiday break, as always big thank you to all hardworking tuckshop volunteers!

_Liz Mu, Senior Managing Tuckshop Convenor_  
3550 5361  
tuckshop@fernygroves.eq.edu.au
Community news

Mitchelton Youth Club Open Day
Saturday 25th June 2pm-4pm
Come along for a sausage sizzle and try a free class
Cheerleading, Acrobatics, Gymnastics, Trampoline, Tumbling & Judo
Community news

School Holiday Activities
Mitchelton Library

Crafting with Violet Mackerel*
This workshop is an introduction to the Violet Mackerel series by Anna Branford and Sarah Davis. The workshops aim to connect readers to the series through an initial book discussion followed by two activities based on the book—a felted leaf necklace and pencil topper. Ideal for children aged 7-10 years.
Tuesday 28 June 2-3.30pm

Kitchen gardening with young children*
Children will learn how to ‘pot-up’ edible plant cuttings which can be taken home to integrate into a small-space sustainable garden.
Presented by Monag Gamble, SEED International.
Wednesday 29 June 2.00-4.00pm

The BFG Literary Event*
Celebrate the film adaptation of Roald Dahl’s The BFG with this fun and interactive event. Chat about your favourite Roald Dahl books and share in themed activities. Ideal for children aged 7-10 years.
Thursday 30 June 3.30-4.30pm.
*Bookings essential.

Call Mitchelton Library on (07) 3403 7410 for more information.
For more events at Mitchelton Library visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries or pick up a copy of What’s On In Libraries.

School Holiday Activities
Mitchelton Library

Learn to Knit*
Learn knitting basics with the Mitchelton Library purling knitting group. Ideal for children aged 5-12 years.
Thursday 30 June 1-3pm
Thursday 7 July 1-3pm

Beatrix Potter 150th birthday*
Since 1901, Peter Rabbit has been a favourite fictional character amongst children around the world. Share in the fun and games celebrating Beatrix Potter’s beloved characters. Ideal for children aged 4-8 years.
Wednesday 6 July 2-3pm.

Lord Mayor’s Writers in Residence storytime event: My Two Blankets with Irena Kobald*
Irena Kobald’s My Two Blankets was named 2015 picture book winner of the Children’s Book Council of Australia and includes the themes of friendship, family, feelings, cultural diversity, integration and social issues. It succinctly describes what it feels like having to learn a new language. Join Irena as she shares her beautiful book in this special storytime. Ideal for children aged 4-8 years.
Thursday 7 July 3:30-4pm
*Bookings essential.

Call Mitchelton Library on (07) 3403 7410 for more information.

For more events at Mitchelton Library visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/libraries or pick up a copy of What’s On In Libraries.

Ferny Grove Festival
OCTOBER 8, 2016

Great kids & families ☑️ Great staff ☑️ Great learning opportunities

[Logo and text for Ferny Grove Festival]