



Number 4 Wednesday 18 February 2009 Email: the.principal@ferngrovss.eq.edu.au Website: www.ferngrovss.eq.edu.au
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A WORD (OR TWO) FROM THE PRINCIPAL



SCHOOL FACILITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

With the amount of press coverage in the last week, everyone would be aware that it includes improvement to school facilities across Australia. Primary schools have been given special mention. I know little more than anyone else and much is hearsay or rumour of possibilities. The exception is that I received a letter from our Federal member, Hon Arch Bevis MP in which he stated that a figure of up to \$3 million would be available for schools of the size of Ferny Grove. School halls and libraries were mentioned. There are lots of details about 'the what' as well as 'the how' needed before matters are clear.

Projects that may be considered for federal funds if allowed are:

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE ATTACHED TO THE HALL

This will be an area for all forms of The Arts, including a rehearsal area for the various music groups and a stage to perform. The area could be divided into three with one large and two smaller areas. This would:

- ✦ Accommodate our largest bands for rehearsal and performances when the front is opened to the hall.
- ✦ Drama or arts groups in the smaller areas.
- ✦ Have a performance area/stage for large events with the front and sides opened with the eastern end of the smaller rooms forming the wings of a stage.
- ✦ Provide a 'break out' area for OSHC students as its location will be adjacent to the centre.
- ✦ Provide storage under the raised platform and accessible from the current hall through the back and down through the platform.

Fortunately, the space on the western end of the hall is sufficient to accommodate this facility and convenient for classes to access it from the northern side and in through the hall.

LIBRARY EXPANSION OR REPLACEMENT

The only thing that is sure is that an improvement would be great for students. A lot of thought will be needed when the details are known about the grants. I feel libraries are best located centrally in a school but know that the concept of a library may need a rethink for the 21st century. I realize that this will not be a facility just for 2009. We must look at the future of a library as best we can by considering what we know and what we think the future will bring.

My vision for our library has been to;

- ✦ Increase it by two bays (66% in size)
- ✦ An external covered deck on the eastern/tuckshop end.
- ✦ An upgraded computer facility with wireless capacity.
- ✦ Reading nooks for individuals and groups
- ✦ Separate areas so classes could operate with the normal class noise and not disturb others.

An 'outreach' facility so that students could access resources from classrooms.

However, with the amount of money that may be available, it may require a complete rethink.

MUSIC BLOCK

Currently the use of a relocatable building is serving the purpose. My thoughts on a separate block would allow:

- ✦ Classroom music teaching area
- ✦ Tutorial area for small group lessons
- ✦ Storage area for instruments
- ✦ Central area for the storage of music and other materials
- ✦ Second area for ensembles to rehearse

I see this being accommodate by completing K Block. The platform for the complete block was established when the half block was built with two classrooms currently housing two Year 5 classes.

PREP PLAYGROUND

I am not sure this will come within the guidelines. It can only be hoped that it will be part of the larger fund or a separate \$200 000 that was also mentioned in the letter. The project is obvious but will take some thought on exactly what to include. I see the current equipment being bulldozed; gum trees in the centre removed and a new design started from scratch.

In my view, this is the only way with or without this funding.

(cont.)



Our P & C has developed two adventure playgrounds and an oval in recent years with the help of grants and subsidies. It would be good if this project didn't have to be considered in this way.

CONFERENCE FACILITIES

This would have multiple uses including:

- During the day, a meeting room for groups of teachers and other staff for in-service and various purposes.
- Area for visiting specialists and other people.
- Meeting place for parent groups such as CPRs, P & C, etc
- Area for running workshops for teachers and parents.
- Area for community groups in evening and weekends

It would require an extension to the office block. Currently there are no spare spaces in the school.

SCHOOLS OF TOMORROW - CLASSROOM RENEWAL (STATE FUNDS)

****DETAILS IN NEXT WEEK'S NEWSFLASH****


BARRY STARKEY (PRINCIPAL)



CLASS PHOTOS

Class photos will be taken on Wednesday, 11 March. All children will bring home today an envelope advertising the prices for photos. Those wishing for sibling photos need to collect an envelope from the office. Complete and return all envelopes to the photo box which is located in the office before 11 March.

All class and individual photos plus the Year 7 photo, School Captains, House Captains, Student Councillors, Peer Mediators and Senior Leaders will have photos taken on Wednesday, 11 March.

**INDUCTION PARADE
SENIOR BAND PERFORMANCE**



Come along to the Induction Parade on Monday 23 February, commencing at 9:00am. The Senior Band will be performing and will be required to wear their performance uniform for this event.

**LORIN NICHOLSON
PERFORMANCE**

Payment is due tomorrow for this fantastic performance. Lorin will thrill the children with his guitar playing and singing. The performance takes place on Friday, 27 February. Complete the slip below, send along the \$5 admission fee (per child) and your child / children will enjoy the show.

*Belinda Evans
Deputy Principal*

**SCHOOL BUSHFIRE SUPPORT
APPEAL: FRIDAY, 20 FEBRUARY**

The recent bushfires in Victoria have affected not only many conversations in classrooms, but also relatives and friends of school families.

This Friday students, staff and parents are invited to bring a monetary donation to school. All money collected will be forwarded to the Red Cross Bushfire Appeal. We understand that some people may have already donated funds.

Class teachers will have spoken to students about the bushfires during the week 16 – 19 February.

Year 7 teacher Cassie Munro and Year 7M students will coordinate and collect the donations on the morning of Friday, 20 February.

As money for donations cannot be banked or receipted through school accounts, the money collected will be forwarded to the Red Cross on Friday.

Please make cheques payable to "Red Cross Bushfire Appeal" We do hope you can support this worthwhile cause.

**DISTRICT LITERACY TRAINING
FOR TEACHERS**

This week Mr Fraser, Mrs Donnet, Mrs O'Gorman, Mr Kurth, Mrs Paige and Mr Cooke will attend training.

**CLASS PARENT REPS PROGRAM
(CPRS)**

Some class teachers are still looking for parents to take on this important role. Please see your child's teacher if you can assist.

The first CPR Meeting is to be held in the staffroom at **2:00pm on Wednesday, 25 February.**

MORNING ROUTINES

Thank you to all who have helped us start the year. Students at school before commencement at 8:30 can access the Outside School Hours Care Services. On arrival at school before 8:30 students and parents/ carers are all asked to walk directly to the covered area in front of the tuckshop. In this way all students are safe and in one place. Please do not wait in areas around classes before 8:30.

Please escort Prep students to classes daily from 8:30. Please escort Year 1 students to their classes in the first few weeks. Year 2 – 7 students are encouraged to walk to classes independently from the covered area daily at 8:30.

**RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER
ELECTRONICALLY**

To minimise our environmental impact and to ensure you receive the weekly newsletter electronically, please forward your child's name, class and email address care of newsflash@ferngrovss.eq.edu.au

LORIN NICHOLSON PERFORMANCE	"SEE SHARP"	Payment due Thursday 19 February, 2009
My child/ children	in years	will be attending Lorin Nicholson's
Performance on Friday 27 February 2009.		
Payment is enclosed <input type="checkbox"/>	Parent/Carer Signature:.....	
<input type="checkbox"/> has been included with Bulk Bill payment		

ABSENCE LINE – 3550 5360 – FOR STUDENT ABSENCES – Phone any time , Wait for the BEEP, Slowly and clearly state – your name + your child's name + roll class + date of absence + reason for absence.

SCHOOL SORES ALERT



Parents of a student have advised that their child has impetigo (school sores). Students are required to be excluded until appropriate treatment has commenced. Sores on exposed skin must be covered with a watertight dressing.

DATE CLAIMERS: NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy will involve all year 3, 5 & 7 students across Australia. Students will participate in assessment tasks on 12, 13, 14 May. Please endeavour to plan for your child to be at school on these days. Information for parents can be accessed: <http://www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html> Information is also available on the Queensland Studies Authority website: www.qsa.qld.edu.au

Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal

TENNIS

Tennis is great fun for all at Ferny Grove State School with Tammara heading up the coaching program! All are progressing through their shots well, especially on the forehand and volleys.

The children are really enjoying their tennis and are excited about the prize they receive when they win the player of the week award.

The award is given to one student in each lesson, who displays the best progress, is a good sport and follows the rules .

Remember kids the most important part of playing tennis is not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game! See you at the courts!

Tammara
Ferny Hills Tennis Centre



DEFENCE NEWS

Deepest sympathies to all who are in Victoria dealing with such terrible heart-ache. To our Defence Force families surrounded by the fear of fire around Puckapunyal and Kilmore, my prayers are with you.

I have just completed the relevant counting to reveal that we now have 124 defence children within our school. A huge thank you to all those families who returned the family questionnaire. It has helped in counting numbers and cleaning up old records.

If you have lost your sheet, please pop up to the office and collect a new one. We have kick started with some new activities for parents who are away. It was so lovely to hear from the Dads and I thank you for your letters.

Thanks go to all the teachers who allowed me to withdraw our defence children so early in the term. Our welcome sausage sizzles went well. Miss Angie and I would like to thank John Church and Emma H in 7H. John was a great cook & Emma was a huge help, assisting on both days. Thank you also to Brodie F and Emily R from Year 6.

Until next week, take care.

Marilyn Young
Defence Schools Transition Aide
myoun178@eq.edu.au

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- **RSVP**
- **WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS**
- **YR 3, 5 AND 7 TESTS**
- Tuesday 24th February 7pm
- Staff Room - RSVP essential.
- Materials need to be prepared so it is essential to have numbers and to know the interest to prepare a venue.
- Guaranteed to be fun as well as informative.
- RSVP: To register leave your name at the school office, telephone school on 3550 5333, or email: theprincipal@ferngrovss.eq.edu.au
- **RSVP – DEADLINE – Friday 20th**
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FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS	
Thu 19 Feb	• Yr. 2 Coles and Prickly Pears Tour
Fri 20 Feb	• Early Years Assembly
Mon 23 Feb	• Student Leaders Induction Parade 8.50 am All Welcome
Wed 25 Feb	• 2.00 pm CPR Induction
Fri 27 Feb	• Lorin Nicholson "See Sharp" • NO Early Years Assembly • Summer sport begins • Clean Up Australia Day
Mon 2 Mar	• Student of the Month Parade



AEROBICS

Week 2 saw the start of the aerobics sessions in the school hall on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and

Wednesday mornings. The instructors have been creative with the sessions, keeping everyone active - improving overall fitness and coordination.

There are places available for Prep -Year 7 students, so if you would like your children to participate please complete a registration form (available from the office) and hand it in to the parent helpers - 3pm Monday and Tuesday and 7.40am Wednesdays.

Fruit and OJ is provided at no cost, as the P & C Association have received a grant for funding. It is a great way to build fitness for winter sports and children at OSHC can attend.

Shannon Woodrow



GOTCHAS: Well Done!

- These children were caught 'doing the right thing' and are rewarded with an ice block voucher from the tuckshop.
- Oscar 2H
- Kye G 2C
- Cameron 2T
- Shanyce 2CH

Would you like your Newsflash delivered using 21st Century technology? Email your request to Newsflash@ferngrovss.eq.edu.au Please include the name and class of the eldest child in your family. e.g. Susan Allen 4A



All items for inclusion in the current Newsflash should be emailed to Newsflash@ferngrovss.eq.edu.au by **3.00 pm on Mondays.**



STATIONERY STORE:

OPENING HOURS: Monday and Friday 8 – 9 am.


REAMS OF PAPER: To be paid for at Stationery Store or left at office by **THIS** Friday, 20 February.

OUT OF STOCK ITEMS: Mesh pouch only – not expected until second term. **NB:** It is parents' responsibility to keep receipts for taxation purposes.

FOR THIS YEAR ONLY – requests for photocopies **MUST** be received no later than Friday, 27 February.

Charyl Cowles, Convenor
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)

Charyl Cowles (Stationery Store) and Christine Thompson(Uniform Store) would like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who have supported us over the rush at the end of 2008 and the very exciting back to school for 2009. We are grateful for the support our helpers have given and cannot thank you enough.

Donna Little, Simone Howes,  Varuni Razik, Vorrnan McAlley, Lyndelle Gunton, Sam Pini, Kura Dingwall, Jane McClintock, Cathy Greig, Gwen Van West, Tracey Cock, Deb Cheers, Gayle Worthington, Laura Clarke, Donna Bassett, Nicole Wall, Meg Leslie, Carolyn Snyders, Marie Kinshela, Leanne Dunn, Julie Randolph-Davis, Xanthe Sansome, Fiona Deegan, Carolyn Duffy, Kylie Rogers, Andrea Beevers, Linda Fox, Michelle Ballinger, Cherie Healey, Sue Ripper, Gabrielle Edwards, Allison Exley, Sharlene Rogers, Liz Kubler, Judy Ansell, Gill Wade, Jenni Rogers, Leisha Robinson, Kim Rollings, Sheridan Hetherman, Jenny Baddeley, John Church, George Andrews and the cleaning crew.

If we have forgotten anyone, please forgive us and know that you were all very much appreciated.

Not only our helpers need thanking but also all our customers for waiting patiently in long queues through the terrible heat and the soggy rain.

THANK YOU everyone. Charyl, Christine, PAG and P & C Members.

CONGRATULATIONS! To the winners of the Stationery/Uniform store helpers draw - Linda Fox and Simone Howes.
Enjoy!

UNIFORM STORE

Mon and Fri - 8.00 am to 9.00 am
Christine Thompson, Convenor
0400 223 818



ROAD SAFETY

There has been a disturbing trend with children riding bicycles to school not wearing helmets. As this is law, I would ask all parents and caregivers of children who do ride to please ensure that their child is abiding by this law. I would also ask parents to please discuss the road rules with their children before allowing them to ride to school. A couple of our upper school children were seen "doubling" with the second child sitting on the handlebars. This is extremely dangerous and should be discouraged. Thanking you for your help in this matter.

Leanne Reid
Road Safety coordinator.

MUSIC AND CHORAL GROUP

The AGM will be held on Thursday the 26th February at 7pm in the staff room.
All Welcome.

Shirabdi Gordon
IMPS Secretary


WESTSIDE SOCCER

Registrations for players in all junior age groups are still open for the upcoming winter season at Westside. Boys and girls aged 5 to 11 years are welcome to join.

The club website contains more info:
www.westsidesports.com.au



Westside train at the Grovely Sportsground, Hanran Street Keperra and are looking for beginner players and those who play for the school team.

Date	Tuckshop Roster 
Wed 18 Feb	Donna Little
Thu 19 Feb	HELP NEEDED
Fri 20 Feb	Shirabdi Gordon, Kellee Gyles
Mon 23 Feb	Tracey Cock
Tue 24 Feb	HELP NEEDED
Wed 25 Feb	Nicole Wall, Donna Bassett

COMMUNITY NEWS

TWILIGHT MARKET TO AID THE WORLD'S POOR.

If you have ever wished you could do your shopping and help those in need - then come and check out Global Market Day.

Fashion, Children's toys, Jewellery, Stationery, Fair trade chocolate, coffee and textiles will all be on sale to support disadvantaged communities in Australia and overseas.

You will have opportunities to lend your support to issues such as child sponsorship and human trafficking. There will be entertainment, food, drinks and activities for the kids. So bring the whole family!

Global Market Day is an imitative of Arana Hills Church of Christ.

When: Friday March 20, 6-9pm

Where: 2 Bringelly St, Arana Hills
Entry: Free!

ALBANY CREEK SOCCER CLUB

Kindy Soccer Program (ages 3 to 5) Sign On 10am to 2pm this Saturday the 21st of February at Wolter Park (Jacaranda Drive, Albany Creek, Qld 4035). Spots are filling fast and are limited, for more information on the Kindy Soccer Program please visit www.acesoccer.com.au or email: aceKINDY@gmail.com or ring 0414 597 724.

FOR SALE

Alto Saxophone in G.C. Yamaha-current model-music books included-contact Rosemary Murphy 38512638

P & C NOTICEBOARD — next meeting Wednesday 18 February 7.30 pm

Tuckshop – 3550 5361
Mon-Fri 8.30-12.00 pm

Uniform Store - 3550 5342
Mon and Fri 8.00 - 9.00 am

Stationery Store – 3550 5359
Mon and Fri 8.00 - 9.00 am

OSHC
Gail 3851 2196