



Number 16 Wednesday 20 May 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



THE WEEK THAT WAS

Last week was different, to state the obvious. While arrangements for the events started in the previous week, I found astonishing the number of phone calls from different agencies on Monday. The day really started when I left school at 7.30am and returned from an in-service workshop at 11.00am to find multiple phone messages and over 40 emails, and finished at 8.00pm with a call to the Executive Director to 'bring him up to speed'.

Here's how the week looked:

Monday

- Arrangements for the Minister's visit on Tuesday
- Check on protocols for a Current Affairs visit
- Whole School Student of Month Parade
- PAG meeting which DP Paul Cooke attended

Tuesday

- NAPLAN Tests for Years 3, 5 & 7
- Finalise arrangements with Departmental media unit for Minister's visit ensuring there was no disturbance before tests finished that day.
- Hon Geoff Wilson, MLA, Minister of Education visits classroom with media
- Approximately 25 media personnel with cameras at school
- Lengthy interview by media with Mr Wilson after classroom visit
- Some students interviewed in the classroom
- I was interviewed and pleased that little was of interest for the news
- Some students and parents interviewed by a news channel before school. This was not known about or in the school grounds
- Brisbane North Executive Director, Tom Robertson, was in attendance during the Minister's visit
- Deputies took care of all matters as I managed to get back to the office at 3.00pm for a staff meeting

Wednesday

- NAPLAN tests continue
- Farewell morning tea for chaplain, Angela Gardener
- OSHC meeting at 7pm which I was unable to attend

Thursday

- Final day of NAPLAN except for 'catch up' test for students absent previously
- Current Affairs interviews P & C president Danny Gough, Deb Cheers, Tuck shop convenor and myself. (I had to depart to attend a funeral and left DP's to manage media on school site)
- Answered several calls regarding Walk to School Day happening on Friday
- Meeting with National School Pride team regarding the 1st part of the development which is centred on the outdoor learning area for Prep

Friday

- NAPLAN 'Catch up' tests last day
- Walk to School with around 400 students involved. Mr Geoff Wilson guest walker with P & C executive members, staff and many parents (I disappointingly missed the walk due to a continuing injury and joined the group on the oval.)
- Media again at school to film walkers and to interview Mr Wilson
- Success of walk thanks to organisation of Mrs Leanne Reid and the support of parents and teachers

The students seemed to enjoy the week and most coped very sensibly with the cameras. I was very proud of the way students who were interviewed conducted themselves. I'm not sure what was broadcast as I only saw the ABC news on Tuesday and was at another physio session on Friday when Channel 7 & 9 news aired.

To add to the week, there were daily matters around the industrial dispute and the strike on Tuesday. I'll distribute a final circular to inform parents which I'll write on Monday 18th. You'll have it before this is printed (I prepare my article for the Newsflash on Sunday).

While it was an interesting week, I hope it isn't repeated some time soon.

NAPLAN TESTS

I managed to get to all but one class on the Tuesday and from discussion with teachers and students plus observation, students were reasonably comfortable about sitting the tests. Teachers have done a fine job in preparing their students both for the material in the tests and completing them.

SENIOR BAND LIVE ON ABC 29 May 7.40am

Tune in to 4QR to hear our band perform.


BARRY STARKEY (PRINCIPAL)



EARLY YEARS NEWS

TERM 2: LOOKING AHEAD

Thur 21 May	Yr 1 excursion Alma Park Zoo
Fri 22	1GH Fairy Tale day
Fri 22 & Mon 25	} Launch of Cookie Dough Drive at assemblies
Tues 26	
Thur 28	Year 3 fairy tale plays
Fri 29	Year 3 World of Maths
Fri 5 June	Under 8's - Yr 1-2 oval.

JUNIOR CHOIR:

CONGRATULATIONS

Last Friday night the Junior Choir members performed in the Queensland Youth Music Awards. We are very proud of the students for being awarded a **Certificate of Excellence Highly Commended**. Congratulations to all students and your teachers.

PREP TEACHERS TO COMPLETE NATIONAL ONLINE CHECKLISTS

From Monday, 25 May each Prep teacher will be released to complete online information into a secure web-based data entry checklist. The information will provide the National government with data about the development of children across Australia when they enter school. Children are not required to be present while data is entered. Later in the year our local school community will be provided with public data around strengths and vulnerabilities in our area. The school will also be provided with confidential data pertaining to our specific school findings.

Parents have been provided with a letter and fact sheet in previous correspondence. It is imperative that you advise your child's teacher **by this Friday, 22 May**, if for any reason you do not want the information on your child to be collected.

EARLY YEARS DATE CLAIMER

On **Friday, 5 June** Prep - Year 3 students will celebrate **Under 8's morning**, following our Early Years Assembly.

The theme this year is "**Creativity – Let It Happen**". Creativity is simply the act of making something new. Class teachers are coordinating 2 activities each for the morning.

If you have an interest and are available to run an activity would you please see your child's teacher .

Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal



WEDNESDAY EARLY MORNING MUSIC LESSONS

Several children have enjoyed early morning free music lessons thanks to one of our generous and talented parents, Steve Hall. For the past 10 weeks Steve has provided fun educational music lessons for children, many of whom have not had the opportunity to learn an instrument privately. We thank Steve for providing this experience and enriching the lives of our children.

We advise that the series of lessons has now ended.

SENIOR STRINGS



EXTRAVAGANZA REHEARSAL and EVENING PERFORMANCE

Rehearsal

Thursday morning, 8.30-9.30am at our school hall, due to the wet weather.

Those children who were dropping larger instruments at the high school will now require their instruments at school.

Children are required to assemble at the hall **with their instruments** by 8:30am.

Evening Performance

Thursday 21 May 2009

6:30pm start.

5:30 pm warm up (BBQ dinner can be purchased from 5:30pm.)

FGSHS Ralph Took Auditorium

FAMILY PLANNING LESSONS

Year 6 Lessons commence Thursday 28 May and run for 3 weeks. Payment of \$22 is due by Tuesday 26 May.

Year 5 Lessons commence Tuesday 2 June and run for 2 weeks. Payment of \$14 is due by Thursday 28 May.

If parents **do not wish** their child to be included in the program please notify the classroom teacher or Belinda Evans in writing.



CHOIR PARADE PERFORMANCES

Mon 25 May Boys Choir
Mon 1 June Intermediate Choir

Term 2 Competitions

QYMA Choral Competition Dates

Tues 26 May Boys Choir
6:30 arrival Aspley SHS
Mon 1 June Yr 4/5 Choir
6:00 arrival Aspley SHS
Wed 3 June Senior Choir
6:30 arrival Aspley SHS

Belinda Evans
Deputy Principal



DEFENCE NEWS

Thank you to families and staff who have written to me wishing my mum well. It has been a very tough period but things are improving. Thank you for being so patient. I apologise for any inconvenience that my absence has caused. It is hard to be so far away from family, you notice it so much more when an emergency like this happens and every second is so precious.

As the current cycle for exercises, courses and pre deployment training begins, could I please ask you to remember to have your family plans organised and written down. It is so important that all those involved in your family plan have a copy in case of an emergency.

If there are changes to your emergency names and telephone numbers please advise the office so we can cater for your children. Could you also ensure that you make up a small card with contact numbers on it and place it in your wallet/purse just for a backup safety plan.

While I was away I heard that our school Chaplain Miss Angie left to be with her fiancé in Bundaberg. I wish them both all the very best for the future. We are all going to miss her.

Until next time,
Marilyn Young
DSTA

SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING FOR 2010 ENROLMENTS

Tues, 9 June parents of Prep - Yr. 7 students commencing at Ferny Grove in 2010 are invited to a Parent Information Evening: 6:15 registration for 6:30 – 7:00pm school tour. This will be followed by an introduction to our school in the school hall. Please inform friends and neighbours of this important event.

Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal

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.

EDUCATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS

WORLD OF MATHS

UNDER 8's WEEK

EDUCATION WEEK CELEBRATIONS

On **Tuesday 1 June** from 3.00-4.00 pm all classes will be open for parents to view their children's work and informally chat with the teacher and other families.

During the hour parents and their children will also be able to enter the Education Week Challenge by visiting at least one classroom per year level and finding a solution to a question, riddle or rhyme. All completed entries go into the draw and will be drawn at Early Years Assembly and Senior Parade.

WORLD OF MATHS TIMETABLE

FRIDAY 29 May (Yrs.3 and 4)

9.00-10.00am 4L, 4F
 10.00-11.00 3K, 3H
 12.00-1.00pm 4K (1/2), 4JM, 3A
 1.50-2.50 4K (1/2), 4S, 3S

MONDAY 1 June

9.00-10.30am 7S, 7K
 *10.30-11.00 }
 12.00-1.00pm } 7M, 7H
 *1.00-1.30 }
 1.50-2.50 } 5T, 5CJ

TUESDAY 2 June

5E, 5B
 6O, 6K, 6T (1/2)
 6P, 6R, 6T (1/2)

WORLD OF MATHS

The wonder of maths will be another major focus of our Education Week Festivities. Every 2 years the World of Maths team visit Ferny Grove State School and set up many exciting, large, hands on displays and puzzles.

These give our children the opportunities to enjoy interacting with mathematical problems and working together to find solutions - making maths fun.

The **cost** for each child is **\$5**. This was **not advertised on the Term 2 bulk bill** .

The interactive mathematical investigations will be set up in the hall.

Parents are more than welcome to come along (at no cost) and enjoy the program with their child/children. A timetable has been provided advertising the class sessions. Where half classes have been indicated a letter will be sent home nominating the time your child will attend.

* Indicates the 1 1/2 hour sessions will be split allowing for lunch and afternoon breaks.

Last week a letter went home regarding this fantastic maths opportunity for all children in Years 3 -7. The cost and permission form were included. If you require a permission form another can be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

Ferny Grove State School Thinker's Challenge



PREDICTION KEY

The next challenge uses the Prediction Key.

"In 100 years, what will be the most popular 'latest technology' that you could buy?"

Remember to place your answers into the labelled boxes in the library.

Winners are announced on parade.

The winner of the last challenge was **Georgina Ode** from 4JM.

Congratulations!

GOTCHAS: Well Done!

These children were caught **'doing the right thing'** and were rewarded with an ice block voucher from the tuckshop.

- Samantha R 4F
- Sofia M 4L
- Cassandra W 4L
- Lauren S 4F
- Chelsea C 4F
- Rhiannon L 6O



FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS



Thu 21 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr.1 Alma Park Zoo • Strings Concert
Fri 22 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Assembly (Cookie Dough Fundraiser) • 1GH Fairytale Day
Sat 23 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trivia Night P & C
Mon 25 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.45 Senior Parade (Cookie Dough Fundraiser)
Tue 26 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr.3 Raw Art-Fantastic Fairytales • 11.00 am Sausage Sizzle PAG • 7.30 pm QYMA Boys Choir
Wed 27 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr.5 St Helena • UNSW Computer Test
Thu 28 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr.3 Fairytale Plays • Yr.6 Family Planning

PERMISSION FORM for WORLD OF MATHS

I give permission for my daughter / son in class

to attend the WORLD of MATHS at school on

I enclose payment of \$5.00 . This activity was not included in the Term 2 bulk bill letter.

Signed: (Parent / Guardian)

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



SAUSAGE SIZZLE



A Sausage Sizzle will be held on **Tuesday, 26 May**. All orders and money must be in to the tuckshop by **9am THIS FRIDAY 22 May**. Late orders will not be accepted.

Helpers are urgently needed to help on Tuesday. If you can cook a sausage or help serve, we would love to see you at the hall (from 8am).

COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

The Parents Activity Group will be holding a Cookie Dough Fundraiser. Forms and further information will be available soon.

**Katrina Collins
PAG**



STATIONERY STORE:

Monday & Friday 8.00 – 9.00 am.

**Charyl Cowles, Convenor
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)**

UNIFORM STORE

Mon and Fri 8.00 am - 9.00 am



**Christine Thompson, Convenor
0400 223 818**

CULTURAL COMMUNITY

The Language Department at FGSHS is keen to share language and cultural opportunities with ALL members of our community.

Please find below some imminent activities that are open to ALL. To confirm your interest or attendance at any of these events please email fhudg1@eq.edu.au or call 3550 5804.

Thursday 28th May at 9am; Indonesian dance and musical cultural performance in the Ferny Grove SHS Auditorium. **Free!**

Friday 12th June at 6pm; "Culture Club Community Cuisine Class" - South African cuisine. **Cost \$8** includes lesson and food sampling! Wine available.

Saturday 20th June at 1.30pm; guided tour of the Antiquities Museum at the University of Queensland by Dr Sonia Puttock, Director/Curator of the Antiquities Museum and Lecturer in Classics and Ancient History. **Free!**

July – date to be set; Joanne Millar will feedback on her trip to Dr Catherine Hamlin's Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia!! **Free!**

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Date	Tuckshop Roster
Thu 21 May	Cheryl Boyd
Fri 22 May	Shirabdi Gordon, Kellee Gyles, Julie Haslam- HELP
Mon 25 May	Sue Ripper
Tue 26 May	HELP NEEDED
Wed 27 May	Nicole Wall, Donna Bassett
Thu 28 May	Nicole Wall, Donna Bassett

**Deb Cheers, Convenor
3550 4361 mob 0423 539 846**

ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

After the raging success of the 2008 Trivia Night we have decided to hold it again this year on 23 May, 2009.



Tickets at **\$12.00** each will be available for sale prior to the night. Start organising your team. Pre-booking of tickets is preferable as there will only be a limited number available for purchase on the night.

Allison Exley 0423 662 997



ROAD SAFETY

Thank you to all the parents, caregivers, teachers and children for your great efforts walking to school on Friday.

Once again we really impressed the organisers with our efforts. Keep up the great work walking, especially now the weather is cooler.

**Leanne Reid
Road Safety Coordinator**

YR. 2 CPRs MORNING TEA

We would like to invite all parents of 2T and 2CH to morning tea on Friday 22nd May at **Nadiths** coffee shop across from the school (at the shopping centre).

This venue is easy to get to so come along if you are free. The time will be 9.00am or after Assembly.

**Meg, Jessica and Kym,
Yr. 2 CPRs**

COMMUNITY NEWS

RESEARCH: PARENT'S INTEREST IN PARENTING PROGRAMS

The Parenting and Family Support Centre (PFSC) at the University of Queensland are currently conducting research into parents' thoughts and interest in participating in parenting programs. We are looking for parents with a child aged 2-10 to complete a survey based study and watch a short video about Triple P.

The study is available online at: <https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/engagement>. Alternatively if you reside in the Brisbane metropolitan area, you can complete the study at PFSC by contacting Faye Nitschke (faye.nitschke@uqconnect.edu.au or Ph: 3365 7307).

Q150 ON THE MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL

**Sunday 31st May, 10.00am – 4.00pm
Mt Nebo State School, camp ground.**

Join our mountain community celebrating local cultural heritage with:

- Celebration poles created by local artists and community members
- Welcome to country and story telling circle
- Local community choir, Peace 'n' Choir
- Indigenous choir, Songlines Choir
- Giant Puppets
- All day music from local musicians
- Art exhibition

The Festival will commemorate the Q 150 Anniversary through celebration of the Mountains' (Mt Nebo and Mt Glorious) natural and cultural landscape bringing together communities, artists and organisations.

For further information contact Vanessa on 3289 0277



P & C NOTICEBOARD — next meeting Wednesday 20 MAY

**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**