

Ferny Grove Newsflash



Number 5 Wednesday 25 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



SCHOOLS OF TOMORROW - CLASSROOM RENEWAL (STATE FUNDS)

There have been two rounds announced with details only on the first. Both were mentioned at the end of 2008.

Round 1

This is for maintenance to external facilities including external painting and repairs to pavers. This is extensive and funding was announced in 2008. We are expected to commence in the near future.

Round 2

The second was for upgrades internally to existing facilities. A submission was due in the last week of last year. I believe that these were considered during the vacation but there has been no announcement. With only three allowed, I included the following in our 'wish list':

- ✦ Renovate B Block (old school) to convert three older style classrooms to two 21st century learning facilities.
- ✦ Renovate library with new shelving being a minor but important part.
- ✦ Provide quality concertina doors to all double teaching spaces without, and replacing low quality ones. This will allow more flexible use of spaces.

PREP COVERED WALKWAYS

I am not sure of a start date, but expect the walkways to be completed by the end of May. This is a State Government project and will be greatly appreciated when finished, particularly with weather experienced recently.

Comment

- ✦ Some of the above projects and those mentioned in the previous Newsflash, are 'set in concrete' with others just concepts and hopes.
- ✦ All will take a huge amount of effort to bring to life and will require a greater capacity than is available within my current staff.
- ✦ Most, if not all, I've raised in many forums particularly with the P & C so they will not be new to many parents.
- ✦ Everything included, I believe, will enhance the educational opportunities for students of Ferny Grove State School currently enrolled and in the future.
- ✦ I don't believe that these are the only ideas for school facilities improvements and I'm sure there are some other productive thoughts that may be better.

AFTER EFFECTS OF STORM SUPPORT

Last week, along with all primary school principals whose schools experienced the storm in November '08, I attended a presentation led by Associate Professor Brett McDermott, Mater Child and Mental Health Service and University of Qld.

Brett and a team from CYMHS (Child, Youth Mental Health Services) have been commissioned by Education Qld. to assist any children affected by their experience.

Brett explained that Australian and international research had determined that some children at risk of acute and chronic anxiety conditions following natural disasters, (eg. 12% of primary students) experienced post-traumatic stress disorder 3 months after Cyclone Larry).

Brett explained that often the condition is hidden and without intervention it will continue surfacing even years later.

The first step is to identify children who have developed either storm phobia or post traumatic stress disorder.

A letter will be forwarded to all parents who can accept or decline the offer of assistance.

For those parents who give permission, a questionnaire will be completed with the assistance of trained personnel who will visit our school in early March (probably 9th or 10th). A report will be provided for parents. All matters will be confidential.

Keep an eye out for the letter which will provide details. I would encourage parents to seriously consider this free offer of assistance.

CONGRATULATIONS

To:

Everyone for the terrific effort in raising \$2 039 to donate to the Bush Fire Appeal. A big thank you to Ms Munro and 7M for driving the event and organising the collection.




BARRY STARKEY (PRINCIPAL)



EARLY YEARS NEWS

READ, READ, READ

The value of reading to or with your child, or having your child read and talk about a book they are reading, cannot be underestimated.

Home readers in all Year 1-3 classes should be read each night. Please encourage your child to take time daily for home reading.

Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal

SENIOR BAND PERFORMANCE

The Senior Band will be playing at the Student of the Month parade, next Monday 2 March. All members are required to wear their band uniform.



CLASS PHOTOS

Class photos will be taken on Wednesday, 11 March. All children have been given 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 be taken on Wednesday, 11 March.

Belinda Evans
Deputy Principal

CLASS PARENT REPS PROGRAM (CPRS)

Class Parent Reps have met for their Induction, 2009. All parents will be invited to register to be included in class phone and/ or email trees. Please get to know and support your Class Parent Representative (CPR).

Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

For further information or to nominate call the school office on 3550 5333.

DEFENCE NEWS



A ribbon bar that was found in the playground has been handed in. It has the double ASM & UN East Timor ribbon. If this belongs to you, please contact me ASAP via my email so we can organise a collection time.

Our Defence Families' Welcome Afternoon Tea is being held on 12th March. Letters will be coming home, or being emailed out next week, I hope you can all make it.

If any defence family in any of our services requires a questionnaire, or hasn't returned their questionnaire could you please drop me a line or pop into the office and I will be more than pleased to give you one. Thanks again to all those families who have returned their questionnaires. Take care.

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

DISTRICT/ REGIONAL SWIM TRIALS

Congratulations to all the swimmers who trialled last Friday for District selection to go on to Regional trials. We hope you all enjoyed the challenge. There was a tremendous effort given by all our swimmers.

Each of the following students swam well but unfortunately didn't gain selection for the next level of competition:

Riley Barratt, Jade Belavic, Emily Conran, Mitchell Gyles, Isabella Hall, Jayden McAllister, Isaac Ree, Jessica Ree, Jemma Robinson, Penelope Rogers, Alyssa Saw, Tristan Sloots, Declan Smith, Ethan Swadling, and Jessica Zlatarich.

The successful swimmers nominated for the Regional trials are:

- * Thomas Marr
- * Jacob Marr
- * Megan Duffy
- * Tyler Clarke
- * Maddison Clarke
- * Daniel Arndell

We wish them speed in their next races.

Kent Rainbow
P.E. Specialist

MUSIC NOTES



There has been some confusion as to choir rehearsal times, and payment for the Choral Contribution.

The Choral Contribution is \$20 per year, with a maximum of \$50 for 3 or more children per family involved in the Choral Program.

If you have not paid, please complete the attached permission slip and return it to the **Red Box** at the office in an envelope addressed:

“Choral Contribution IMPS”

Rehearsal times are:

Junior Choir (Year 3)

2:20-2:50pm Friday in class time

Year 4 / 5 Choir

7:30 - 8:30am Thursday mornings

Year 6 / 7 Choir

7:30-8:30am Friday mornings

Boys Choir (Years 5-7)

8:30-9:15am Fridays mornings

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to see me. There is a more detailed letter outlining the involvement in the Choral Program, should you wish for further information.

These letters have been given to all students, however from the queries I have had, they may not have been received.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Naomi Miller
Music Specialist

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS



Fri 27 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorin Nicholson “See Sharp” • NO Early Years Assembly • Summer sport begins • Clean Up Australia Day • Yr. 2 “Apples ain’t Apples” 9.15 am
Mon 2 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student of the Month Parade
Thu 5 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr.1 Timbarra Pirate Show
Fri 6 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO EARLY YEARS ASSEMBLY

PERMISSION SLIP—CHOIR MEMBERSHIP

I give permission for my child (first and last name) in class to attend choir.

I enclose \$20 per child for the Choral Contribution.

Signed:.....(Parent/Guardian)

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.

STUDENT LEADERS' INDUCTION PARADE



Monday saw the Ferny Grove school community gather in the hall to watch the Senior Leaders for 2009 receive their badges. An unprecedented number of students completed their Senior Leader Accreditation.

Cr. Andrew Wines spoke movingly of the responsibilities of the Student Councillors' Office.

Mr. Starkey reminded the leaders to uphold the values of their office and Mr. Robin Neate (Principal Adviser Education Services North Brisbane) congratulated the leaders and spoke about the benefits of undertaking extra community roles.

He praised Ferny Grove's long tradition of moulding students who look to serve their wider community.

After the Senior Leaders' presentation the Senior Band played a great piece of music called **Mango Tango** by Barry Gott. It was fantastic.

We all hope that the leaders do a great job and have a great time in the process.
by Timothy Green



ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Active After School Program has a number of vacancies, particularly in Years 4 – 7 which is held on Wednesdays from 3.30 – 4.30pm.

This program is funded through a grant from the Commonwealth Government for which the school applied. There is no cost for the activities and they provide a great opportunity for your children to get some additional physical activity.

The activities are varied and cater for all skill levels. Activities are held on:

Yrs 4 - 7 Wed. 3.30 – 4.30pm.
Prep – Yr 3 Thurs. 3.30 – 4.30pm.

If you are interested please return the slip below to:

Gary Kirby
Year 7 Teacher



RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

When: Fri 6 March to Thurs 12 March

Times: 8 – 8.45 am and 3 – 3.30 pm

Where: Music Room

Pay by cash, cheque or credit card.

See you there!

Happy reading
Patti Donnet

VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE APPEAL

On Friday 20th February, Ferny Grove students, parents and staff participated in a fundraising day for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal.

Given that the fundraiser was for people who were left with none or very little of their possessions, we chose not to have a theme or make it a Free Dress Day. It didn't feel right coming to school in all our fancy things.

In total we raised \$2039.25.



The money will be given equally to the Red Cross and the Victorian Government.

The Government money will go towards repairing schools, houses and other council facilities.

Thank you and congratulations Ferny Grove for the wonderful effort you put in. You should all be very proud.

by **Antonia Daley 7M**



SCIENCE CLUB NEWS

Students from Years 3 - 6 attended the first Science Club session last Wednesday. The students brainstormed on what a scientist does and talked about their expectations of the Science Club. After talking about how a scientist must be observant, the students went outside with a magnifying glass and looked at their surroundings with a "3rd eye".

The Science Club will meet every Wednesday from 11.00-11.30 am at F4, Mrs Abundo's room.

BRISBANE NORTH CENTRAL and WEST DISTRICTS PARENT EDUCATION CENTRE

Referrals for the 2009 Management of Young Children Program (2^{1/2} - 7 yrs.), **Program for Positive Parenting** and **FaB 4Kids Parent Program** are being taken at this time.

It is suggested that involvement in these programs be initiated by parents on advice from school personnel. Parents are required to contact the centre: 3355 9202 to be placed on the waiting lists or make enquiries.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

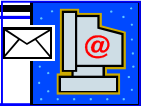
I would like my child....., in Class..... to participate in the Active After School Communities Program.

Parent/Guardian..... **Date:**

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: Students who have not paid for or provided their reams of paper will be contacted by their teachers this week.

OUT OF STOCK ITEMS: Mesh pouch – due second term. **NB:** Parents requiring a copy of their stationery store receipt for taxation purposes **MUST** contact the Stationery Store by Friday, 27 February.

Charyl Cowles, Convenor
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)



UNIFORM STORE

Mon and Fri - 8.00 am to 9.00 am

Christine Thompson, Convenor
0400 223 818



MUSIC AND CHORAL GROUP

The AGM will be held on Thursday 26th February at 7.00pm in the staff room. All Welcome.

Shirabdi Gordon
IMPS Secretary

MDA (Multicultural Development Association)

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Provide assistance and friendship to newly arrived families from refugee backgrounds.

As an MDA volunteer you could be helping with:

- * Social support / companionship
- * Orientation to their home, garden, the local neighbourhood
- * Shopping assistance
- * Accompany families to medical / other appointments
- * Social/recreational activities and community involvement
- * Conversation and language skills/ helping with homework
- * Project work / administrative activities

Please contact MDA Volunteer Coordinator:
Kerrie Manning ph: 3337 5428 or email kerriem@mdabne.org.au

Date	Tuckshop Roster
Thu 26 Feb	HELP NEEDED
Fri 27 Feb	Debbie Beyer, Julie Haslam, Katrina Collins
Mon 2 Mar	Alethea Thiel
Tue 3 Mar	Melissa
Wed 4 Mar	Meg Leslie
Thu 5 Mar	Greta Naumann

ROAD SAFETY



Once again it is of great concern to many drivers who are attempting to use the pick-up and drop-off zones in the school precinct correctly, that many drivers are ignoring the rules and thus disadvantaging others. The law quite clearly states that these are two minute pick-up and drop-off zones, which means that the driver may not leave their vehicle locked and unattended as was the case with the white Camry and a blue car on more than one occasion (in the Finvoy Street zone) recently. This of course is applicable in the morning and afternoon peaks.

Please be aware if your child is not waiting for you in the zoned area the correct procedure would be to drive around the block until your child is there thus not blocking the area for those parents whose children are there. However if your child is in the zone and the area if full you also are required to drive around the block and not double park to pick up your child. If the zone is full it is also not acceptable practice to queue across the school driveway as this is also inconsiderate and poor driving practice.

Anticipating your co-operation to help make these drop-off and pick-up zones work at their optimum level.

Leanne Reid
Road Safety coordinator

TUCKSHOP NEWS



Many thanks to all who helped out last week. Apologies to all affected by our troubles on Friday. Hopefully it won't happen again! Simply put, I need your help! I cannot maintain the current menu, or hours of operation without more community support. In the meantime, if your kids don't have to have tuckshop on Fridays, then give some thought to picking a different day. We get more orders on a Friday than the other four days put together!

Please help to take some of the pressure off, until more help arrives. If you're at school in the morning, pop in. An extra set of hands helping to collate the orders is a wonderful thing! Half an hour or an hour, it all helps! Even if you have an hour, every now and again, or once in a blue moon then please, please think about coming in and helping out.

It is an hour greatly appreciated and while we are sometimes busy it is usually fun and an interesting day.

Again, if you have small kids, then think about joining our babysitting co-op. You can use it as often as you like, and all you need to join is a one morning commitment, once a month. Just think...when was the last time you went to the movies or out for dinner and didn't have to pay a babysitter?

Forward expressions of interest to me on 0423 539 846.

I will organise a play/info session at the park when there is enough interest.

Now some good news!

We will be trialling new items on Wednesdays for a month.

This next Wednesday (March) is 'Wrap Wednesday'. For 50c extra, all the usual sandwich fillings are available in a wrap, in addition will be **Tandoori Chicken Wrap for \$3.50** and **Low Fat Chicken Caesar Salad Wrap \$3.50.**

(Gluten free wraps also available on request)

Wishing you a great week,

Deb Cheers
Tuckshop Convenor

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
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