

Ferny Grove Newsflash



Number 1 Wednesday 28 January 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



WELCOME

Welcome to the 2009 school year to all students, staff and parents. I extend a very warm welcome to new students, their families and staff who have joined our school community. I'm sure that you will be made welcome by our community and that there are parents and students keen to assist you settle in. I look forward to another interesting and exciting year.

CLASSES

The draft lists formed at the end of 2008 have been adjusted to accommodate the enrolments that have occurred this week. Enrolments have been substantial and have required some changes. As I write this on Friday afternoon, the office staff are furiously checking and typing the final lists to meet the 3.00pm deadline. It is believed that; (1) all students have been allotted to a class group (2) no student is on more than one list (3) all the names are spelt correctly (4) there is a teacher for each.

There are 33 classes with staffing allocated for that number. This could change if there are unexpected changes to the number enrolled. I don't believe this will occur and, on current indications, it would be more likely to be an increase than a decrease to teacher numbers. This would require reforming of classes hopefully only across one year level.

The latter is the only reason that students would be changed from the published list.

STAFFING

I welcome new classroom teachers Holly Hastings (Year 1), Elyse Hensler (Year 2), Elizabeth Keim (Year 3), Paul Thorpe (Year 5) and Matt Kurth (Year 6).

Unfortunately Andrew Nesbitt, who would have been with Year 3 is unwell and will not be taking up his position in Term One. Hopefully, he will regain his health to take up a position at a later date. Fortunately, Kerry Hattwell, who was with us in 2008, was available to fill a contract to replace him. More bad news on health as Mrs Renee Palmen (nee Wallace) is off work for at least the first 8 weeks due to illness. Again we are fortunate as Jenny Grant was available and will ably fill the Prep position.

Garry Thompson also won't be with us for the first week as his mother is gravely ill and he has travelled to Charleville to be with her during her last days. Our thoughts are with Garry at this tough time for him. Jaime Tanner has stepped in for Garry.

Meegan Goodfellow will extend her days with us beyond her role as a support teacher by working an additional day in the Special Education Program and another day for intervention support sourced from our school resources. More students will benefit from her expertise.

FACILITIES

The covered walkways to link all the Prep classrooms to the spine of the school are expected to be constructed early in the year. This is a government funded initiative and is most welcome as it allows children to reach areas such as the library in inclement weather.

The school's application for funding assistance up to a maximum subsidy of \$64 714 towards a covered area on the southern side of the hall, a PA system and tables and seating has been successful. This is a P & C supported initiative with half the cost covered by the Association. These projects will be very beneficial for our children.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

There have been some changes to original dates. The dates are:

Yr 1 – 3 Monday 2 February at 6.00 pm Yr 4 – 7 Wednesday 4 February at 6.00pm

INFORMATION KIT & CALENDAR


The planned distribution is Wednesday 4 February. It includes current information, new articles and important dates and events occurring during the year. Please, peruse and retain it and refer to it before phoning the office.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

It will be distributed next Monday. I ask that all are returned, even if there are sections not completed. It is a communication between parents and teacher as well as providing some important current information.

NEW PARENTS' INFORMATION SESSION

I invite parents to attend a short information sharing session at **8.50am on Friday** in the school hall. It is mainly for those parents who enrolled students at the beginning of the year, but all are welcome. It is largely an informal session to address any matters that are helpful in settling your child into our school.


BARRY STARKEY (PRINCIPAL)



PARKING

Please consider local residents when parking on streets near the school. In particular, please do not park across their driveways. There are some which may not be apparent as there is no distinct change in the curb and the gates are similar to the fence, with one example being at 50 McGinn Road. This resident is expecting and obviously is concerned about being parked in. As well, all residents will appreciate drivers who leave a little space from the edge of their driveway.



EARLY YEARS NEWS

WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK

Welcome to our new Prep students; students new to our Early Years classes, Prep – Year 3; students returning to new classes this year; and to all our parents and carers.

“Shine in 2009”

The weather didn't shine on day 1, however we hope that each child and their teachers work together to 'Shine in 2009'.

Congratulations to students, staff and parents/ carers for your efforts and organisation to ensure that students were ready to start on Day 1.

The children looked 'great' in their school uniforms and arrived at school with belongings. I wonder what great things students will be inquiring about and doing as they learn, play, create and have fun this year?

*Paul Cooke
Deputy Principal*

YEAR 7 CAMP 16 - 18 FEBRUARY

Only 19 sleeps until our Year 7 students head off to camp at Lake Ainsworth. Lake Ainsworth is situated at Lennox Heads on the NSW north coast. As advertised late last year the cost of the camp is \$235 and this must be paid by **Wednesday 4 February** as the campsite needs our numbers attending confirmed by this date.

A note has been given to all year 7 students with all details regarding the camp and necessary medical and permission forms. Please read these carefully and return all forms and payment by Wednesday 4 February.



BEGINNERS MUSIC CAMP

Those children commencing an instrument this year will be attending the Beginners Music Camp on this Friday and Monday, 2 February.

Venues are as follows:-

- Brass students - Samford State School (music room),
- Woodwind students Ferny Grove State School – OSHC (meet under L Block),
- Percussion students - Ferny Grove High school (Music Department)
- Strings - Ferny Hills State School (music room)

Classes commence at 9:00am and finish at 2:45pm.

Children arrive at 8:45am. Parents are required to transport children to and from their venues on both days.

Children are required to wear school uniform and bring the following to camp:- Morning tea, lunch, drink bottle, hat, instrument, music stand, relevant Essential Elements book and all purchased equipment pertaining to their instrument, Band Music Folder 2 pencils, eraser, Name tag.

Today children have been issued with their instruments. A copy of the loan agreement has also been included for hired instruments.

Please reread the agreement with your child and stress the importance of caring for the instrument.

WELCOME BACK

Welcome to all returning and new children and families to Ferny Grove State School. Tuesday saw many happy children excited to be returning.

Despite the wet weather everyone settled well and were keen to get into the books.

*Belinda Evans
Deputy Principal*

MORNING ROUTINES

Please start the year as we want to continue. Students at school before commencement at 8:30 can access the Outside School Hours Care Services. On arrival at school before 8:30am 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 until they feel independent enough to walk by themselves or with friends from under the covered area. Year 2 – 7 students are encouraged to walk to classes independently from the covered area daily at 8:30. Daily classes commence at 8:40 am.

AFTERNOON ROUTINES

At 2:50pm please collect Prep children from their classrooms. Students will soon come to doors and invite parents to collect them. Year 1 students will walk each afternoon (except when wet weather) to the early years adventure playground. This will enable students to independently pack and carry their belongings daily. Year 2 – 7 students will be bid farewell daily in their classrooms. Students and parents are encouraged to arrange suitable meeting places within the school grounds. All students are to be reminded to come to the school office if they are not met or collected in the afternoons.

SWIMMING

Letters will be sent home this week. Swimming lessons commence in week 2.

Swimming lessons next week are:
Monday, 2 Feb: 7H & 7M;
Tuesday, 3 Feb: Years 2 & 5; and
Wednesday, 6 Feb: Years 2 & 3.

Students travel by bus to Grovely SS pool or on Tuesdays to Mitchelton SS pool.

Please assist your child to bring: togs, sun-safe shirt, sunscreen, towel, bathing cap and sunscreen each week. Year 6 & 7 students are also asked to bring a long sleeve shirt, long pants, old joggers and socks - all to be used in the pool.

*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.

RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

The Library will be closed for borrowing for the first week of term while we set up the database. Any returns found over the Christmas break will happily be accepted. A reminder that all **Prep to Year 3** children require a waterproof library bag to be able to borrow.

50c BOOK SALE of culled library books in the Library Courtyard next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during first break. All books just 50c. Come and find a bargain!

Happy Reading
Patti Donnet



IMPORTANT NOTICE

A student in our school has a medical condition that has resulted in a bone marrow transplant and a suppressed immune system. She is at risk of life threatening illness if she is exposed to and contracts Chicken Pox or Shingles.

We need to request that you notify the school via the Office or the Class Teacher if your child has been diagnosed with either of these illnesses. This needs to be done as soon after the diagnosis as possible so that preventative measures can be undertaken. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Elizabeth BOYCE
Head of Special Education Services

DEFENCE NEWS



Welcome to our new families and welcome back to everyone. I hope that yesterday went off without a hitch and that you are finding the new routines easy to slip into. To all of those Defence Mums and Dads who have to pull on those 'Cams' again, have a great new year!

We have many things planned for this year so please watch this space. To all of the parents currently deployed or ready to go, do know that our thoughts are with you.

If you need any information, please

don't hesitate to drop me a line. I have had many notes from Dads serving overseas and I love to hear from you. Until next time, take care.

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

CHAPLAIN'S NEWS

Welcome back to another year of fun filled learning. I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable break and ready to get back into another year. I would like to introduce myself to all the new families who have joined our school this year, and I trust that you will find it just as welcoming and encouraging as I have.

As the Chaplain I am here as a support person for you and your family. I am someone who is always willing to listen, ready to assist in any way that I can, and to support you through the different facets of life.

There are a few programs that will be running this year, covering a variety of topics which can assist children to develop self-esteem, resilience, and help children deal with grief.

I am here from Monday -Thursday each week.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on 3550 5363 or agard76@eq.edu.au

Angela Gardener
Chaplain

CHOIR FUNTIME

On Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 February we will be holding our Choir Funtime.

All students in Senior Choir and Boys' Choir (Yrs. 4-7) are invited to attend. The guest conductor this year will be Ronda Davidson-Irwin, lecturer in Music Education at QUT and composer for children's television programs "In the Box" and "Puzzle Play". She also conducts community choirs.

Rhonda has a vibrant personality and inspires all she meets.

Wednesday 11 February is from 1.50 pm - 4.00 pm. Please bring afternoon tea.

Thursday 12 February is from 1.50 pm - 2.50 pm.

The cost of the workshops will be \$12 per student.

This will cover the payment for the workshops and conductor, as well as the cost of purchasing sheet music.

Choir Contribution

To help our school run the choral program, we are asking parents to contribute \$20 per year to cover the cost of sheet music, photocopying, accompanist and competition entry costs. Strict copyright laws restrict our ability to photocopy without a proper number of originals. We thank you for your understanding and support.

This year we ask for payment for the Choir Contribution and Choral Workshops at the same time, meaning a **total of \$32**. If you have problems in paying this amount, but still wish to commit to the program, please see me, Naomi Miller, and we will arrange a payment plan.

If your child participates in the choral workshops, they will be expected to be part of either the Senior Choir, or the Boys' Choir. **Please Note:** The first 40 students to pay will be guaranteed a position. Payment is to be made by **Tuesday, 10 February**.

Late payment will only be accepted if places are vacant.

Please return the slip below to the office in the RED BOX with payment in a labelled envelope.

Please make payments payable to **the IMP's Committee**. Credit card, cheques and cash are accepted. We ask for prompt payment so that the children can continue to be involved in a successful, well resourced program.

Naomi Miller
Music Specialist



PERMISSION SLIP CHORAL FUNTIME WORKSHOPS

I give permission for my child (first and last name) in class..... to attend the Choir Funtime on 11 and 12 February 2009. I enclose \$12,00 as payment for the workshop.

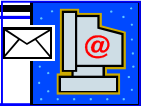
Signed: (Parent / Guardian)



Would you like your Newsflash delivered using 2008 technology?
Email your request to Newsflash@ferngrovss.eq.edu.au and you will be added to the list.



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



TUCKSHOP OPENS NEXT MONDAY

Our New Tuckshop Convenor has been appointed, Congratulations Debbie Cheers.

- Tuckshop will be reopening on Monday 2nd February 2009.
- A New Menu will come home next week with the Newsflash



UNIFORM STORE

Please call in or phone Chris on the number below.

BACK TO SCHOOL

STORE HOURS

2009

Wed, Thurs, Fri - 28, 29 & 30 Jan '09
8.00 am to 9.00 am

Mon Wed Fri - 2, 4 & 6 Feb '09
8.00 am to 9.00 am

Normal trading hours will apply from Monday 09 February 2009.

Thanks

Christine Thompson, Convenor
0400 223 818



STATIONERY STORE: OPENING HOURS:

Next Week: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8 – 9 am.
From the week beginning Monday 9 February, Monday and Friday only 8 – 9 am.

YR 3 & 4's:

A4 96pg Writing pads are in stock. If you purchased before Christmas, they are being delivered to the classrooms today or tomorrow.

REAMS OF PAPER:

Those students providing their reams of paper from home should label them clearly with their name and year level, and leave them at the office by Friday, 20 February.

NB: Prep and Year 1 students need to provide one ream; Year 2 - 7 students need to provide 2 reams.

Charyl Cowles, Convenor
3550 5359 (0431 265 068)

P & C MEETING

**DATE: WEDNESDAY
18 FEBRUARY**

TIME: 7.30 PM

**VENUE: STAFFROOM
ADMIN BLOCK**



THANKS TO THE PAG GROUP

Thank you to members of the school's Parents Activity Group (PAG) who provided tea, coffee & tissues for parents on Day 1.

Thank you to Chairperson Allison Exley and all helpers.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

The OSHC committee AGM is being held on **Wednesday, 11 February 2009**, in the OSHC room at 6.30pm.

New parents are very welcome.
A light supper will be provided.
We look forward to seeing you there.

Simone Howes
0438 164 727



TENNIS COACHING – DAVE PRICKETT (acc. TPAA) - Phone 3351 4483

Coaching is at Ferry Grove State School
Monday: 3.00 pm — 3.45 pm (BEGINNERS)
Friday: 7.45 am — 8.30 am (ADVANCED)

BEGINNERS receive new racquet FREE

Name:
Phone No:
Grade:

To Enrol: Return form to Office or

Phone Coach **Dave Prickett – 3351 4483**

**EXPERT SERVE COACHING AVAILABLE
FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN**



COMMUNITY NEWS

SAMFORD RANGERS FOOTBALL (SOCCER) CLUB SIGN-ON SUNDAY - 1 FEBRUARY

The 2009 Junior Sign-On Day will be held on Sunday 1st February, 9am to 5pm at the clubhouse on Richards Road, Samford.

We are giving away free club socks and also a free club training shirt for every player.

New players to the club will also receive a free club polo shirt (provided fees have been paid in full)!

The club will provide a Football Squirts program to the Valley for 3 to 5 year olds - participants and clubs will be covered by Football Queensland's insurance program.

All new players must bring along a proof of age (birth certificate or passport) and a parent/guardian to sign them on. Children are eligible to start playing from their 5th birthday .

Families of more than 2 children, in fact the 3rd, 4th, 5th child in the one family can play free of charge!

Paid coaching positions are also available for accredited applicants.

More information can be found on www.samfordfootball.org.au such as the season calendar, grading dates, the schedule of fees, etc.

Graham Lee
President

Samford Rangers Football Club
pres@samfordfootball.org.au

Mobile: 0408741439

Home: 32892629

FOR SALE — FLUTE

Recital Flute **V.G.C.**
\$300 negotiable
Ph: Desley Mackay
0402 814 330



P & C NOTICEBOARD

Tuckshop – 3550 5361
Mon-Fri 8.30-12.00 pm

Uniform Store - 3550 5342
Mon, Wed & Fri 8.00 - 9.00 am

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

OSHC
Gail 3851 2196