



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 4 Week 8 27th November 2014

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School Events

Week 8 (B)	Beginning Monday 24 th November
27.11.14	- Year 11 Society and Culture Excursion to UOW
28.11.14	- Year 7 Scripture: 7M, 7T, 7B
29.11.14	- Year 11 Fundraiser- 'Do It In a Dress' walk
Week 9(A)	Beginning Monday 1 st December
1.12.14	- Year 7 2015 Parent Information Evening – 6pm - Year 11 Engineering Studies Excursion
2.12.14	- Year 9 Links to Learning - Year 8,9 and 10 German Excursion
3.12.14	- Year 7 2015 Orientation Day - 'Wicked the Musical' Excursion
4.12.14	- Year 8 Sexting Program – Post Program Questionnaire - Year 11 Geography Excursion to Minnamurra
5.12.14	- Year 7 Scripture: 7O, 7N, 7E - Year 11 Biology Excursion
Week 10 (B)	Beginning Monday 8 th December
7.12.14-	- Premiers Sporting Challenge Camp
8.12.14	- Premiers Sporting Challenge Camp - Year 11 Area of Study Incursion
9.12.14	- Premiers Sporting Challenge Camp - Links to Learning - South Coast Regional Sports Awards Presentation
10.12.14	- Figtree High Presentation Evening – Auditorium 7pm
11.12.14	- Year 10 Book and Fees Clearance Period 1 & 2
12.12.14	- Peer Support Training for selected Year 10 students in the Auditorium
13.12.14	- Figtree Community Carols on Figtree High School Oval
Week 11 (A)	Beginning Monday 15 th December
15.12.14	- Years 7-10 Semester 2 Reports issued
16.12.14	- Merit Excursion to Jamberoo Action Park

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

2014 STEM Competition University of Wollongong: Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences.

I would like to congratulate **Haydn Hunt** and **Danny Ly** of Year 12 and **Matthew Sharpe** of Year 11 who were award winners at the prestigious 2014 STEM Competition University of Wollongong: Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences. There were entries from high schools throughout NSW. The evening was attended by Haydn and Matthew's parent, Mrs Smith, Mr Little and Mrs Little and myself.

Haydn Hunt: Winner of the Illawarra Coal Mechanical Engineering Award and Runner-Up of the Personal and Public Transport Module.

Danny Ly: Winner of the Illawarra Coal Electrical Engineering Award.

Matthew Sharpe: Overall Runner-up of the Year 11 Industrial Technology Competition, Runner-Up of the Timber Products and Furniture Technologies Focus Area and Winner of the KJS Publications Student Awards.



Year 7 2015 Parent Information Evening

I look forward to meeting the parents and carers of our Year 7 2015 students at the Parent Information Evening at 6pm on Monday 1st December in the Auditorium.

Year 12 Formal

The Year 12 formal was held at the Novotel at North Wollongong. It was wonderful to be able to celebrate the culmination of the student's 13 years in Public Education.

Carol Marshman
Principal

Figtree High School – Core Values Learning

While the formal assessment period has concluded for Years 7-10, normal lessons will continue for all students in Years 7-11, up to and including the last day of the school year for students which is Wednesday 17th December.

The Semester 2 reports, which will be distributed to students on Monday 15th December, will provide parents/carers with information about their child's academic performance and commitment to learning. It is important that students also take the time to reflect on their achievement in each course and each teacher's comments about how they can further improve their learning and achievement in 2014.

Year 7 2015 Parent Information Evening

The Parent Information Evening for our Year 7 2015 students will be held next Monday 1st December, commencing at 6:00pm. Information will be provided about the Orientation Day on 3rd December, Day 1 2015 and strategies to prepare your child for high school. At this evening, parents will be able to collect and pay for their pre-ordered book packs, collect and/or submit bus pass application forms. The front office will also be available if parents wish to make payments for sports uniforms, school fees and/or the Year 7 Camp in 2015. A range of staff from the school will also be available to discuss any questions that you may have about our school or your child's needs. Our school uniform suppliers, Poppets Direct and Lowes Figtree will also be available for school uniform purchases.

Communicating with our School Community

Our Technology Committee has been working on the design and use of a school app, to provide parents and students with instant access to information about our school. The Figtree High School app will be launched on Monday 1st December. Information about how you can access and use the app is included later in this newsletter. We encourage our parents to download the app to help you stay up to date with school events and engage with the features that the app will provide you.

We extend our thanks to Mr Angus Colquhoun, from our Mathematics faculty, for his significant work to bring this tool, into action.

Ms Donovan
Deputy Principal

PBS VALUES

Week 9: RESPECT

Be at the canteen only to buy for yourself

Week 10: RESPECT

Put rubbish in the bins

Sun Protection for Summer

Our school canteen is selling the school caps for a price of \$12. This was a Figtree HS Parents and Citizen's Association initiative. The plain navy caps are embroidered with the school logo. As the warmer weather approaches, we encourage your child to wear our school cap during lunch breaks and especially on their PE/Sport days.



PARENT/STUDENT PHONE CALLS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

We ask all parents to be aware that students are required to turn off their phones and put them in their bags during lessons. To ensure students comply with this rule, we request that urgent phone messages to students during lesson times are directed through the front office of the school. We are able to convey messages to students very quickly and to support them if need be, should urgent action need to be taken. This allows us to ensure that both the individual student and the other students in the class can return to their learning very quickly. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated.

STAFF CAR PARK

Due to WH&S regulations at Figtree High School we ask that parents do not park in the staff car park from 8.00am to 3.30pm Monday to Friday. The car park is for **staff and deliveries only** and is not to be used as a drop off area especially in the wet weather.

We appreciate your co-operation with this matter.

FACULTY REPORT - TAS

Catering events

On Thursday 20th November, the Year 11 Hospitality Brigade under the guidance of Mrs Goodall planned, prepared and served a morning tea for 30 people that included local dignitaries, Management of Westfield Figtree, parents, students and community members. This again was an opportunity for our Hospitality Students to further develop and enhance their work ready skills. A thank you also goes to the other TAS staff members for their assistance on the day.



Staff morning tea

On Monday 27th October, The TAS faculty hosted a morning tea in support of the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Staff were asked to support the cause by wearing pink and by gold coin donation. Over \$220.00 was raised and has been donated. Thank you to all staff that participated in the event and supported such a worthy cause.



Playgroup

The Year 11 Exploring Early Childhood class has been hosting their fantastic community Playgroup each fortnight this term. There are lots of toys, games and fun activities on offer for the children plus there is tea, coffee and some delicious treats for the parents who can sit back and relax with a magazine while their child is entertained!

It is becoming quite the social event for local families with 19 children and 11 parents attending the playgroup last fortnight! This is a very rewarding experience for the students where they can obtain first-hand experience of how children behave through their interactions with children of various ages. The playgroup is free, parents are only asked to bring a piece of fruit for their child to eat. The final playgroup for the year will be Christmas themed and is on the 8th of December, from 10:45 to 12:15 in the Designing and Planning Room. Hope to see you there!



Cathy Smith
TAS Head Teacher

RECEIPTING OF MONIES AT THE FRONT OFFICE AND ONLINE.

Due to our yearly financial rollover in the administration office, we will **be unable to accept any payments on:**

Thursday 27th November, 2014

Friday 28th November, 2014

Monday 1st December, 2014.

We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your patience in this matter.

Payments will be accepted again on Tuesday 2nd December.

PREMIER BUSES – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Premier Illawarra would like to inform all parents and students that the 2015 school year will commence under our new contractual arrangements with Transport for NSW.

The most significant factor of the new contract is our obligation to maintain On Time Running (OTR) in accordance with our Key Performance Indicators (KPI).

As the OTR applies to all services, including school services, Premier Illawarra will be working closely with all schools to ensure that services are scheduled correctly and depart as per the schedule.

To avoid penalties and possible cancellation of contract our services will be departing schools at precisely the times agreed. If for some reason students are not loaded onto the buses by the designated time it will be required to depart without them.

Premier Illawarra has met with schools in the area and are working closely in relation to the following issues:-

- School departure times – to ensure that students are afforded sufficient time to relocate to the bus stop in the afternoon
- Sports specials (sport excursions) – to ensure that sports buses under our control arrive back at school prior to the designated departure of the schools services.

Premier Illawarra understand the unique issues involved with the transportation of school children and are working to ensure the specific problems relating to placing strict OTR regulations on school services do not result in inconvenience to both parents and students.

Regards,

Management
Premier Illawarra

CANTEEN NEWS

Due to the reduced number of volunteers to help at the canteen over the past 3 years, it was voted at the previous P&C meeting to increase prices for most of the items we sell at the canteen.

We have tried over past 3 years to keep prices affordable for students to purchase food and beverages, however, overall costs of running the canteen have increased significantly.

Thank you for your understanding



Ray White Wollongong/Figtree

69 Kembla Street, Wollongong 2500

ph: 4229 8600 fax 4225 9359

are the proud sponsors of the

Ray White Wollongong/Figtree Student Scholarships 2014 – 2018

SMS Messages to Parents

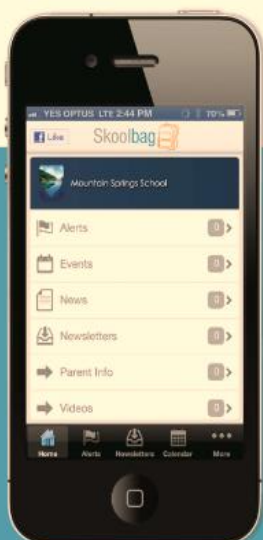
If you receive an SMS from Figtree High School informing you that your child has been marked absent on that day and you are replying back by SMS, could you please state your child's full name and the year they are in as it makes it difficult for us to identify the child with just a Christian name.

Thank you for co-operation
Administration Office

SPORTS NEWS

Sport Selections for Term 1 2015 will be done ONLINE. You can sign up for a sport on your home computer or at the school library. A code will be emailed to each student's school email account which will provide you with everything you need to be able to make your sport selection. Make sure you talk to your parents about which sport you would like to do as some sports require a cost or they might run offsite and not here at school.

- Year 10 online sport selections open on Thursday 27th November.
- Year 9 online sport selections open on Monday 1st December.
- Year 8 online sport selections open on Wednesday 3rd December.
- Year 7 online sport selections open on Friday 5th December.



Skoolbag



FOR



Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

iPhone & iPad Users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook! 

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students





SPECIAL PROMOTION FOR

FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

SPECIAL SALES

DAYS X 3

AT LOWES STORE - FIGTREE

**Wednesday 3RD – Thursday 4TH – Friday 5th December
2014**

RECEIVE 15% DISCOUNT

Off the regular price on all uniform items for
Figtree High School

PLUS

BONUS EZY-WAY 5% DISCOUNT

additional for Lowes Ezy-Way customers

OR 5% REWARDS

Lowes Rewards Card holders receive in-store Gift Vouchers
to the value of 5% of their purchase

PLUS

Lowes will pay your school annual **5% rebate** on every
uniform purchased in-store.

Family Law Advice

A free legal service for women



Our solicitors provide legal advice and information about Family Law issues
This is a free service for women

When

Fortnightly on Thursday mornings between 10.00 and 12.00

Appointments

Are essential!

Location

WWIS - Wollongong Women's Centre
170 Corrimal Street
Wollongong
(opposite Wollongong Golf Club)

To make an appointment

Contact us on 4228 1499
or wwis@wwis.org.au

Welcome!

Women's *Crafty* Drop In Morning

If you would like to...

- ☺ do some art and craft activities
- ☺ have a chat over morning tea
- ☺ get to know some other women
- ☺ just relax and do your own thing

this could be the group for you!

**This is an informal, friendly and relaxed
time for women to drop in, do some
things that they enjoy, and have some
fun - together!**

*Limited child minding will be available -
bookings are essential!*

When

Term 1 2015

Thursday 5 February - Thursday 26 March

10.00 – 12.00

Where

**Wollongong Women's Centre
170 Corrimal Street Wollongong
(opposite Wollongong Golf Club)**



KinKou Yoga

E. kathy@kinkouyoga.com

T. 0403 315575

www.kinkouyoga.com

Yoga for Stress & Anxiety

Starting Sunday 1 February and then each Sunday for six weeks

Kids (ages 8-12) at 3:30pm

Teens (ages 13+) at 5pm

\$90 for six weeks

Bookings essential & for

full six weeks only

See website for details

