



# FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

## PARENT BULLETIN

Term 4 Week 6 13th November, 2015

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### School Events

Week 6	Week Beginning 9 <sup>th</sup> November
12.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8E Science VALID test</li> <li>- Yr 12 Exploring Early Childhood excursion to Figtree Public School – Kinder Play</li> <li>- Yr 12 History Extension excursion</li> <li>- 9Y PASS Ten Pin Bowling excursion –P4 &amp; 5</li> <li>- Yr 7 Parent Reading program –P3</li> <li>- Yr 10 Mathematics Assessment task</li> </ul>
13.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 8 &amp; 9 Youth Mentoring Fundraising BBQ</li> <li>- Yr 12 Community and Family Studies Assessment task due</li> <li>- 8O Science VALID test</li> <li>- Figtree Community of Schools Debating Gala Day in the Auditorium</li> </ul>
Week 7	Week Beginning 16 <sup>th</sup> November
16.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 8 Science VALID test – catch up for absent students</li> <li>- Yr 8 Mathematics Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 11 Music Assessment task</li> <li>- U15 Girls Water Polo excursion</li> <li>- Yr 11 Senior Science Assessment task</li> </ul>
17.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 11 Music Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 8 Mathematics Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 11 Physics Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 10 Marine Studies excursion to Western Suburbs Pool</li> </ul>
18.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 11 Geography Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 8 Mathematics Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 11 Biology Assessment task</li> <li>- Yr 10 Women's Forum excursion</li> <li>- Yr 11 Extension History excursion to UOW</li> <li>- Yr 7 2016 Transition Activities – 1:00pm</li> </ul>
19.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 11 Exploring Early Childhood excursion to Figtree Public School – Kinder Play</li> <li>- 9X PASS Ten Pin Bowling excursion –P4 &amp; 5</li> <li>- Yr 7 Parent Reading program –P3</li> <li>- Instrumental Festival in Auditorium</li> </ul>
20.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 11 Music Assessment task</li> <li>- South Coast Boys Cricket trials</li> </ul>
Week 8	Week Beginning 23 <sup>rd</sup> November
23.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 10 Peer Support Training Day</li> <li>- 9Z PASS Ten Pin Bowling excursion –P3 &amp; 4</li> </ul>
24.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 10 PASS Ten Pin Bowling excursion –P3 &amp; 4</li> </ul>
25.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- P and C Meeting – 7:30pm</li> </ul>
26.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 11 Exploring Early Childhood excursion to Figtree Public School – Kinder Play</li> <li>- 9Y PASS Ten Pin Bowling excursion –P4 &amp; 5</li> <li>- Yr 7 Parent Reading program –P3</li> <li>- Yr 12 Formal – Panorama House – 6:00pm</li> </ul>
27.11.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yr 7 Anti Bullying Student mentoring Program</li> <li>- Yr 11 Business Studies Assessment task</li> <li>- SRC Leadership Conference</li> </ul>

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The HSC Examinations are now finished and Year 12 officially signed out of school on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November. I wish all the students the best for their future endeavours. I encourage all Year 12 students to join the staff on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December for morning tea in the auditorium.

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November I attended the Illawarra Schools Excellence in Vocational Education and Training (VET) Awards evening. This night is a celebration of effective educational practices and achievement in VET. **Mrs Margaret Parr**, Relieving Head Teacher TAS at Figtree High School won an award for Teaching Excellence and Innovation for her work in the Hospitality framework. **Owen Isedale** from Year 12 received an Excellence Award as a School Based Apprentice and won the School Based Apprentice Student of the Year for 2015.



The Victor Chang Science Awards were held in the Figtree High School Auditorium on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November and teachers, students and their families from the Illawarra and South East NSW attended the celebrations. Thank you to the Warilla Office staff, Ms Trish Morgan, FHS student leaders, Mrs Tanya Bennett and Mr Michael Malouf for the organisation of the day. Congratulations to **Emily Imber** from Year 11 who was Figtree High School's Victor Chang Award recipient.

This is an excerpt from an email sent by a parent who attended:

*"My husband and I were fortunate enough to attend the Victor Chang Awards last Friday at Figtree High School. Our daughter ... (Yass High School) was one of the recipients of the awards.*

*We would like to say what a wonderful morning it was, one of the best presentation's we have ever been to. From the talented school performances, to the presentation from the Victor Chang Institute and the delicious morning tea, it really was a great morning.*

*Also, a special mention to the lovely students who gave instructions on parking - it was lovely to be greeted by such helpful, polite and friendly students - they are a credit to their school. We were impressed by the guest speakers and the very inspiring and heart-felt speeches they shared with the students.....*

*Also the staff and students at Figtree, could you please pass on our thanks to them.*

*Kind regards*

*"Yass"*

The Chinese and Taiwanese AUSTRAD Delegation of 23 representatives attended Figtree High School on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. They were hosted by NSW Department of Education and visited our school for 90 minutes, including lunch. The students and staff showcased the breadth of our curriculum and diversity of our school population. Thank you to all the staff and students who were involved and in particular Ms Trish Morgan who coordinated the event.

Next week, construction work is planned to commence to prepare for the installation of a lift at Figtree High School. The lift will be installed in the old Bell Tower which is located opposite the senior quad, next to the ramp. The construction work will result in some loud noise during the period of demolition. Lessons in classrooms that are located close to this area of the school have been moved to alternative rooms during the demolition phase, to reduce the impact of the noise on teaching and learning. It is anticipated that the lift will be installed early in 2016 so that it will be operational for the 2016 school year.

Congratulations to Ms Sandra Fernandes who has been appointed to the HSIE Faculty from the commencement of Term 1 2016.

Thank you

**Carol Marshman**  
Principal

## **Figtree High School – Core Values: Respect, Safety and Learning**

### **Safety – Student Health**

The NSW Department of Education has requested that schools provide the following information to our parent community.

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for [information for childcare and schools about whooping cough](#).

The NSW Public Health Act 2010 requires schools to notify the local public health unit if we become aware of new cases of whooping cough in our school. As this is a requirement, we would ask that parents ensure that they notify the school if their child is diagnosed with whooping cough.

**Ellie Donovan**  
Deputy Principal

## LANGUAGES

In September Figtree High participated in the NSW Language Perfect competition. We were placed second in the state for German and seventeenth (out of 119) for French. Congratulations to all those enthusiastic students who took part. A very special mention goes to Rebecca Prstec from Year 9 and Georgia Verastegui from Year 8 who came first and second in NSW in German. A fantastic result for our school! In 2016 each language student at Figtree High will have access to the *Language Perfect* website. This is a wonderful online resource that allows students to practise relevant vocabulary and structures. Teachers will be able to monitor students' progress and set homework using this website.

Access to *Language Perfect* is now available as an app, so students will be able to use their mobile phones or iPads to practise anywhere, anytime!

We are impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm displayed by the vast majority of our language students. Those who achieved particularly well in Term 4 were:

### **French**

7M Emma Harper, Tia Parkes, Chelsea Buick, Hamish Weine

7B Kasey Welsh, Darcie Bridge, Ellie Skarvelis

7E Sarah Hubert, Jaime Sereno, Thomas Stratford

7T Steffie Birkle, Neve Mc Gavock

7N Melanie Hansen, Nadine Kellermann, Maxine McEwan

7O Shaghayegh Akbari Iveli, Reuben Livingston

### **German**

8M Georgia Verastegui, Owen Keenahan, Jeremy Jones

8N Ashleigh Long, Madison Grover, Jessica Cillekens

8T Aurelia Noronha, Thomas Rowan, Grace Taylor

### **French**

8O Daniel Jaques, Ryan Sheridan, Jessica Nagy

8E Natasha Hynoski, Georgia Sturman, Jessica Rothschild

8B Emily Cox, Dylan Mesiti, April Martins

### **Year 9 German**

Lance Tarrant, Hayley Maynard-Khourey, Rebecca Prstec

### **Year 10 French**

Cale Elgey, Nova Tucker, Joshua Jones, Lloyd Kellermann

### **Year 10 German**

Kimia Rahmannia, Sheri Ghodrati

### **Year 11 French**

Victoria Pipino, Kaella Pearson, Tayla Chambers

Ms P.Dive and Mr P. Simmonds

## Reminder: Payments for School Fees/Excursions

Invoices were sent to families earlier this year for any outstanding student fees, both voluntary contributions and subject fees. We would like to remind parents that we have an online payment option for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school's website by selecting [\\$ Make a payment](#).

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called 'Other', to cover items not covered in the previous headings. Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access [\\$ Make a payment](#) you must enter:

- the students full name, class and reference number OR
- the students full name, and date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them, these are optional fields.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child's account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.

## PBS VALUES

### WEEK 7: SAFETY

Play approved games only in the playground

### WEEK 8: LEARNING

Move quickly back to the classroom at the end of the break



## Year 7 Gala Day 2015

Figtree's Year 7 students enjoyed a day out in the sun at the Year 7 Gala day on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. We had students participating in a range of sports including soccer, netball, ultimate Frisbee, Oz tag and volleyball. It was a fun filled and competitive day where all students were able to put their sporting skills to the test. It was great to see many students taking on leadership roles within their team. It wasn't uncommon to hear our Figtree students cheering on their team mates as they shot for a goal.

Many students also displayed excellent sportsmanship skills. Special mention goes to Mitchell Nardone who was identified by the referees as being 'a good sport', as he made sure to shake everyone's hands, including the referees, at the end of each game. This is a quality we admire here at Figtree High School.

Final mention goes to our Year 9 helpers group. Without you students, the day would not have been such a success. We thank you for helping set up the fields, referring each game, collecting scoresheets throughout the day and of course, the laughs and enjoyment that you provide. Your help and assistance was greatly appreciated and we look forward to any future gala days that Figtree may enter.

Miss Quill & Miss Markham



### Sports Presentation Afternoon

Figtree High School will be conducting its Sports Presentation afternoon on **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015** at the Figtree High School Auditorium, Gibsons Road, Figtree from 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

At this afternoon we will present all the major sporting awards. Our guest speaker this year will be Mr Garry Jack. We are extremely delighted to have Mr Jack attend our afternoon. Garry Jack is a former Australian rugby league footballer and coach. He was a representative in the Australian national team and star player with the Balmain Tigers. He is also an ex Figtree High School student who I am sure will have some interesting stories.

All parents/caregivers are invited to attend our afternoon.



## Boys Tennis

Congratulations to three of our students - Finn Noonan, Jayden Smileski and Luke Miners who were part of the South Coast Tennis team who came 3rd at the NSWCHS Championships. The boy's sportsmanship and effort were outstanding over the carnival. Well Done boys on an awesome effort!



## Netball Gala Day

What a fantastic day was had at the Netball Gala day in Berkeley. We had teams from Yr 7, 8, 9 and 10. All girls played with great sportsmanship and were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

A big Thankyou to our two practicum teachers Ms Anderson and Ms Rodgers who assisted with umpiring and coaching. I would also like to extend a thank you to Aimee Cunningham for assisting with umpiring.

Our Yr 10 team played superbly and were the eventual winners of their age group. Yr 10 team consisted of: Rebecca Gristwood, Emily Murphy, Mikayla Markham, Laurny Neto, Shae Marum, Bryanne Slood, Kina Suli and Ashlee Currinckx.



Our Yr 7 team who also played magnificently came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in their age group. Well done to all girls.



Yr 7 consisted of Jade Frankham, Chelsea Buick, Jade Powell, Payton Akhurst, Keely Rauscher, Abby Murada and Ellie Rada.

The Yr 8 team consisted of Ashleigh Yeaman, Tazmin Fulcher, Krystal Cattell, Emily Cox, Tahlia Burke, Ashley Kendon, Georgia Sturman, Aurelia Noronha and Taylor O'Connor.



The Yr 9 team consisted of Sara Clark, Georgia Wilson, Meghan Fox, Payton Williams, Camellia Bizmovski, Jade Gray, Ryley Bailey, Emily Woods, Aimee Trowbridge and Jacqueline Brassington-Muir.





## School Uniform

The school has two suppliers for our school uniform, Lowes at Westfield Figtree and Poppets Direct, who have a warehouse outlet in Montague Street, Fairy Meadow. Girls have the option to wear the school skirt or our **approved school shorts** during the summer months. The school uniform shorts for girls are **mid-thigh length**, plain navy, with no logos, pleats or cuffs and are the same length around the circumference of the leg. Our uniform suppliers have our girl's shorts in stock. Girls are aware that their **skirts and shorts MUST be longer than their fingertips** when their arms are extended by their sides. We seek our parents support in ensuring that girls are wearing the approved school uniform shorts that **meet the minimum length requirements** each day.

### Footwear

Our school uniform includes **ALL BLACK** fully enclosed **leather, leatherette or suede** shoes. This is to ensure that students meet the appropriate Work Health and Safety requirements while they are at school.

If you require assistance with uniforms, please contact Mrs Borst at the school.



**LOWES**  
**BLACK FRIDAY SPECIAL**  
**13% OFF**  
**SCHOOLWEAR**  
& EVERYTHING ELSE  
**ONLINE ONLY**  
**1 DAY ONLY FRI 13 NOV**  
SIMPLY ENTER THE CODE **13FRI2015** AT CHECKOUT  
\*Offer does not apply to items already on sale. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts.

## The School Opal Card



The School Opal card officially launched its new online application for relevant parents and students travelling in the Opal public transport region on Monday 2 November.

The application can be found at [transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students)

Just like current paper travel passes, the School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days.

However, the School Opal card makes travel simpler, because now students don't need multiple application forms and passes if they use different transport operators within the Opal network.

Students with school travel passes this year will not need to apply for a School Opal card unless they are changing schools, campus, their home address or moving from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7.

Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to their current school for the beginning of the first term in 2016.

More information will follow in the next few weeks to help students with the transition to the School Opal Card.



# NOTIFICATIONS



Inspiring  
a better  
future

CHOICES DAY  
SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER

.....TAFE<sup>NSW</sup>  
.....ILLAWARRA

A BETTER FUTURE  
MADE BY TAFE NSW



Inspiring  
a better  
future

CHOICES DAY  
SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER

.....TAFE<sup>NSW</sup>  
.....ILLAWARRA

A BETTER FUTURE  
MADE BY TAFE NSW



# 26<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Wollongong Bikers Toy Run

Saturday  
5 December 2015

Lower Crown  
Street Mall,  
Wollongong

10.30am - 12.30pm



- ★ FREE face painting
- ★ Motorbikes arrive at 11am
- ★ Jumping Castle
- ★ Bring a gift for the Giving Tree
- ★ Support local charities
- ★ Live Entertainment



# YOUTH ACTIVITY GROUP



## WHEN

**14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER-  
18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015**  
**4PM-6PM** (six week program)

## WHERE

**COMMUNITY  
GATEWAY**

26 ATCHISON STREET WOLLONGONG, NSW 2500

(02) 4226 3611 [www.communitygateway.net.au](http://www.communitygateway.net.au)



**ALL  
ABILITIES  
WELCOME**

## COST:

\$10 per week  
\$25 includes  
transport

## ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Delicious, Healthy Snacks
- Wii video games on our 4 metre screen
- Table Tennis Competition
- Halloween Party
- Creative Art
- Movies
- Just Dance Wii Party

## ACTIVITY ROOM INCLUDES:

- Music System
- Board Games



JOIN US 3<sup>RD</sup>  
DECEMBER 2015  
10AM TILL 2PM

**"BE INCLUSIVE"  
With Community  
Spirit and join us  
TODAY!!!**



Music featuring Para Meadows School Band AND  
Shannon Neeson from Figtree High School.  
RSVP by 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 42248614 Mob: 0431 250 271



WITH DAN BOYER

PHOTO BOOTH FUN



JOIN US FOR A



LUNCH

  
**essential**  
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

A proud member of

**edg**

The Essential Disability Group

Not for Profit Organisation | Established since 1986

## Essential Employment and Training offer:

- Disability Employment Services (DES)
- Youth Employment Program (YEP)
- Transition to Work (TTW)
- Community Participation (CP)
- Individual Funding Packages (IF)
- Cert I in Employability: Becoming a Worker
- Cert III in Disability



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# City of Wollongong Giving Tree 2015

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A YOUNG CHILD'S CHRISTMAS!

City of Wollongong Giving Tree supports two Wollongong agencies, St Vincent de Paul Society and Anglicare.

The Giving Tree Appeal plays an essential part in helping the agencies to make Christmas a special day for all children.

**Unwrapped** gifts or **gift cards** for children 0-16 years can be received until 18 December at:

- Council's Customer Service area & Council libraries
- Corrimal Leagues Club
- Figtree Grove and Warrawong Plaza Customer Service Centre Desks
- iHub Visitors Information Centre
- ic Central (Bldg 230) Ground Floor Atrium, UOW Innovation Campus
- Novotel Northbeach
- Port Kembla Golf Club
- WAVE FM Warrawong
- Wests Illawarra
- Wollongong Central Customer Service Centre Desk (Level 1 Crown)

Alternatively, cash donations can be made through Wollongong City Council.

### THANK YOU

**City of Wollongong  
Giving Tree Appeal 2015**

