



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 4 Week 4 , 4 November, 2016

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Thoughts from the Principal



Welcome to Week 4.

Academic, sporting and cultural achievements are the focus of our school. Our aim is success for every

student. Our newsletter is packed with acknowledgements of students who are taking the opportunities in our school such as:

Academic: Great results from our students who have entered the Mathematics competition, and worked on it in their own time for the past 12 weeks. Congratulations to these students.

Sport: We had an excellent outcome from our boys' Cricket team defeating Smith's Hill High School this week. Well done boys.

The Arts: I am also excited to see we have several students selected for various roles in Schools Spectacular this year. This is another outstanding achievement.

In other news, you will shortly receive invitations to our Merit Assemblies if your child is receiving an award or performing. This is a secret (shhh) as the students do not know they are receiving an award and it is one of the nice things about the Merit Assemblies.

Finally, I would like to take time in this edition to recognise the tireless work of Ms Narelle Jacobsen in our Canteen over the past 14 years. Ms Jacobsen is reluctantly retiring from the Coordinator's role and, as a school community, we wish her well in her future endeavours. We are very grateful that the P&C run our canteen as it means the proceeds continually support student learning and school resources directly.

T4 Week 5	Week Starting 7 November
Monday 7/11/16	Yr 12 Sign Out
Tuesday 8/11/16	Yr 10 German Writing Task Yr 8 VALID catch ups Victor Chang Awards Links to Learning
Wednesday 9/11/16	
Thursday 10/11/16	Yr 12 Formal Yr 11 HSC History Ext Excursion Yr 10 Geography Task Yr 7 Parent Reading
Friday 11/11/16	Remembrance Day Ceremony Yr 10 Dragon Tag Coaching
T4 Week 6	Week Starting 14 November
Monday 14/11/16	Yr 9 PASS Excursion Yr 7 SRC Speeches
Tuesday 15/11/16	Yr 11 HSC SLR Excursion Yr 10 SRC Speeches Yr 9/10 PASS Excursion Yr 9 Child Studies Task Links to Learning
Wednesday 16/11/16	Yr10 Marine Studies Excursion Yr 10 PASS Excursion
Thursday 17/11/16	Yr 10 IT Timber Project Due Yr 10 IST Test Yr 10 Gen22Work Morning Tea Yr 10 PASS Excursion Yr 8 SRC Speeches Yr 7 Parent Reading
Friday 18/11/16	Yr 11 HSC Studies of Religion Task Yr 11 HSC Senior Science Task Yr 10 IT Timber Project Due Yr 10 Dragon Tag Coaching Yr 9 SRC Speeches
T4 Week 7	Week Starting 21 November
Monday 21/11/16	
Tuesday 22/11/16	Links to Learning Yr 9/10 PASS Excursion Yr 9 Child Studies Task Premier's Sporting Challenge Leadership Camp
Wednesday 23/11/16	Yr 10 Marine Studies Excursion Figtree High School Sports Awards Premier's Sporting Challenge Leadership Camp
Thursday 24/11/16	Yr 7 Parent Reading
Friday 25/11/16	
Year 12 Purple Year 11 Olive Year 10 Blue Year 9 Red Year 8 Green Year 7 Orange	

We welcome Ms Margaret Cutajar and Ms Jo Reczek who are taking the reigns as Canteen Co-Coordinator and thank them for taking this on. New volunteers are always welcome and if you are interested, please contact Mrs Di Grant in our office for further details.

Enjoy further reading about your children's involvement in our fabulous school.

Karen Burke
Principal

PBL Core Values

WEEK 4: LEARNING

Stay on task and do your best

WEEK 5: RESPECT

When entering and leaving the school, obey community rules and laws

Deputy Principal Report

Year 12

Congratulations to Year 12 students who have completed their final HSC examinations. They have applied themselves with diligence and composure. They are a credit to themselves, their families and Figtree High School. Sign out for Year 12 students is on Monday, 7 November from 8:45am to 11:30am in the auditorium. They will need to return any books, textbooks and their laptop at that time. In addition, all outstanding subject fees need to be finalised. After the students have completed their clearance paperwork, their formal tickets will be issued. The Year 12 Formal is on Thursday, 10 November with a Mocktail Reception starting at 6pm at Panorama House followed by the dinner at 7pm. This is sure to be a beautiful evening celebrating 13 years of education and friendships.

Secondary Schools Renewal Program



Figtree High School is undergoing some changes! As part of the Secondary Schools Renewal Program that is funded by the NSW Government, the front of the school and the administration block are being refurbished. It is hoped that these exciting changes will be completed for the start of the 2017 school year. They will include new community and student entries, an interview space as well as new pathways and gardens leading into the school.



Excellence in School Customer Service 360 Survey

Figtree High School has been asked to be part of a Department of Education pilot program that asks members of our community to complete a **short online** survey about:

1. Whole school approach to communication
2. Teacher approach to communication
3. Administration approach to communication.

Parents and community who have supplied their emails to the school will **receive an email from the**

Department of Education. The survey will be open for two weeks to be completed. Parents are encouraged to complete the survey but it is optional. The Student Representative Council members will also be invited to complete the survey as will all staff at Figtree High School. All individual responses are confidential but it is hoped that the data collected will assist us to identify areas of strengths as well as areas for improvement in our approach to communication. If you have any questions, please ring the school on 4271 2787.

Ms Trish Morgan
Deputy Principal

Learning and Support Faculty

LEARNING SUPPORT

It has been another exciting year in Learning Support with students, Support Learning School Officers (SLSO's) and Learning and Support Teachers (LaST's) being involved in various activities.

2016 saw the establishment of the Figtree High School Volunteering Program. Groups of students from Years 9 and 10 participated in this program in 2016. Our Year 10 students attended the Unanderra Community Centre, assisting senior members of the community learn about new technology and devices. During Legacy Week a group of Year 9 students volunteered their time to sell Legacy Badges in and around Wollongong Central. Many thanks to those students. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

Learning and Support is also a base for the Senior and Junior NORTA tutors and students. The Norta program provides targeted individual support for Aboriginal students to accelerate progress in student achievement. The focus of Norta is to provide learning assistance in the key areas of literacy and numeracy. Norta is embedded in the student's Personalised Learning Plan. Tutors Mary – Lou Cregan, Cheryl Akhurst and Phyllis Coughlin have provided Indigenous students with this support and assistance.

It has been another successful year with Parents as Tutors Reading groups held each Thursday, Period 3 in the school Library. Here tutors and Year 7 students meet and engage in literacy activities. This program is in its second decade of operation. Special thanks to those dedicated people who have supported this program. Jenny Jolliffe, Leonie Erskine, Mena Bolt, Chris Van De Moosdyke, Wendy Cratchley, Janice Donaldson, Sue Butler, Diana Boufer, Marie Cavalho, Tina Viselli and Maureen Waters

Learning Support have a dedicated team of SLSO's- Francesca Roberts, Janine McKnight, Marie – Claire Kurt, Kerry Bengson and Lidija Blazevska who work tirelessly with staff and students across all year groups and KLA's to assist and support them with student engagement and learning. The support and assistance that students receive instils a feeling of self-worth and positive attitude towards learning. Learning Support would like to extend a Thank you also to relief teachers Mrs Maureen Waters and Phyllis Coughlin who have worked in the faculty at various times. These teachers brought to the faculty great knowledge and expertise in all KLA areas.

PDU

This year has flown so fast it's hard to believe that our new Year 7 students are now "old" year 7 students. This year we welcomed Clara Bates, Madison Davies and Ryan Phillips into the PDU and into the world of high school.

I asked the year 7's on their thoughts on high school and how it compared to primary school.

Their responses were insightful:

Clara: "hell yeah. I prefer high school although it's hard and more confusing but at Primary I was the only one with a disability."

Ryan: "at the start it was hard but now it's good and different, which I like."

If Maddy was here, her response would be "I like the bigger boy pool."

Blake Shepherd's advice to the year 7 students this year was "stay at home and NEVER participate in the cross country". Such wise words, thanks, Blake!

On a more serious note Clara and Ryan have been motivated and enthusiastic students and will be receiving their Bronze certificates this week. Well done and congratulations. The "wise old owl", Blake received the Principal's award for most improved in year 8 and an excellent report and is continuing to flourish as the "PDU Advisor To All Younger Than Him".

We farewelled Ashley Hanson who completed Year 12 and we look forward to hearing about her ventures into the world of work. Ashley has selected Northcott Disability Services to support her transitioning into employment and training. Sarah and Josip in Year 9 are working well and looking forward to becoming senior mentors of the PDU next year.



We had a wonderful Regional Boccia Knockout day at Figtree High back in June. The biggest turn out, ever. Corrimal High, Para Meadows and Moss Vale High provided us with some challenging competition. It was a great day and all students showed great sportsmanship and respect. Happy to report that Figtree won the day and progressed to the State Finals at Homebush, where we were placed fifth in the state.

Quite an achievement, in view of the fact that 94 schools across the state take part in the Knockout. We look forward to this event every year and are busy training up our junior squad.

I would like to thank the team of Katrina Murray, Catherine Roppa and Amanda Bowen who work tirelessly, in and out of the classroom, supporting our students in their academic endeavours.

Wishing everyone a productive Term 4.

Ellen Foord
PDU

AUTISM UNIT

During this year students in the Autism class have been successfully attending many mainstream classes, interacting with peers and building friendships.

The year nine students went on the snow excursion with Mrs Monro and although it was very cold, everyone had fun playing in the snow. Sliding down steep hills and snowball fights were highlights. Learning to ski was a challenge, however, all students persisted and successfully skied down the slopes.

Year nine students have also participated in Workers of Wollongong, a work experience program. They have completed training at Wollongong TAFE, and worked at Wollongong Regeneration, Wollongong fire Station and will be working at Wollongong golf club. Students gained experience in working as part of a team and following instructions.



English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D)

2016 has been a very eventful and exciting year for EAL/D. Throughout the year, we have welcomed a number of new arrival students from the Intensive English Centre in Warrawong (WIEC). These students come with rich culture and experiences and bring with them a renewed enthusiasm for learning.

A number of Year 9 students from Language Backgrounds Other than English (LBOTE) have attended the Multicultural Links to Learning program, from which they will shortly graduate. They have completed certificates in Retail, Volunteering, Hospitality, First Aid, as well as the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. They will be presented with these certificates and celebrate their achievements at the Links to Learning graduation ceremony, in late November.

Year 10 girls from LBOTE have participated in the Young Women's Forum. This program offers young women in Year 10, from diverse cultural backgrounds, a safe, supportive and creative environment in which to share themes and topics that are important to them, access information relevant to their needs, and develop their self-esteem and confidence. The program was offered and conducted by youth and community workers from Wollongong Women's Information Service during school terms 2 and 3. The Figtree High School group attend Girl Talk Forum Day at Figtree Community Hall last term. The day provided the Year 10 girls with the opportunity to meet up with young women involved from other schools; share experiences and topics relevant to them as young women in a creative and fun way; access and exchange relevant information; and develop their skills and confidence further.

I look forward to another exciting year in 2017, full of challenges and more wins for our students.

Evia Kyriacou
EAL/D Teacher

Sky's The Limit Mini Olympics

On Thursday 28 October, thirty Year 10 and 11 students attended Beaton Park to assist with Sky's the limit Mini Olympics. This involved the students being a

buddy for a person with a disability. The students ensured that their athlete was at their events on time, running with them and participating in events. The students were outstanding ambassadors for the school with a number of service providers commenting on their maturity and willingness to be involved in assisting their athlete. I would like to thank Mrs Harlor for her organisation prior to the day.

Thanks Mrs Lawson





Boys Baseball

On Wednesday 21 September 2016 our Boys Baseball team played in the **CHS State Final of the Proud Shield**. The boys played at the Blacktown International Sports Park – where the baseball in the Olympics was played. It was a great achievement to make the final as this is one of the longest running knockouts in CHS sport. There were 160 schools entered in this competition this year and we made it to the final two. The boys were up against Westfield Sports High. The boys played an outstanding game. They showed true grit and a great deal of sportsmanship. While they did not win they should be extremely proud of taking home a Silver CHS medal. On the day we had a bus load of supporters at the game to help cheer on the boys. A special Thanks to Mr Herbert who has developed this team over the last three years. His dedication and passion to the sport is an asset to our school.

Team members were Peter Faulks (Captain), Mitchell Davis, Dylan Rower, Daniel Bridges, Matthew Kerry, Corey Rower, Daniel Moss, Sam Rada, Jackson Page, Jayden Brown, Jacob Davis, Brandon Redman and Riley Brown.



Maths Enrichment Competition

The Stage 4 Mathematics Enrichment class entered a competition which spanned sixteen weeks. These students worked independently on 8 or 12 problems, depending on the enrichment topic they had entered. All students are to be congratulated on their dedication and perseverance on solving as many problems as possible. The following list are those students who achieved at a high level.

Newton section:

Distinction: Jacob Newton

Credit: Daniel Petrevski, Grace Siminski, Darby Bell, Jessica Buffett, Eli Manning and Bailey Craft

Dirichlet section:

Credit: Ellie, Skarvelis, Eden Smith, Ellie Rada

Chad Jenkins entered this competition independently and is to be congratulated on achieving a distinction in the **Euler** section.

Be Bus Aware

From the Wellbeing Team

The **Be Bus Aware** campaign is part of Transport for NSW's Bus Safety Week. Running from 6-12 November it aims to get the message that all road users, no matter their age, size, location or road user type (pedestrian, driver, cyclist, motorcyclist, passengers) need to be aware of how to stay safe on and around buses.

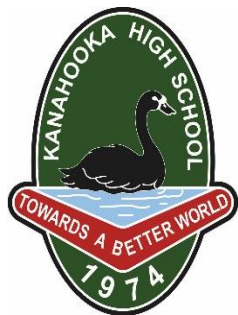
Buses are large, heavy vehicles that cannot stop quickly. The outcome for pedestrians, cyclists, drivers and motorcyclists involved in a crash with a bus are often serious, or fatal.

At Figtree High School we have several buses dropping and picking up students from the front of our school. As an education community we want to protect our most valuable assets, our students and their families. We want our students to be safe and well now and in the future.

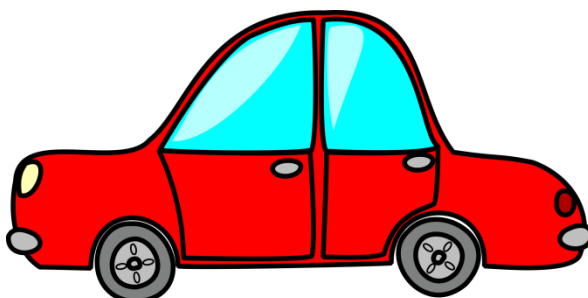
Remember:

- * Cross the road at the traffic lights.
- * When driving be aware of students hopping on and off the bus
- * School zones are 40km zones





KANAHOOKA HIGH SCHOOL



CAR BOOT SALE

Got some clothes, toys, bits and pieces that you don't want any more? Well here is your chance to off load some and make a few dollars as well.

All welcome



There will also be for sale:

BBQ/Sausage Sizzle

Coffee & Cakes



Friday 2nd December

Set up 3.30pm

Commencing 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Vehicle	Cost
Car	\$30.00
Small Van or Car with trailer	\$40.00
Truck	\$50.00
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JEWELLERY MAKING
HENNA TATTOO
NAIL ART
DINNER
+MORE**



FREE

**6-9PM FRIDAY 4 NOV
WOLLONGONG YOUTH CENTRE**





DO YOU HAVE YOUR L'S?

Want to get more hours for your log book?

An opportunity for you and your supervisor to experience a variety of driving conditions to increase safe driver behaviour.

All learner drivers must have 40 or more log book hours

Bookings are essential

Please contact Council for a suitable workshop

2016	June	19	10.00am – 12.30pm		Shellharbour and Kiama
	July	12	6.00pm – 8.30pm	🌙 <i>night run</i>	Shellharbour and Kiama
	August	14	9.30am – 12.00pm		Wollongong
	September	25	10.00am – 12.30pm		Shellharbour and Kiama
	November	27	9.30am – 12.00pm		Wollongong
2017	March	26	Ultimate Learner Log Book Run 10.00am – 1.30pm		Shellharbour, Kiama and Wollongong
	April	11	6.00pm – 8.30pm	🌙 <i>night run</i>	Shellharbour and Kiama
	May	7	9.30am – 12.00pm		Wollongong
	June	18	10.00am – 12.30pm		Shellharbour and Kiama

Shellharbour

4221 6124

jenny.davies@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

Wollongong

4227 7111

rso@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Kiama

4232 0444

council@kiama.nsw.gov.au





Workshops are held by Wollongong City, Shellharbour City and Kiama councils.

To help you with practical advice about:

- Supervising learner drivers
- Completing the learner driver log book
- Providing on road driver practise
- L & P Plate licence laws

Workshops are held from 6pm – 8pm

Bookings are essential

Please contact Council for a suitable workshop

Wollongong

4227 7111

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Shellharbour

4221 6124

jenny.davies@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

Kiama

4232 0444

council@kiama.nsw.gov.au

2016

July	25	Shellharbour
August	24	Kiama
September	6	Wollongong
October	19	Kiama
November	7	Shellharbour
December	6	Wollongong

2017

February	13	Shellharbour
March	7	Wollongong
April	26	Kiama
May	22	Shellharbour
June	6	Wollongong



volunteer

do good feel good

form friendships
learn new skills
make a difference

do you have some spare
time to help?

would you like to gain
some work experience?

are you 55+ and need to
fulfil a mutual obligation?

have you considered
volunteering?

positions
available:

Retail Assistants
Warehouse Assistants
Truck Drivers
Truck Offsiders
Donation Sorters
IT Maintenance

MISSION
AUSTRALIA OP SHOPS



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4/5 Harbord Road

THIRROUL
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Lawrence Hargrave Drive

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16 Bellambi Lane

CORRIMAL
423 Princes Highway

NTH WOLLONGONG
71 Montague Street

DAPTO
16 Marshall Street

WARILLA
4 Commerce Drive

GOULBURN
The Old Woolstore
Sloane Street

NOWRA
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Princes Highway

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