



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 1 Week 2 5th February, 2016

Address: 2 Gibsons Road, Figtree NSW 2525

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Week 2 (B)	Beginning 1 st February 2016
05.02.16	- Yr 12 UoW Discovery Day - U15 and Open Girls South Coast Tennis Trials
Week 3 (A)	Beginning 8 th February 2016
08.02.16	- School Swimming Carnival – Western Suburbs Swimming Pool - U15 Boys South Coast Tennis Trials
09.02.16	- Open Boys South Coast Tennis Trials - Yr 11 SLR, Yr 10XPASS and Yr 9YPASS Incursion
10.02.16	- Yr 7 Peer Support with Yr 11 Leaders - P2 - Yr 7 Surf Education Program starts
Week 4 (B)	Beginning 15 th February 2016
16.02.16	- Yr 7 Peer Support with Yr 11 Leaders - P6
17.02.16	- Yr 7 Surf Education Program
18.02.16	- School Photos for Yrs 7, 8 and 9, students attending Zone Swimming and Group Photos
19.02.16	- School Photos for Yrs 10, 11 and 12 - Zone Swimming Carnival at Corrimal Pool
Week 5 (A)	Beginning 22 nd February 2016
22.02.16	- Yr 10 Science Student Research Proposal Assessment task due
23.02.16	- Motivational Media Presentation - Yr 11 SLR, Yr 10XPASS and Yr 9YPASS excursion to Continental Pool - Yr 10 Graphics Incursion
24.02.16	- Yr 7 Surf Education Program - P & C Meeting – 7:30pm
25.02.16	- Yr 12 Career Planning Interviews - Yr 10 Information Software Technology MODFAB Workshop
26.02.16	- Yr 12 Career Planning Interviews - Yr 7 Peer Support with Yr 11 Leaders - P6

PBL Core Values

Week 3: Learning

Stay on task and do your best

Week 4: Respect

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

Principal's Report

What a privilege it is to be selected as Principal of Figtree High School. I would like to thank the school community for the warm welcome I have received since the announcement of my appointment. I am already enjoying working with student leaders, staff, parents and wider community to build on the strong foundation established by Mrs Carol Marshman, and will continue to develop all aspects of our school for improved student outcomes.

To give you a brief background, I grew up in Wollongong and studied at Wollongong Conservatorium of Music. I am a proud public education teacher whose career has included appointments in the country, the city, at co-ed and single sex schools and at a college. I have also worked as the State Curriculum Advisor K-12 and most recently in a role in the Executive Director's office at Macquarie Park. My teaching background is in the Creative and Performing Arts, and I majored in History for my Bachelor of Education. My leadership opportunities have developed my passion for quality teaching and a desire to create an environment where all students experience success.

In my first week at Figtree High School, I have relished visiting classrooms and the playground each day. In this time I have seen our school values of Respect, Safety and Learning clearly demonstrated by our students, obviously reflecting the strong example set by our staff and community. As Principal, I welcome parent input about ways we can further tailor to your child's needs as we take pride in being a school that caters to the needs of our diverse student population.

A special aspect of my role as Principal is welcoming new members of our school. Firstly, to our new Year 7 cohort who have already settled in quite well thanks to their Deputy Principal, Ms Ellie Donovan, Head Teacher Wellbeing, Mrs Jemma Lawson, their Year Advisers - Ms Pamela Dowd and Ms Terri Wale, Learning and Support Teachers – Ms Sue Clifford and Ms Judy Markham, Transition Advisor, Ms Jan Goodall and our Year 11 Peer Support Leaders and caring staff across the school.

Secondly, I extend a warm welcome to our new members of staff: Ms Kate Brewer in Visual Arts, Mrs Jennifer McCarthy in English, three new teachers in the Human Society and its Environment faculty - Ms Emily Richards, Ms Sandra Fernandes and Mr Austin Brooks, Ms Inga Kilby, a new teacher at our Flametree campus and Ms Caroline Haselden, a Flametree teacher who is working on Thursdays in Careers to relieve Mr Sargent-Wilson.

Executive staff updates include: Mrs Jenny English returning as Head Teacher Science after two years working as a Curriculum Advisor, Ms Karran Williamson who has been appointed Head Teacher Technology and Applied Sciences (TAS) and Mr Adam Sargent-Wilson who is relieving part-time as Head Teacher Wellbeing. I would like to acknowledge the work of Mr Ben Hudson and Ms Margaret Parr who have relieved as Head Teachers in Science and TAS for significant periods of time.

I encourage a strong partnership with parents and the school throughout your child's journey at Figtree High School. I thank you for your ongoing support of our school and look forward to meeting you at P&C Meetings and school celebration events throughout the year.

Mrs Karen Burke
Principal

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

Learning – packing the essentials for school

A key for enhancing learning is ensuring that students are **well organised** for school. Students should have appropriate resources for each of their subjects and bring these for lessons.

A pencil case with writing materials, calculator, ruler, highlighters, sharpener, scissors and glue are needed each day. Students should have their own device that meets our school's BYOD policy and specifications and exercise books as instructed by their class teachers. Students need several copies of their school timetable – at least one for school and one for home. A diary to organise work requirements is essential, this enables both parents and students to monitor homework and assignment due dates, to reduce the chance of students losing assessment marks because of the late submission of set tasks.

Technology tools are available to assist parents in supporting their child to enhance their learning and achievement at school. The Department of Education has a specific website for this purpose, <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au> and the resources are in the free 'schoolatoz' app in the App store.

All students should be engaged in some form of **homework** throughout each school week, to improve their learning and achievement. This can be homework assigned by the teacher or 'self directed' homework, where a student reviews their understanding of a topic by reading through their school book and making summary or study notes on the particular topic to achieve to their potential and develop skills for lifelong learning.

Safety – travelling to and from school

Figtree High School is very fortunate to have traffic lights at the front entrance to ensure student safety for road crossings. Gibsons road is very busy with buses, cars and pedestrians, particularly at the end of the school day. Students who have to cross Gibsons road need to use the traffic lights at the front of the school. This ensures their own safety and the safety of other members of the school community. Parents are asked to remind their children about using this crossing and the risks involved in crossing the road by stepping out between parked cars and buses. Students who walk or ride home and travel south along the Princes Highway are also asked to cross the road at the traffic lights in front of the school instead of at the round-a-bout on the Princes Highway, which is very busy after school finishes.

The Figtree High School **staff car parks are not to be used by parents to drop off or pick up students**. The car park drive ways, including the Figtree Anglican Church driveway, should not be used to complete three point turns. At the end of the school day, these driveways are extremely busy exit points.

The school has a rear exit gate that enables students to walk north towards O'Briens Road. This road is an ideal pick up point for parents as there is less traffic from Figtree Public School and ample space to stop or park to collect your child after school.

The Figtree Anglican Church front carpark area should not be used by parents to drop off and collect students. This car park is for the staff and visitors of the Figtree Anglican Church. Your cooperation in parking elsewhere is appreciated.

Ms Ellie Donovan – Deputy Principal

Payments for School Fees/Excursions online

We have an online payment option for payments to the school 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 schools 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', this 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 the [\\$ 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.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

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.

FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL HOMEWORK CENTRE

Our Homework Centre is open every Monday (starting from Week 4 Monday 15th February) from 3.00pm-4.00pm in the School Library. All students are welcome to attend and a teacher will be present to supervise students. Light refreshments are also provided. So, take advantage of this great opportunity to access resources, computers and the internet in a quiet environment.

School Swimming Carnival

When: Monday 8th February, 2016

Where: Western Suburbs Pool

Time: 8.40am – 2.40pm

Attendance:

It is **compulsory** for **all** students to attend. All students who have passed the Aquatic Skills test are encouraged enter a minimum of 2 events.

Information:

- Students to wait outside the pool until directed in by Figtree High School Staff.
- Roll Call will be at the pool at 8.40am.
- Students will be dismissed from the pool at 2.40pm (this allows time for students to return to school to catch normal buses). There will be no teacher supervision of students returning to school.
- Students are not required to wear school uniform but must wear sensible clothing for the conditions. It is strongly advised to wear a hat and bring sunscreen.
- The canteen/kiosk will be available at the pool.
- The Carnival will go ahead, even if raining.
- There will be NO 'Free Swimming' time and NO ball games will be allowed on the grassed areas.

Early Departure from the Carnival

Pass Outs will not be issued on the day.
Students wishing to leave the carnival early must obtain permission from the Deputy Principal prior to Monday 8th February, 2016.

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome back to all our students and especially our new Year 7 students.

We would like to extend an invitation to all the new parents to Figtree High School to volunteer at our wonderful and friendly canteen. If you can spare an hour per week or a couple of hours per month to help serve the students at Lunch 1 (11.22 to 11.52 M,T, W & F or 11.34 to 12.04 Thurs) we would really appreciate it. The more volunteers we have each day, the quicker the students get served and have time to eat their lunch.

Please phone Narelle on 4271 2787 (preferably not at lunch times)

NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2016 the following vaccines will be offered to Year 7 students*:

- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose;
and
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8).

Vaccination Schedule

VISIT 1: 29/2/16

Year 7 students (boys & girls)

- Human Papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) **dose 1** (3 dose course)
- Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis booster vaccine (single dose)

VISIT 2: 6/6/16

Year 7 students

- Human Papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) **dose 2**
- Varicella (Chicken pox) vaccine (single dose) catch-up only. Not required if student has had the disease or have received 1 dose as a child.

VISIT 3: 24/10/16

Year 7 students

- Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV) **dose 3**
- Catch up for HPV, dTpa and varicella will be provided to students in Yr7 if vaccines missed at previous visits.

***At each clinic held in 2016 catch up HPV vaccination will be offered to Year 8 students who commenced but failed to complete the course of HPV in 2015.**

** The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.*

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/carers in the next few weeks. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/carers are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child's school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Parents/carers who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at

www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation.

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child's name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student's information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/carers should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Mrs K. Borst – Coordinator

HSC Disability Provisions 2016

Our Learning Support staff are in the process of organising Disability Provisions for current Year 11 & 12 students who are completing courses in the NSW Higher School Certificate. The disability provision may apply to examinations and assessment tasks. We have outlined some important information about Disability Provisions below. Parents/Carers, who are concerned about whether Disability Provisions apply for their child, should contact the Year Adviser or School Counsellor.

What are Disability Provisions?

Disability provisions provide students who have special needs with practical support in the HSC examinations. Students' special examination needs may include learning, medical, and vision or hearing difficulties.

The definition of 'disability' in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) includes:

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Psychiatric
- Sensory
- Neurological, and
- Learning Disabilities, as well as
- Physical disfigurement and
- The presence in the body of disease causing organisms

Disability provision application can be made by:

- the student
- the parents / carers
- the teaching staff

Schools Responsibilities under the *Disabilities Discrimination Act*.

All schools must be sure that students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, are able to access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Schools should assess and accommodate their student's disability provisions needs, and, when necessary submit applications for the HSC examinations on their behalf.

Disability provisions for school-based assessment tasks

Schools are responsible for determining and approving disability provisions for all school-based assessment tasks. The Board of Studies only determines disability provisions for the HSC examinations. Students and parents should be advised that there is no guarantee the Board will grant the same provisions as those given at school.

Providing evidence to support an application

Depending on the category of disability, evidence required may include

- Report from GP or other health professional
- Vision or hearing test

The evidence should be less than 12 months old at the commencement of the tests/exams.

Ms Sue Clifford and Ms Judy Markham

Learning and Support Teachers

School Uniform

The school has two suppliers for our school uniform, Lowes at Figtree Grove 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 (longer than fingertips when the arms are extended by your sides), plain navy, with no logos, pleats or cuffs. Our uniform suppliers have our girl's shorts in stock. We seek our parents support in ensuring that girls are wearing the approved school uniform shorts.

Junior Students



Senior Students



Our school canteen is selling the school caps for a price of \$12.

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.

New Lift for Figtree High School

During Term 4 last year we had some significant demolition work carried out in the old Bell Tower in preparation for the installation of a lift to assist students from our Physical Disability Unit (PDU) Support Class with their movement around the school.

The lift installation was completed at the start of the school year, which will enable our students who are in the PDU to access the classrooms upstairs with much greater ease. The ramp is still available for students from our PDU to use.

This week we have been providing training to staff and specific students in the safe use of the new lift. The lift is key operated and only available to be used by authorised staff and students.

The lift will also be available for students who may be suffering from a temporary injury or medical condition that restricts their ability to use the stairs at school. If you would like to find out more information about how your child can gain authorised use of the lift, please contact your child's Deputy Principal.



Figtree High School – Student Wellbeing Team

Principal

Mrs Karen Burke

The Deputy Principals Supervise specific year groups:

Ms Donovan – Years 7, 9 and 11 students

Ms Morgan- Years 8, 10 and 12 students



Ms E Donovan, Mrs K Burke, Ms T Morgan

Head Teacher Wellbeing

Mrs Jemma Lawson (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)

Mr Adam Sargent-Wilson (Monday, Wednesday)

The Year Advisers are as follows:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Year 7 - | Mrs Dowd - English staffroom and
Mrs Wale – TAS Staffroom |
| Year 8 - | Mrs Parr – TAS staffroom and
Mrs Kyriacou – Learning Support |
| Year 9 - | Mr Smith – Mathematics staffroom |
| Year 10 - | Mr Simmonds and Mrs Dive –
Languages staffroom |
| Year 11 - | Mr Liddle and Mr Kellaway – TAS
staffroom |
| Year 12 – | Ms Harris – Mathematics staffroom |

Supervisor of Girls

Ms Kirsten Borst - Science staffroom

Boys Supervisor

Mr Adam Sargent-Wilson - Careers Office

School Counsellors – Administration Office

Ms Mary Idziak

Mr John Wilson

NOTIFICATIONS

Youth Drug & Alcohol Workshops

Peter Slattery has worked with individuals, families and communities for 30 years. Peter's passion is to find or develop new, exciting and ever more useful ways of helping people explore what troubles or inspires them. He draws on theatre, storytelling, drawing, humour and indeed anything at all that might help in this process.



Peter Slattery



Young People & Drug Use

This workshop is about making sense of young people's action, and why they do what they do, MORE importantly it's about what parents can do to help their children be safe and how to help them grow healthily and happily in a world where drugs legal and illegal, whether we like it or not, do exist and show no signs of going away.

Shellharbour Wed 24th Feb

12:30pm-2:30pm Centenary Hall, Tongarra Rd, Albion Park



We use the secure service of trybooking.com

<http://www.trybooking.com/IUHZ>

Nowra Wed 24th Feb

9:30am-11:30am Nowra Showground Pavillion, West St, Nowra



We use the secure service of trybooking.com

<http://www.trybooking.com/IUPD>



Drug Use ~ Choice & Change

The workshop is for people who work with young people where substance use is a concern. This workshop is not about drugs - it's about understanding both a young person's inner and outer worlds, and what drives drug use in terms of who a person is and the world they personally live in.

Wollongong Wed 24th Feb

3:30pm-5:30pm Centre for Health Initiatives,

Innovation Campus UOW, Building 233 (ITAMS) Squires way, North Wollongong
(Paid parking is available)



We use the secure service of trybooking.com

<http://www.trybooking.com/IUQJ>

\$5 Donation for all workshops

Will support activities that reduce Youth drug & alcohol related harm

Bookings Essential: Book directly by pressing the BOOK NOW link beside the event you wish to attend alternatively - contact (02) 4254 2794 or email Donna.forknall@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au.



Health
Illawarra Shoalhaven
Local Health District



CDAT community drug
action team
We're Stronger Together

Shoalhaven
City Council



Wollongong
City of Innovation
Centre for Health Initiatives

UNIVERSITY OF
WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA



ITALIAN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



ITALIAN CLASSES

MONDAY AFTERNOONS

4.00 pm to 5.30 pm

Classes run during school terms

**FOR STUDENTS FROM
KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 12**

**Classes will be held at
Holy Spirit College, Bellambi**

COST PER LESSON

\$ 10 FOR FIRST CHILD

\$ 8 FOR SECOND CHILD

\$ 5 FOR THIRD CHILD

FREE FOR FOURTH CHILD

**REGISTRATION FOR TERM 1 IS ON MONDAY
8 FEBRUARY 2016 - 4pm to 5.30pm.
Room 12 - Holy Spirit College, Bellambi
Entrance via Cawley Street Carpark
CLASSES START ON
MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2016**

**IATI INC.
28 STEWART STREET
WOLLONGONG**

**PHONE: 42251144 or
0402294678
EMAIL: iati@speedlink.com.au**





FSC WIN Network Senior Boys Academy

For boys aged 13 - 16 years

Monday nights 5:00pm - 6:30pm
Ian McLennan Park, Kembla Grange



**13 - 16
years**

Summer Term:
Monday 15 February -
Monday 11 April
(8 Weeks)

Summer Term Cost \$160

**Registrations
Now Open**

Coaches:
Noel Spencer
Jason Spencer

www.footballsouthcoast.com

**Training
Kit - \$40**



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CRICKET LEAGUE**

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favourite game!**

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- Sunday mornings
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- U13 & U17 teams

Visit SydneySixersGirlsCricket.com.au
to find your local competition

Competition Name: Sydney Sixers Girls Cricket League
Name of Contact:
Paul Brockley 0425 297 719, paul.brockley@sydney-sixers.com.au
Brett Sporing, brett.sporing@sydney-sixers.com.au
Glenn B. Ogle, glenn.ogle@sydney-sixers.com.au
Competition Website: www.sydneysixersgirlsleague.com.au



The Eaton Gorge Theatre Company consists of Ian McColm and Juliet Scrine and part of their mission is to employ local actors and artists. The company has been in operation for over ten years and during that time has ventured into many areas including children's education, working with people with disabilities, drama workshops, events, production management, entertainment bookings, video production, corporate training. Some of our events include Spring Into Corrimal and Glebe Street Fair as well as birthday parties and teddy bears picnics. EGTC work extensively with councils in NSW having worked with 23 separate council departments during the last two years. The Company has developed the Tapstar plays as well as King & Queen of Green educational shows and the Waste Warriors for Shoalhaven Council. In 2013 we began working with Manly Council on their Litter Bug Campaign and also Blacktown council on their Recycling Education Campaign.

EGTC's Theatre School has been running since 2010 with classes for juniors, teens and adults. Some of our students have since been employed at events such as Spring Into Corrimal and Shakespeare In The Gardens. The company also writes and produces original works and adapted the popular children's novel by Christine Harris – Audrey Of The Outback - to great acclaim at the Shoalhaven Arts Centre in 2014. Audrey will be appearing at Sydney's King Street Theatre in 2016. EGTC have travelled Australia and performed in every State. They regularly present papers at theatre in education and environmental education conferences, with the highlight being at the 2010 IDEA Conference in Belem (Brazil). EGTC have a green side to them and try to be good to the environment in all of their theatrical endeavours. In 2015 the company moved premises to Shop 1, 502 Princes Highway, Woonona. The new site has space for both our costume shop and a large 'black box' space suitable for classes, rehearsals and small concerts and showings.

EGTC Theatre School Enrolments now open

Monday 4pm -5pm Music Theatre **Ages 8 - 12**
5:15 -6:15pm Music Theatre **Ages 12 -18**

Tuesday 4.15pm -5.15pm Acting For Stage **Ages 8 - 11 HELENSBURGH**
5:30 -6:30pm Acting For Stage **Ages 12 -18 HELENSBURGH**

Wednesday 4pm -5pm Performing for Camera **Ages 5 - 7**
5:15pm -6:15pm Performing for Camera **Ages 8 - 12**
6:15pm -7:15pm Performing for Camera **Ages 12- 18**

Thursday 4pm -5pm Acting for stage **Ages 5 - 7**
5:15pm -6:15pm Acting for Stage **Ages 8 - 12**
6:15pm -7:15pm Acting for Stage **Ages 12- 18**

Saturday 9am -10am Acting for Stage **Ages 5 - 7**
10:15am-11:15am Acting for Stage **Ages 8 - 12**

10 week session running concurrently with school terms

Enrolment forms and details on www.egtc.com.au or call us on 4283 3000 for more information. To book visit trybooking: www.trybooking.com/JPOR

Eaton Gorge Theatre Company
Shop 1 502 Princes Highway
Woonona NSW 2517

P (02) 4283 3000 www.egtc.com.au