



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 1 Week 4 20th February, 2016

Address: 2 Gibsons Road, Figtree NSW 2525

Phone: 02 4271 2787

Email: figtree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Fax: 02 4271 6626

Week 4	Beginning 15 th February 2016
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 - Yr 7 Scripture for 7Y, 7B, 7E, 7R
Week 5	Beginning 22 nd February 2016
22.02.16	- Yr 10 Science Student Research Proposal Assessment task due - Yr 12 Hospitality work placement week starts
23.02.16	- Motivational Media Presentation - Yr 11 SLR, Yr 10XPASS and Yr 9YPASS excursion to Continental Pool - Yr 12 General Mathematics Assessment task - Yr 7 Geography Assessment task - Yr 10 Graphics Incursion
24.02.16	- Yr 7 Surf Education Program - Yr 12 Mathematics Assessment task - Yr 11 Extension English Assessment task - Yr 7 Geography Assessment task - P & C Meeting – 7:30pm
25.02.16	- Yr 12 Career Planning Interviews - Yr 8 HeadSpace and Police School Liaison Officer Presentations - Yr 9 History Assessment task - Yr 12 Ancient History Assessment task - Year 9 Links to Learning information session - Yr 10 Information Software Technology MODFAB Workshop
26.02.16	- Yr 12 Career Planning Interviews - Yr 7 Peer Support with Yr 11 Leaders - P6 - Yr 7 Scripture for 7T, 7I, 7M - Yr 9 History Assessment task - Yr 11 Mathematics and General Mathematics Assessment tasks - Yr 10.1 Mathematics Assessment task
Week 6	Beginning 29 th February 2016
29.02.16	- Yr 7 Vaccinations - Yr 12 Hospitality work placement alternate week starts
1.03.16	- Yr 12 Business Studies Assessment task - U14 Boys and Girls South Coast Futsal Championships - Yr 11 Drama Assessment task
2.03.16	- Yr 7 Surf Education Program - Yr 11 Extension Mathematics Assessment task - U16 and Open Girls South Coast Futsal Championships - Yr 7 2017 Figtree HS Expo Night at 6pm
3.03.16	- Yr 9 Science Assessment task - Yr 12 Advanced and Standard English Assessment task - Yr 11 Economics Assessment task - Yr 11 Society and Culture Assessment task - U16 Boys South Coast Futsal Championships - Yr 7 Peer Support with Yr 11 Leaders – P5
4.03.16	- Yr 7 Scripture for 7Y, 7B, 7E, 7R - Yr 11 Biology Field Trip Excursion - Yr 8 Science Assessment task - Yr 9 Science Assessment task - Yr 10 English Assessment task - Yr 12 Advanced and Standard English Assessment task - Open Boys South Coast Futsal Championships
Week 7	Beginning 7 th March 2016
7.03.16	- Yr 9 Drama Assessment task
8.03.16	- Yr 11 SLR, Yr 10XPASS and Yr 9YPASS excursion to North Wollongong Beach - U15/16/Open Rugby League Knockout

Principal's Report

I am very quickly recognising the talent within our student body at Figtree High School.

It was a pleasure to attend the annual Swimming Carnival at the beginning of last week where there was a culture of high performing competitors, those who were willing to give it their best shot and those who were content to spectate and encourage their peers. It was also great to see so many parents and relatives who took time to support their children on the day. I would like to congratulate the age champions, in particular to **Caitlin Smith** and **Jason Vugrek** for breaking a number of records, and to all students for the respectful behaviour demonstrated throughout the day.

As a fully comprehensive public high school, we undertake to offer a range of opportunities for the students to access throughout the year. We have a number of programs that are up and running already. Year 10 students are working with a Mentor from Workplace learning Illawarra on a project to benefit the whole school – watch this space in the coming weeks. The University of Wollongong has reignited the AIME Mentoring program with our Aboriginal students and this program is led by Mr Adam Sargent-Wilson, our Careers Advisor and Ms Sue Clifford, Learning and Support Teacher. Our parent reading program coordinated by Ms Judy Markham, Learning and Support Teacher, will begin soon as well so our students can grow in their skills. These are just a snapshot of the smorgasboard of experiences offered for our students.

Creative and Performing Arts have been well represented in the state wide ARTEXPRESS exhibition, where work by our Year 12 2015 Visual Arts student, **Millie Wistow-Martin** will be on display at the Art Gallery of NSW and Glasshouse Port Macquarie. The exhibition opens on 16th March and closes on 15th May.

We value the input of parents at all times and the first Parents and Citizens meeting for the year will be held next Wednesday evening, 24th February at 7:30 pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Karen Burke - Principal

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

Learning: Fantastic Start with Attendance

The strong links between high level student attendance, improved learning and high level academic success have been well researched and documented. It is great to see a large number of our students who currently have 100% attendance at school. A special mention should go to Roll Call classes 7.2 and 7.4 who currently have the highest number of students with 100% attendance. Our Year 7 students are leading the way, with 84 students on 100% attendance, followed by Year 8. Students should be at school every day, unless they are sick or have approved leave for family emergencies. We ask parents, where possible, to make appointments for their children outside of school hours, to maximise learning time. It is essential that students are at school for the start of the school day, so that they do not miss the start of period 1. Students should arrive at school by 8:30am in the morning, so that they are ready to move off to roll call at 8:38am when the warning bell rings to start the school day.

PBL VALUES

WEEK 5: RESPECT

Walk quietly in the corridors so that others can continue learning

WEEK 6: LEARNING

Be on time for your next class

Safety

A significant number of our students walk through the rear entrance to the school from O'Briens Road. It is timely to remind students who are walking along this pathway to be alert and aware in regards to the possible presence of snakes. Due to the creek that runs parallel to the road, and the level of vegetation in this area, snakes may be present.

If a student sees a snake in this area on their journey to or from school, they need to ensure they respond

appropriately to minimise the chance of a snake bite. Students are encouraged to contact the school office on 4271 2787 to inform the school if a snake has been sighted.

NSW Department of Education recently released the following advice about responding to a snake;

- Remain calm and motionless in the first instance
- Leave the snake alone and give it the opportunity to escape
- Move slowly to a safe distance observing the position of the snake at all times
- Alert other students and advise them to stay calm and keep away
- If possible, monitor the snake from a safe distance (at least 5 metres away)
- If the snake remains and is perceived to be a threat, students should contact the school office on 42712878 so that we can arrange for a licensed local herpetologist to attend with a view to catching and relocating the snake.

Please Note: All snakes are protected in NSW and killing one is an offence. Only licensed people are allowed to catch or keep snakes.

If a student is bitten by a snake near the school, they should contact the office so that staff with first aid training can attend the scene immediately.

First aid for a snake bite:

- Conduct a primary survey (DRSABCD)
- Immediately apply a firm bandage over the bite marks or scratches
- Apply Pressure Immobilisation Technique
- Maintain continued pressure and immobilise, ensuring the patient doesn't move
- Rest and reassure patient
- Call an ambulance – 000 (triple zero) or arrange transport if isolated
- Do not wash bite as a venom sample can be used to identify the snake
- Do not cut or suck the bite to drain venom
- Do not apply a tourniquet
- Be prepared – resuscitation may be required

Health Information – Head Lice

There have been some recently reported cases of students with head lice. As such, it is important for parents to take the time to check their child's hair carefully for any signs of head lice or eggs (nits) and treat their child if they have the symptoms, to minimise the spread of head lice within the school

community. Due to the lifecycle of head lice, re-treating your child after 7 days is necessary.

Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is. Head lice move from one person's head to another via hair. They do not survive long when they are off a human head and head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet. Head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments.

The effective treatment of head lice involves daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb. Chemical treatments are available from supermarkets and chemists, but they can be quite costly. Removing lice and eggs from the hair is necessary to break the lifecycle.

Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice

It is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.

This information was sourced from NSW Health on the following link:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/biology.aspx>

Further information on effective treatment can be found at

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/wellbeing/health/removing-head-lice-and-nits>



English Faculty Report

The National Curriculum is now entrenched in our English Scope and Sequence for Years 7 to 10 and has made a positive impact on our teaching. This year we will be focussing on improving students' ability to write effectively using the ALARM tool (A Learning and Response Matrix) in Stages 4 and 5. This tool enables students to write effectively, by using cohesion and modality in their writing.

I would like to welcome Jenny McCarthy into our faculty. She has come to us with extensive skills in English and Drama.

Year 12 Standard and Advanced English were involved in the 'Area of Study; Creative Writing' workshop last week. Students were able to enhance their skills in formulating ideas and scenarios for their creative writing compositions. Mrs Bartlett went through a number of writing strategies on the day while classroom teachers facilitated tutorials in the areas of motif, setting, characterisation and literary devices. More of these workshops will be organised for our implementation of the modules later in the semester.

Our first writing competition is based on *What Matters?* This competition is open to all students. To enter the competition students will need to write a 400-600 word opinion piece on what matters to you and why. Entries must be typed on A4 paper. Students will need to hand in their entries to the English staffroom.

A message to all parents/caregivers, please ensure your children are engaging in wide reading at home. This is a life-long skill that will enhance writing in the future.

Ms A.Mintzas - Head Teacher
English/Drama

School Photos – February

School photos have been taken over the past two days, Thursday 18/2 for students in Years 7, 8 and 9, along with students who will be absent on 19/2 due to the Zone Swimming Carnival. On Friday 19th February students in Years 10, 11 and 12 and those absent on 18/2 had their photos taken. Students who have still not had their photo taken can have their photo taken next Tuesday 23/2. Students are reminded that full school uniform should be worn for school photos.

School Swimming Carnival

What a fantastic day we had at our school swimming carnival on Monday 8th February 2016. The weather was perfect and we had a large number of students attend on the day.



Our age champions for the day were:

Girls

12 Years – Zali Moore
13 Years – Jessica Buffett
14 Years – Abby Murada
15 Years – Molly McNair
16 Years – Meghan Fox &
Jade Gray
17+ Years – Caitlin Smith

Boys

Phillip Gjorgjioski
Jed Reed
Joshua McKinnon
Jason Vugrek
Jayden Brown
Benjamin Vugrek



We also had a number of records broken by two students.

Jason Vugrek (Yr 9) broke

- **50m Freestyle – 25.72** – this record has stood since 1994
- **100m Freestyle – 59.94**
- **50m Butterfly – 30.26**
- **50m Backstroke – 33.97**

Caitlin Smith (Yr 12) broke the following records:

- **50m Freestyle – 28.37**
- **100m Freestyle – 1:02.06**
- **50m Butterfly – 30.65**
- **50m Backstroke – 34.24** this record has stood since 1991
- **200m Freestyle – 2:14.43**



Congratulations to both of these students who are great competitors and also great sports people.

The Zone Carnival is being held at Corrimal Pool on the 19th February 2016. We wish all our competitors the best of luck.



Saturday School of Community Languages

There are a range of Languages taught at the Smith's Hill High School centre in 2016. These include:

- Arabic, Years 7-12
- Chinese, Years 7-12, including Heritage and Background Speakers courses in Yr 11/12
- Macedonian, Years 7-12
- Modern Greek, Years 7-10 (see * below)
- Serbian, Years 7-12
- Spanish, Years 7-10 (to extend into Year 11 in 2017, depending on student enrolments)
- Turkish, Years 7-12.

*The school would like to reintroduce Modern Greek as a class if there is sufficient interest.

If your child is in Years 7 to 10 and they are committed to joining the Greek class, please contact Margaret Uitterlinden with your details: student name, year, school, phone number (home and/or mobile), email address of student, email address of parent. If there is sufficient interest to make a viable class, Margaret will contact interested people as well as the school coordinator.

A reminder that students in Years 7-9 may enrol at any time during the year and will be accepted, providing there is space in the class. Students in Years 10-12 only have until the end of this week to submit their applications. More details about enrolment may be found in the 2016 enrolment information booklet which can be accessed on: <http://www.sscl.schools.nsw.edu.au/how-to-enrol>. **Late enrolments** in Years 10 and 11 submitted **after Friday, 19 February 2016** and all new enrolments for Year 12 must also include appendix 1 and supporting documentation.

If you have any questions about the Saturday School of Community Languages, please contact margaret.uitterlinden@det.nsw.edu.au or by mobile number 0402805560.

Margaret Uitterlinden

Little Figgies Playgroup

Figtree High School's Year 12 Exploring Early Childhood class will once again be running "**Little Figgies Playgroup**".

The sessions are every second Monday of the school term.

The next dates for Term 1 are: 22/2/16, 7/3/16 and 21/3/16

Time: 11am -12midday

Where: Design and Planning Room (Ground level - Industrial Arts block) (or ESC room)

Cost: 1 piece of fruit per child. Morning tea provided for parents/caregivers.

Toys, painting, play dough, dress ups, arts and crafts!

Tell your friends and come along and join the fun!!

For more information contact Margaret Parr in TAS

Mrs Margaret Parr
TAS Teacher

The logo for Ray White, featuring the words "Ray White" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. The text is black and set against a bright yellow rectangular background. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the end of the word "White".

Ray White Wollongong/Figtree

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Student Scholarships 2014 – 2018

NOTIFICATIONS

RESPECT SAFETY LEARNING



Figtree High School Expo Night 2016

6pm Wednesday 2nd March 2016

Figtree High School Auditorium

Parents and Year 6 students who are interested in finding out what Figtree High has to offer in Year 7 2017 are invited to the annual Expo Night.

School Tours
Faculty Displays
Games
Student guides
Technology

For further information,
please call or email us:
02 4271 2787

[figtree-
h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:figtree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



headspace
Wollongong

Cannabis: Myths & Facts

Are you aged 25 or under?

Get the answers to your questions in this free workshop with the experts from Illawarra Drug and Alcohol Service.



Click here to
BOOK NOW

Topics covered will include synthetic cannabis, tips on harm minimisation (reducing risk if you choose to use), and what the research tells us about cannabis use.

When

Monday 7 March, 3.30pm-5.30pm

Where

headspace Wollongong
(Level 1, 85 Smith Street, Wollongong)

Bookings

www.trybooking.com/KHUJ
or contact Donna on 4254 2700

Bookings essential as spaces limited.



Health
Illawarra Shoalhaven
Local Health District

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health under the Youth Mental Health Initiative



FREE WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS AND SUPERVISORS OF LEARNER DRIVERS

2015	MONDAY 20	JULY	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
	WEDNESDAY 19	AUGUST	KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	TUESDAY 8	SEPTEMBER	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
	WEDNESDAY 21	OCTOBER	KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	MONDAY 9	NOVEMBER	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
	TUESDAY 1	DECEMBER	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
2016	MONDAY 15	FEBRUARY	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
	TUESDAY 8	MARCH	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
	WEDNESDAY 20	APRIL	KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	MONDAY 23	MAY	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL
	MONDAY 6	JUNE	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL

WORKSHOPS ARE HELD AT WOLLONGONG, SHELLHARBOUR AND KIAMA COUNCILS

To help you with practical advice about:

- Supervising learner drivers
- Completing the learner driver log book
- Providing on-road driving practice and
- L and P Plate licence laws

An initiative of Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama Councils



BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

Workshops are held from
6.00pm - 8.00pm

Please contact Council for a
suitable Workshop

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL

Phone: 4227 7111

Email: rso@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

Phone: 4221 6124

or email

jenny.davies@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Phone: 4232 0444

Email: council@kiama.nsw.gov.au





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 including Police RBT, Speed Check and Driver Reviver.

Daylight -
Sunday Runs are held at:
Shellharbour & Kiama
10.00am - 12.30pm
Wollongong
9.30am - 12.00pm

Nighttime -
Tuesday Runs are held at
6.00pm - 8.30pm in
Shellharbour & Kiama
only.

All Learner Drivers Must
Have 40 Or More Log
Book Hours



2015	SUNDAY 14	JUNE	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	TUESDAY 14 NIGHT DRIVE	JULY	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	SUNDAY 30	AUGUST	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
	SUNDAY 27	SEPTEMBER	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	SUNDAY 15	NOVEMBER	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
2016	SUNDAY 20 COMBINED ILLAWARRA RUN	MARCH	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	TUESDAY 12 NIGHT DRIVE	APRIL	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
	SUNDAY 15	MAY	WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
	SUNDAY 12	JUNE	SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

Please contact Council for a suitable Learner Log Book Run:

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
 Phone: 4227 7111
 Email: rso@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

**SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL,
 KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**
 Phone: 4221 6124 or email
jenny.davies@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

An initiative of
 Wollongong,
 Shellharbour and
 Kiama Councils.
 Supported by Lake
 Illawarra and Bulli
 PCYC, NSW Police,
 Illawarra Road
 Safety Group and
 the RMS.



Leukaemia Foundation
GET YOUR Blood Pumping

Splash 'n' Dash FESTIVAL

illawarra credit union

runs | swims | aquathons

north WARRAGONG

McKeon's SwimSchool

sat + sun
19+20
MARCH

Wollongong Harbour

splashdash.com.au



PROUDLY SUPPORTING
Leukaemia Foundation
GET YOUR Blood Pumping

19+20
SATURDAY SUNDAY
MARCH
Wollongong Harbour

illawarra credit union

Splash 'n' Dash FESTIVAL

SWIMS FUN RUNS AQUATHONS

splashdash.com.au

Major Partner: McKeon's SwimSchool



let's play netball

Sponsored by  **The Athlete's Foot**

Netball is a fun, inclusive sport, open to people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds. Netball is a wonderful way to meet people and make new friends, all in a safe and respectful environment.



NETBALL NSW

ALL ABILITIES COME & TRY DAY

The All Abilities Come and Try Day is a FREE event filled with fun, netball based games and activities aiming to learn the basics skills and rules of Netball in a fun and safe environment.

Come long for a great time and if you love it, we will help facilitate your inclusion into a local All Abilities Netball Team or Competition

Thursday 25th February 2016

10.30am-1pm

Netball Central: 2 Olympic Boulevard, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127

Visit <http://nsw.netball.com.au/event/all-abilities-come-and-try-day/> to register



letsplaynetball.com.au

 officialnetballnsw  netballnsw  netballnsw  netballnsw.com

Wollongong Bodyboard Club Inc

Sign up for 2016 has now started.

Where: SWS Bodyboarding 1b/144 Lake Entrance Road, OAK FLATS, 2529 (NEXT TO BEACON LIGHTING)

When: Now till February 19th to qualify for first comp. Any entry after this date will qualify for start in March.

FIRST COMP: SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21st

Details: Membership is \$90 then \$5 at each comp. Membership MUST be submitted to SWS with complete forms (parent signature if under 18) and money 7days before entering any monthly competitions. Club shirts will be issued later in the year when membership has closed.

Contact: Jason McCarthy Club President

Ph: 0403 908 658

e-mail: gongbodyboarding@hotmail.com