



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 1 Week 6 4th March, 2016

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Week 7	Beginning 7 th March 2016
7.3.16	- Yr 9 Drama Practical Assessment task - Yr 11 Geography Assessment task - Yr 11 Economics Assessment task
8.3.16	- Yr 11 SLR, Yr 10XPASS and Yr 9YPASS excursion to North Wollongong Beach - U15/16/Open Rugby League Knockout
9.3.16	- South Coast Swimming Carnival @ Dapto Pool - SRC Induction Ceremony - Yr 10 Science Student Research projects – draft report due - Yr 10 Marine Studies Excursion Period 3 & 4
10.3.16	- Yr 12 Drama Assessment task - SRC Planning and Leadership day - Yr 7 Parent and Teacher Meet and Greet Afternoon 2:30pm – 4:00pm
11.3.16	- Yr 12 Drama Assessment task - Yr 11 Ancient History Assessment task - Yr 12 Industrial Techn. Timber Assessment task - Yr 12 Society and Culture Assessment task - Yr 10 Boys Forum & Girls Health Presentation Day - Open Boys Soccer Knockout game - Yr 7 SRE – 7T, 7I, 7M - Yr 7 Peer Support – Period 3
Week 8	Beginning 14 th March 2016
14.3.16	- Yr 7 Camp - Yr 9 Science Assessment task - Yr 10-12 Construction Workcover incursion
15.3.16	- Yr 7 Camp - Yr 10-12 Construction Workcover incursion
16.3.16	- Yr 7 Camp
17.3.16	- Yr 11 Business Studies Assessment task - Yr 12 Year Group Photo and SRC Photo taken - Yr 9 Elective History Assessment task
18.3.16	- AIME Introductory Session for Aboriginal Students - Yr 7 SRE – 7Y, 7E, 7B, 7R
Week 9	Beginning 21 st March 2016
22.3.16	- Yr 11 SLR, Yr 10XPASS and Yr 9YPASS excursion to North Wollongong Beach - Northern Zone Touch Football trials
24.3.16	- Yr 7 Peer Support – Period 3 - Merit excursion to the Royal Easter Show - Yr 11 Aboriginal Studies Assessment task
25.3.16	- Good Friday Public Holiday
Week 10	Beginning 28 th March 2016
28.3.16	- Easter Monday Public Holiday
29.3.16	- Yr 12 Half Yearly Examinations commence - Yr 7 Peer Support – Period 2 - Presentation from Police School Liaison Officer to Yr 9 - Yr 11 English Studies Assessment task
30.3.16	- Yr 12 Half Yearly Examinations - Yr 7 and 11 Interim Reports distributed - Yr 11 Visual Arts Assessment task - P & C Meeting – School Bistro 7:30pm
31.3.16	- Yr 12 Half Yearly Examinations
1.4.16	- Yr 12 Half Yearly Examinations - Yr 7 SRE – 7Y, 7E, 7B, 7R

Principal's Report

I spoke at Expo Night this week about inclusion and success as the core of Figtree High School's culture. What our school offers inside the classroom and in extra-curricular programs is an opportunity for every student to find their place in which to grow, develop and shine.

At Expo Night our students acted as Compares, Entertainers, Tour Guides and Subject Assistants to genuinely showcase the work that goes on in daily classroom life at Figtree High School. As families entered the school on Wednesday evening, they were witness to the beautiful new mural that adorns the wall of the TAS/Arts block, painted by one of Ms Natalie Green's visual arts classes. This is just a taste of the work carried out in learning time at our school. Thank you to the many students who were actively involved to 8pm on this evening, to Ms Vanessa Glasgow for her organisation and the Executive and staff of each faculty for their enthusiastic presentations.

There is another opportunity for parents and the community to engage with Figtree High School. On Thursday 10 March, 2016 the school will host a 'Meet and Greet' afternoon for parents of Year 7 students to meet their teachers in an informal setting. The afternoon will place in the auditorium from 2:30 to 4:00pm. Afternoon tea will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our first Parents and Citizens (P&C) meeting of the year was held last week and of the items of discussion that took place, School Uniform was key. A group of students in our school have raised the desire to conduct a review of our current uniform. The P&C have supported a review and we will be working closely with our school community through the coming months on this important venture. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Sharyn Low, our P&C President for allowing me to interview her at Expo Night and sharing her experience of our school with the families who attended the evening.

Year 12 students in the last week have been interviewed individually. These interviews organised by Mr Adam Sargent-Wilson and conducted by several of

our staff, ensure we can support our students in their HSC journey. Ms Kerrie Harris, their Year Adviser, is proposing a parent meeting in term two to equip parents in this important final school year. A date will be advised in coming bulletins.

Mrs Karen Burke

Figtree High School's Core Values:

Respect, Safety and Learning

A focus on Safety

Students travel in a variety of ways to school each day. This always involves road travel of some type. To ensure that students stay safe, either as a passenger, pedestrian or cyclist, we ask our parents to support us by reinforcing the schools safety values, which reflect safe road behaviour.

Pedestrians

Walking from the front of the school

Students need to enter and exit the school through one of the two sets of front gates, on either side of the administration building. Students should use the footpaths on Gibsons Road and any road crossings should be made at the traffic lights in front of the school. Students who are travelling south along the Princes Highway should also use the traffic lights. Community members have reported concerns to the school about the number of students crossing Gibsons Road and the Princess Highway at the round-a-bout. From 3:00pm – 3:20pm, this area is very heavy with traffic. To ensure student safety, on the Princes Highway, students are asked not to cross the road at the round-a-bout on the Princes Highway, but instead, use the traffic lights at OBriens Rd or if heading south, use the traffic lights on the Princes Highway opposite the old bus depot.

Please note that the **staff carparks are not to be used by students** as an entry or exit point from the school. **The staff carparks are not to be used by parents to drop off or pick up their child, without the prior approval of the Principal or Deputy Principals.** While we understand that parking can be difficult in Gibsons Road during the afternoon, OBriens Road can also be used to pick up students at the rear of the school.

Waiting for Buses

Students need to wait in an orderly manner at the front of the school while waiting for buses. On the Figtree High side of Gibsons Rd, students should wait along the school fenceline, as this enables a clear passage for pedestrians along the footpath. When the school bus arrives, students need to wait until the bus

stops before approaching the bus. Students waiting for a bus on the Figtree PS side of Gibsons Rd, need to assemble in two lines along the Figtree Public School fence, ensuring the footpath is clear for pedestrians, including parents and younger students from Figtree PS. Ball games are not to be played at the front of the school while waiting for buses.

Rear of the School

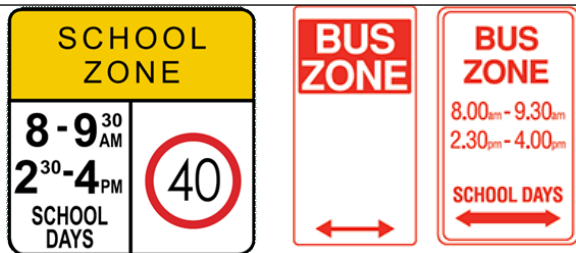
Students who travel from the north of the school can use the rear entry of the school. This is accessed from OBriens Road, where students use the bridge and then follow the grass passage along the fenceline to enter the school near the basketball courts. This area is often busy between 3:00pm-3:15pm with parents collecting students after school. Students who are crossing OBriens Road are asked to use the pedestrian islands that are available on the eastern side of the round-a-bout. Students waiting for a bus, assemble in an orderly manner at the bus stop. Again, ball games, including those with a football, handball and/or basketball are not to be played while waiting for buses. This can create a hazard for motorists.

Cyclists and other Wheels

If students are riding their bicycle to school, student **MUST** wear a helmet. This is to meet the legal requirements with regard to cyclists. Students are not permitted to ride their bike on the footpath, but need to use the road when travelling on their bike, travelling in the same direction as the vehicles on the road. Students enter the school grounds and take their bike directly to the bike bay area, where it can be secured and it needs to remain in the bike bay until the end of the school day. Students travelling by scooter or skateboard need to secure these in the lockers in the administration area. Students are not permitted to ride scooters or skateboards on the school grounds.

Drivers

It is important that drivers adhere to the speed limits that are signposted. During the periods of the day when school is starting and finishing the speed limit is 40km/h. These school zones are on Gibsons Road and OBriens Road. A significant part of Gibsons Road in front of Figtree High School has parking restrictions including 'Bus Zones' and 'No Parking' areas during the morning and afternoon periods. We ask all parents and our student drivers to ensure that they are following these road rules to ensure the safety of everyone in our school community.



Ms Ellie Donovan
Deputy Principal

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 break times



At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone. Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do if their child talks to them about bullying. Parents are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

In support of the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, Figtree High School will take a stand together against bullying on Thursday 17th March.



If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they've told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child's experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.
2. **Reassure** your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, 'That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.' or 'I'm so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that's not fair at all'.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.
5. **Contact** the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.
6. **Check in regularly** with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

If you are looking for support for yourself to deal with a bullying situation, you will find ideas on the Bullying. No Way! website for parents. As well, please contact the school if you would like to discuss any aspect of our approach to preventing bullying.

Thanks for your support to make our school a great school for everyone.

Figtree High School - Student Wellbeing Team

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. **Listen** calmly and get the full story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
4. **Visit** www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies.
5. **Contact** the school.
6. **Check in** regularly with your child.

BULLYING. NO WAY!

www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

EASTER SHOW MERIT REWARD EXCURSION

Reminder that this is the last week for getting permission notes in for the merit reward Easter Show excursion. Last day for payment is Friday 4th March. See your Year Advisor or Ms Dive for a permission note.

Mrs Dive
Merit Excursion Coordinator

FACULTY REPORT - HSIE

The HSIE faculty has had a great start to 2016. We have been happy to welcome Ms Emily Richards (Modern History) and Mr Cameron Evans (Business Studies) to our staffroom. Both of these teachers bring much expertise and enthusiasm and are settling quickly into Figtree High School. Ms Susan Khan is on leave for the first six months of this year while she works in a volunteer capacity with disadvantaged children in Pakistan. We are enormously proud of her selfless contribution and wish both Ms Khan, and the organisation she is volunteering with, every success.

2016 has seen a considerable milestone for the HSIE faculty at Figtree High School. With the introduction of

Aboriginal Studies by Ms Sandra Fernandes into Year 11, we now offer all of the ten HSC HSIE subjects for study. Students at our school have the benefit of being able to choose their senior subjects from a very broad subject base and this ensures that, not only can they study subjects they are passionate about, but that they are well prepared for their post-school destinations. In HSIE, they select from Aboriginal Studies, Ancient History, Business Studies, Economics, Extension History, Geography, Legal Studies, Modern History, Society and Culture and Studies of Religion.

The school year has begun at a rapid rate and all Year 7 - 10 History and Geography classes have completed their first assessment tasks. It has been very pleasing to see the maturity and diligence that has been applied by the majority of students as they completed these tasks. Over the coming months, Year 10 students will be receiving information about their Mandatory Geography Field study. Students will be visiting Warilla Beach in order to observe and study their local environment, paying particular attention to coastal management in our region. The Year 10 History students will be enjoying an incursion in which they will learn about the impact of the Vietnam War on veterans, hearing from the son of a Vietnam Veteran. This incursion is very moving and has proved invaluable in past years. Similarly, later in the year our Stage 4 students will also be given the opportunity to be involved in field studies. More information will be sent home as the dates approach.

Mrs Deborah Steel – Head Teacher HSIE

ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

We had a spectacular day for our Zone Swimming Carnival on the 19th February 2016 at Corrimal Pool.

We had a team of approximately 60 students who swam in a variety of events. All of our swimmers demonstrated great sportsmanship and put in a huge amount of effort.

Our girl's team completely dominated the day and they came out overall champions by 70 points. Our boy's team came 4th overall. This gave us an overall point score which put us in 3rd place.

Congratulations to **Caitlin Smith** who broke the only record of the day. She broke the 400m freestyle. This record had stood since 1993 – a fantastic effort by Caitlin!

We had 2 age champions for the carnival. They were –

13 year girls – **Jessica Buffett**

16 year girls – **Jade Gray**

Congratulations to both of these students.

We had a very large number of relay swimmers who performed extremely well on the day. Our girl's medley relay team were outstanding coming in first. This team consisted of **Caitlin Smith, Jade Gray, Meghan Fox and Molly McNair.**

Overall we have a total of 10 relay teams who will be attending the Regional Swimming Carnival.

The Regional Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday 9th March 2016 at Dapto Pool. Mr Smart from Figtree HS will be the team manager for the Northern Illawarra Zone. We wish all our swimmers the best of luck.



13 years boys Relay



15 years boys Relay



17+ years girls Relay



Boys and Girls 6 x 50 Relay teams



15 years girls Relay

Mrs Tanya Markham
Sports Organiser

Community Notices



Figtree Australian Football Club

play



Welcome to the 2016 South Coast AFL Season. Whether you're an experienced player, or new to the great game of Aussie Rules, you're welcome here at Figtree AFC.

Great Fun, Safe and Friendly Qualified & Accredited Coaches. Everyone Gets a Game!

**Auskick • Under 9's • U11's • U13's • U15's
U17's • U19's • Reserve Grade • 1st Grade**

Juniors Training: Tue or Thur 4pm, Seniors Training: Tue & Thur 6pm

Visit our website to Register On-line, or for more Information Contact:

www.figtreeafc.com

Registrations: Paul 0418 787 610

www.facebook.com/FigtreeAFC

Juniors: Glen 0430 791 930

Email: admin@figtreeafc.com

Seniors: Sam 0457 067 279



Figtree AFC ... Family, Fun, Football
Figtree Oval, 11 Princes Hwy. Figtree





THE ULTIMATE LEARNER LOG BOOK RUN EXPERIENCE

An opportunity for learner drivers and their supervisors to experience a series of practical and powerful demonstrations whilst gaining log book hours on a planned route.

Including:

- ⊗ Planned route through a variety of driving conditions
- ⊗ RBT and RDT demonstration from police
- ⊗ Driver revive
- ⊗ Fire rescue
- ⊗ Road safety personal experience
- ⊗ Safer vehicles; road safety research
- ⊗ Crash Investigation Unit
- ⊗ Reverse parking tuition

ALL LEARNER DRIVERS MUST HAVE 40 OR MORE LOG BOOK HOURS

Sunday, 20th March 2016 9.00am – 1.30pm
Starts and finishes at the Lake Illawarra PCYC
Morning tea and lunch provided

Bookings essential:

Shellharbour
4221 6111

Kiama
4232 0444

Wollongong
4227 7111

**JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF FUN WITH
YOUR LOCAL ROAD SAFETY EXPERTS**

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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



LEARNER LOGBOOK RUN

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	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.





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

What is Saver Plus?

Saver Plus is a 10 month financial education and matched savings program that assists families to gain financial skills, establish a savings goal and develop long term savings habits. As an incentive to save, participants receive up to **\$500** in matched savings when they complete the program which can be used for educational costs such as computers and tablets, text books and uniforms.

Who is eligible for SAVER PLUS?

Participants may be eligible to join Saver Plus if they:

- * have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- * are at least 18 years old
- * have some regular income from work (self or partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal work,
- * have a child at school or attend vocational education themselves

Once eligible participants sign up for Saver Plus they:

- * are assigned a Saver Plus Coordinator that provides personal support and guidance throughout the program
- * identify a savings goal
- * make regular deposits over 10 month period
- * attend MoneyMinded training to improve their financial skills, which consists of four informative, fun and informal workshops.

Upon completion of the program, ANZ matches the participants' savings dollar-for-dollar up to \$500 which can be spent on educational expenses including computers, text books, uniforms, excursions, music and sports costs.

HOW TO APPLY:

Phone - 1300 610 355

SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 355

Email - saverplus@bsl.org.au