



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 2 Week 2, 5 May 2017

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T2 Week 3	Week Starting 8 May
Monday 8/5/17	Open Boys Rugby League & Girls Tag Bill Turner Soccer Knock Out Year 7 – German Task Year 9 – French Task
Tuesday 9/5/17	Naplan Years 7 & 9 Photography Walking Tour Years 9-12 Year 7 – German Task Year 9 – Links2Learning
Wednesday 10/5/17	Naplan Years 7 & 9 Year 7 – German Task
Thursday 11/5/17	Naplan Years 7 & 9 Years 11 & 12 Australian Economics Competition Year 7 – German Task
Friday 12/5/17	Zone Cross Country – Nicholson Park Woonona Year 7 – German Task
T2 Week 4	Week Starting 15 May
Monday 15/5/17	“All Boy” Netball Gala Day Girls Netball Knockout Year 7 - German Task Year 7 - Science Half-Yearly Exams Year 10 – English Assessment Task Year 11 – Economics Assessment Task
Tuesday 16/5/17	Under 14's Boys Rugby League Year 7 - Science Half-Yearly Exams Year 9 - Links2Learning Year 9 - Marine Studies – Sydney Aquarium Year 9 – History Assessment Task Year 11 – General Maths Assessment Year 12 - Biology Assessment Task
Wednesday 17/5/17	Year 7 - German Task Year 7 - Science Half-Yearly Exams
Thursday 18/5/17	Years 11 & 12 Australian Business Studies Competition Year 7 - German Task Year 7 - Science Half-Yearly Exams Year 10 – Science Half-Yearly Exams Year 11 – Earth & Environmental Studies Half Year Exam Year 12 - Study of Religion Task
Friday 19/5/17	AIME Year 11 & 12 Year 11 & 12 Ancient Pompeii Exhibition Year 7 - German Task Year 7 - Science Half-Yearly Exam
T2 Week 5	Week Starting 22 May
Monday 22/5/17	Year 9 - Science Half Yearly Exam Year 11 - Physics Half-Yearly Exam Year 12 - Wellbeing Day
Tuesday 23/5/17	Year 9 - Links2Learning Year 12 – Biology & Senior Science Excursion, Museum of Disease
Wednesday 24/5/17	Australian History Competition
Thursday 25/5/17	Years 11 & 12 – Work Studies Work Experience

Friday 26/5/17	School Athletics Carnival
T2 Week 6	Week Starting 29 May
Monday 29/5/17	Year 9 – Links2Learning Year 12 – Business Studies Assessment Task
Tuesday 30/5/17	Years 9, 10, & 11 – Language Excursion
Wednesday 31/5/17	
Thursday 1/6/17	
Friday 2/6/17	Regional Cross Country
Year 12 Purple Year 11 Olive Year 10 Blue Year 9 Red Year 8 Green Year 7 Orange	

Thoughts from the Relieving Principal

Staff at Figtree High School, as part of Curriculum Network Illawarra, were involved in professional development on Staff Development Day (24 April 2017) at various locations. FHS hosted the Special Education group – ISSEN – which encompassed 170 staff participating in a forum with a keynote speaker as well as various workshops on a range of topics. The day was designed around the theme of ‘Know your students and how they learn’.

Congratulations to the Open Boys Cricket side as they came second in the state in the Comprehensive Schools Knockout Competition. This is the first time that FHS has reached this level of the competition. The competition is completed over two terms and is one of the oldest in the state. The finals were played at Bathurst in the last week of Term 1 against Epping Boys High School. The boys played well but on the day EBHS were the better team. The next day they then played against Westfields Sports High School which was a close game. Congratulations to the team as they displayed fantastic sportsmanship. Thank you to Mr Herbert as their coach and Mrs Markham as sport organiser for their time and energy.

Congratulations to Peter Hewitt who is our Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts who through merit selection has been appointed to the position of Aboriginal and Engagement Adviser for the next three years based at Warilla Regional Office. Ben Nichols our IT Technician has been successful in gaining an external position with an educational provider. We thank him for his positive commitment to FHS over the last 4 years in his role and wish him the best for his future.

Ms Trish Morgan
Relieving Principal

PBL Core Values

WEEK 3:	Respect When entering and leaving the school, obey community rules and laws
WEEK 4:	Learning Be an active listener during assembly
WEEK 5:	Respect Walk quietly in the corridors so that others can continue learning
WEEK 6:	Learning Be on time for your next class

Deputy Principal Reports

Figtree High School sets high standards and we will continue to work hard to maintain or improve them. If all students follow the core values of Respect, Safety and Learning, our school will remain an excellent educational facility where quality learning will take place. All students are encouraged to set their own high standards and work hard to achieve them.

Year 12 students have recently completed their half-yearly examinations. Thank you to our Year 12 teachers

who gave up their time, working above and beyond to best prepare students for these exams. The outstanding support our teachers provide was recognised and acknowledged at our Parents and Citizens meeting this week. Year 12 teachers have been returning marked exam papers and providing meaningful feedback on the students' strengths and areas for improvement. Teachers have been focusing on ensuring students understand the marking criteria and have been providing sample responses. Parents and carers will receive a formal half-yearly report in upcoming weeks.

Congratulations to Kayla Shea and Jessica Nagy who are Year 10 Elective Music students. They have both been invited to attend a second audition for the Southern Stars Vocal Team this weekend. We wish them best of luck and congratulate them on their success so far.



Knowing what is going on in the school can be both informative and critical. As well as the newsletter, information is communicated through Facebook, the Skoolbag app, the school website, our school sign, a hard copy note and/or email, parent information evenings and P&C meetings. A simple phone call or coming into the school for a visit are also available options. If you are not sure how to access some of these options, please see us for help. We want to keep you informed, knowledgeable and up-to-date.

Ms Johanna Clifford
Deputy Principal

Up to Wednesday 10 May (Week 3), I have the pleasure of relieving in the position of Deputy Principal for Ms Morgan with Years 7, 9 and 11 as she takes up the position as Relieving Principal in Mrs Burke's absence. We have had grade sport trials in preparation for the Winter Grade Sport competition and our school paid respect to all soldiers past and present with a commemorative ceremony at last Thursday's school assembly. Our Year 11 Modern History class represented our school at the ANZAC ceremony in McCabe Park last Friday.

RIGHT PLACE RIGHT TIME

To highlight the importance of school attendance, it is essential to have an understanding of how patterns of absence from school (full day and partial), as small as what they may seem, can have a significant negative impact on a students' learning. As shown in the table following, just one day a fortnight adds up to four weeks a year and over the span of thirteen years of school education (kindergarten to Year 12) this equals nearly 1 ½ years of lost teaching and learning. The best way to support your child/ward with their education is to ensure a strong pattern of attendance, which includes arriving on time each morning. Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students and parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children. If a student is absent for any reason, it is the responsibility of parents to provide an explanation for this absence within seven day. If a students is required to have an extended period of absence due to a holiday, sport event, illness or injury please contact the school so that work can be organised and the impact on learning is minimised. If you are having difficulty with your child in terms of attendance, please contact the school as well for support and guidance.

<i>When your child misses just</i>	<i>that equals ...</i>	<i>which is ...</i>	<i>and over 13 years of schooling that is</i>	<i>which means the best your child can perform is...</i>
<i>1 day each fortnight</i>	<i>20 days per year</i>	<i>4 weeks per year</i>	<i>nearly 1 ½ years</i>	<i>equal to finishing in Year 11</i>
<i>1 day each week</i>	<i>40 days per year</i>	<i>8 weeks per year</i>	<i>over 2 ½ years</i>	<i>equal to finishing in Year 10</i>
<i>2 days each week</i>	<i>80 days per year</i>	<i>16 weeks per year</i>	<i>over 5 years</i>	<i>equal to finishing in Year 7</i>
<i>3 days each week</i>	<i>120 days per year</i>	<i>24 weeks per year</i>	<i>nearly 8 years</i>	<i>equal to finishing in Year 4</i>

Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN

A parent letter was sent home with students at the end of last term informing parents of the test dates for 2017 NAPLAN. The test schedule is as follows:

TUESDAY 9 MAY	WEDNESDAY 10 MAY	THURSDAY 11 MAY	FRIDAY 12 MAY
Language Conventions	Reading	Numeracy	Catch Up tests
Writing			All components

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. You can help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and remind them on the day to simply try and do their best.

On Wednesday 5 April, the school hosted a Parent Information Evening on the Stronger HSC Standards, which impacts on our current Year 9 students and their NAPLAN test results. Information regarding this change is provided in an information document produced by the NSW Education Standard Authority (NESA) included

in this bulletin. You can also access information regarding minimum education standards at the NSEA website:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nsea/about/initiatives/stronger-hsc-standards/minimum-HSC-standard>.

Students will attend an information assembly to explain the organisation of NAPLAN and for Year 9 students how the Stronger HSC Standards relates to NAPLAN. If you have any questions regarding your child and NAPLAN, please do not hesitate to contact myself as the NAPLAN Test Administer at the school.

Year 11

Our Year 11 students are well into their preliminary course of study for the Higher School Certificate. It is essential that students constantly refer to their Assessment Booklet in terms of time management and planning for assessment tasks for all six subjects of study. Information is also provided on what to do if a student is sick or injured and is unable to complete or be present for a task. It is important that students see the relevant Deputy Principal if submitting a Misadventure/Illness Form for an assessment task. Communication is the key to success with Stage studies and students need to express any concerns not only to their class teachers but if need, the Head Teacher of the relevant faculty, their Year Advisor or their Deputy Principal.

It is important for parents to understand that all Year 11 and Year 12 students who are undertaking the HSC, that Disability Provisions exist and these can also apply to school based examinations and assessment tasks .

“Disability Provisions in the Higher School Certificate are practical arrangements designed to help students who couldn't otherwise make a fair attempt to show what they know in an examination room”.

Disability Provisions provide students who have special needs with practical support in the HSC course examinations and assessment tasks. Student provisions may include learning, medical, vision and hearing difficulties. Nomination for these provisions can be made by the student, the teaching staff and/or the parent/carers and applications are made to NESA through the school for approval. If you have any queries regarding disability provisions, please contact our Learning and Support Teachers at the school.

Mrs Vanessa Glasgow
Relieving Deputy Principal

Science Faculty Report

Year 7 students can look forward to a fantastic day at Taronga Zoo on Thursday 22 June, as part of their Classification topic. Students will experience a presentation by zoo staff where they will have the opportunity to touch various reptiles and mammals. Students will also have several hours to explore the wide diversity of animals at the zoo. I am sure all of our FHS students will fondly remember their Year 7 Zoo excursion and I am sure this year will be another great success. A big thank you to Mr Denner for leading the organisation of this event.

Preliminary Physics students will be taking part in a model solar car challenge as part of a focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), in Science. Students will be challenged to build their cars in the shortest time, engineer the fastest cars and the cars with the greatest torque. Students will also investigate innovative design features including; angled solar panels and regeared motors.

Years 8, 9 and 10 students will be given the opportunity to take part in a variety of STEM challenges including; model plane making, mousetrap racer challenge and producing a sixty-second science film in the lead up to Science Week (Week 6, Term 3). During Science Week we will be hosting students from our surrounding primary schools who have won their in-school challenges. They will compete against our winning entrants in these challenge tasks designed to build interest and enjoyment in scientific endeavours.

Finally, Year 10 students who produced interesting Student Research Projects, completed to a high standard, have been invited to place entries for selection into the University of Wollongong Illawarra Coal Science Fair. Their entries will be displayed in the library during science week, with the top 10 entries going on to represent Figtree High School at the Illawarra Coal Science Fair at the University of Wollongong later in the year.

These are just a few of the many learning opportunities being provided in Science every week to assist our students to achieve and foster an appreciation of the amazing world around them.

Mrs Jenny English
Head Teacher Science

CAPA Committee Report

In exciting news, our Head Teacher of Creative and Performing Arts, Mr Peter Hewitt, has accepted the position of Aboriginal Education and Engagement Officer at Warilla for a period of three years. This is a prestigious and important position. We congratulate him on the promotion and wish him all the best in his new role. Mr Michael Malouf will be relieving in the role of Head Teacher CAPA until a long-term replacement can be found for Mr Hewitt for the three-year tenure. We also warmly welcome Ms Lucy Pulham (Visual Arts and Librarian), and Ms Liz Thomas (Visual Arts and Stage 4 Music) to the faculty in temporary roles.

Shakespeare Festival

In a collaboration with Ms Mintzas and Ms Munro from the **English and Drama** faculty, we are preparing for the **Shakespeare Festival**, a celebration of all things dramatic, musical, visual and dance based on the works of Shakespeare and associated themes. We are rehearsing musical items, drama items and dance pieces as well as designing and building a set and props. Some of these rehearsals will take place after school.

The curtain will go up on the evening of **Wednesday 14th June at Figtree High School**. In addition to show casing the talents of our students and staff, we are undertaking this performance as a stepping stone towards staging a musical in 2018. Exciting times ahead! Please save the date and stay tuned for forthcoming announcements about this unique **Creative and Performing Arts** event. Tickets

available at the door. Please contact Mrs Mintzas or Mr Malouf if you have any enquiries.



The Shakespeare Festival poster already on display around the school.

Vocal Ensemble

Mrs Murphy's vocal ensemble will resume rehearsals on **Thursday May 4, 2017** in Music room 1 during Lunch 2. All keen singers and potential accompanists are welcome.

There are also 20 places available for singers who would like to be part of the Combined Choir for Southern Stars. Please see Mrs Murphy or Mr Malouf if you are interested in this.

Southern Stars is always a great event to be involved in and students are encouraged to apply.

State Junior and Senior Music Camps

Opportunities to attend these camps are still on offer. Information appears in the link below, or ask Mr Malouf

or Mrs Murphy for more information.

<https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/state-junior-and-senior-music-camps>

Photography Exhibition (I Love Wollongong)

Miss Cook and Miss Wunsch are inviting students to submit photographic works for display during the Shakespeare Festival. Selected works will then be exhibited on the exterior walls of the Wollongong Youth Centre as part of Wollongong Youth Services outdoor exhibition. This project provides young people attending local high schools the opportunity to have a voice and a presence across Wollongong Local Government Area. Students of Photography and Digital Media are encouraged to submit works by May 9 2017. Please see Miss Cook or Miss Wunsch if you have any enquiries.

Mural

Progress on the Mural proposed for the front of the school has been excellent with students taking care to produce a professional standard and visually stunning work that will represent aspects of the Illawarra along with our sporting houses 'Gurri', 'Warrigal', 'Jerrangaugh' and 'Buru'. We are sure that the mural will be an iconic addition to the Figtree High School aesthetic. This project was over seen by Visual Arts teachers and is one that the faculty is very proud of.



Clara Lazova (Yr 10) has been working on the Mural along with other student artists and CAPA staff. The work in progress displayed here.

CAPA Logo Branded Shirts

A sneak peak at the CAPA Logo Branded polo shirts designed by CAPA Committee members appears below. The Polo shirts feature the dynamic CAPA logo designed by a group of talented Visual Artists and Designers. These will be worn at special events and anywhere that the Creative and Performing Arts faculty is represented. Several students have already placed an order for their shirt. The cost to the students is \$30, which represents excellent value for a quality garment. Subject to availability, students may still be able to purchase a shirt if they make an immediate enquiry to Miss Cook in the CAPA staff room. Various sizes are available.



Michael Malouf
Relieving Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts

Wellbeing Report

Being Cyber Smart

Children and young people may not deliberately seek out inappropriate content. Children can inadvertently access disturbing or illegal content while undertaking online searches or by clicking on unknown links.

Offensive or illegal content may include topics, images or other information that are prohibited in Australia or could be damaging to young people online. This is content that may:

- include footage of real or simulated violence, criminal activity or accidents, promote extreme political or religious views or be sexually explicit and can include illegal images or child sexual abuse.

- promote hate towards individuals or groups on the basis of race, religion, sexual preference or other social cultural factors, instruct or promote crime, violence or unsafe behaviour, like bomb or weapon making, anorexia , drug use, gaining unauthorised access to computers, fraud or terrorist activities.

As a parent you can help your child have positive experiences.

- Be aware of how your child uses the internet and explore it with them. Discuss the kinds of sites that are ok to explore and those that are not.
- Consider using parental controls such as filters to help manage your child's online access.
- Remind your child not to open spam email or click on pop ups, prize offers or unfamiliar hyperlinks in websites.
- Help your child use search engines to locate websites.
- Consider developing a list of favourites for younger children. Enable safe search options.
- Reassure your child that access to the internet will not be denied if they report seeing inappropriate content to you.
- Remind them not to respond if they are sent something inappropriate and that they should leave a website immediately if they feel uncomfortable or worried.
- Report content that you think may be prohibited to the ACMA'S online hotline: acma.gov.au/hotline.

For more information on managing your children's access to particular social networking sites, visit <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/parents.aspx>

Information from 'parents' guide to online safety from Australian Communications and Media Authority website.

Mrs Lawson
HT Wellbeing

Sports Report

Boys Davidson Shield Cricket

Last term our Open Boys Cricket team competed in the Final series of the Davidson Shield Cricket competition. We had to travel to Bathurst and play Kelso High School in the semi-final. Our boys were way too strong in this game. We bowled first and bowled them all out for 112 in 30.3 overs. Matthew Calder was a standout and took 5 for 23. Our opening batsmen were Jye Phillips and Callum Dodds and they easily scored the 113 runs to win.

The following week we were back in Bathurst for the Final of the Davidson Shield. Our boys came up against Epping High School in the CHS Final who were the overall winners of the competition. Our boys played extremely well but unfortunately were unable to get the runs to win. This meant that they were the silver medallists for the Davidson Shield competition.

At our first assembly in Term 2 we presented the boys with their silver CHS medals.

A huge thank you must go to the coach/manager Mr Herbert. His dedication and enthusiasm towards school sport is invaluable.

Team players – Matthew Kerry, Lance Tarrant, Campbell Fulcher, Corey Rower, Tane Horsley, Joshua Yeaman, Aiden Imber, Matthew Calder, Jye Phillips, Brandon Redman, Matthew Hobbs, Jake Sheppard, Callum Dodds, Sam Rada, Zax Lomax, Matthew Delbanco

Coach- Mr Herbert





South Coast Volleyball

Congratulations to Kayden Hill and Colin Sharman who travelled to Coffs Harbour to compete in the NSW CHS Volleyball Championships. Both boys are part of the South Coast team and it has been a very long time since we have students make a volleyball representative team. Both boys played extremely well at the carnival and Colin was selected into a country representative team.



State Swimming

The NSWCHS State Swimming Championships were held at Homebush at the start of April. We had a number of students compete in relays and in individual events.

Congratulations to Jessica Buffett who received a bronze medallion for the 100m butterfly. This is an awesome achievement.

Students to compete at State Swimming were – Jason Vugrek, Reagan Smith, Zali Moore, Meghan Fox, Georgia Sturman, Tazmin Fulcher, Dannika Creati, Jade Gray, Molly McNair, Emily McKinnon and Jessica Buffett



Girls Basketball

Congratulations to Maddison Delaney and Tazmin Fulcher who have both been selected in the South Coast Basketball team. This is a great achievement as it is a highly contested trial process. The girls will play later this term at the NSW CHS Championships in Goulburn.



School Cross Country

Our school Cross Country Carnival was held on the 6 April 2017. We had a beautiful day with a large number of students participating. Gurri (red house) was the winning house, Jerrangaugh (green house) was second, Warrigal (yellow house) was third and Buru (black house) was fourth.

Congratulations to our age champions:

12 years - Chelsea Perrin and Jason Curtis

13 years - Hannah Sheridan and Zane Howarth

14 years - Lulu Lozano and Ned Glasgow

15 years - Eden Smith and Benjamin plumb

16 years - Georgia Sturman and Cameron Lodge

Tazmin Fulcher

17 years- Meghan Fox and Kayden Hill

We also had a participation raffle on the day. All students who participated were eligible to receive the \$5.00 canteen voucher. The winners were:

Warrigal - Jasmine Ciocca, Dannika Creati, Keeley Rauscher and Declan Page

Buru - Julian Rogan-Gomes, Liam Smith, Nadine Kellermann and Lachlan Milne

Gurri - Corban Inman, Logan Matthews, Anastasia Tsangaris and Amber Powell

Jerrangaugh - Alice Coleman, Nicholas Borg and Ella Giles

Our Zone Carnival will be held on the 12 May 2017 at Nicholson Park, Woonona.

Students should assemble with their team manager at Nicholson Park at 9am at the latest.

Program of Events

9.15am	walk the course		
10.00 am	Boys	17 & 18 Years	6000m
10.20 am	Boys	16 Years	6000m
10.40 am	Girls	17 & 18 Years	4000m
11.00 am	Girls	16 Years	4000m
11.20 am	Boys	15 Years	4000m
11.40 am	Girls	15 Years	4000m
12.00 pm	Boys	14 Years	4000m
12.20 pm	Girls	14 Years	4000m
12.40 pm	Boys	13 Years	3000m
12.55 pm	Girls	13 Years	3000m
1.10 pm	Boys	12 Years	3000m
1.25 pm	Girls	12 Years	3000m

Student Guidelines

- Footwear MUST be worn at all times
- Runners MUST compete in their school sports uniform
- Runners are NOT permitted to listen to iPods when running
- At the finish line, all competitors will be given a place ticket which is to be taken directly to their school recorder
- 16, 17 & 18 Year old boys must show a stamp from turnaround checkpoint Number 15 as

evidence of having completed the entire course.

- The ZONE Team will consist of a maximum of TEN (10) runners per age group. This will be made up of the first SIX (6) placegetters and the winning school team of FOUR (4) runners. School teams will be selected for all age groups i.e. 12 years through to and including 18 years



Age Champions 2017



Illawarra Schools Careers Expo

Parent, Carer, Public – AFTERNOON Session

Tuesday 9 May from 3.30pm to 5.30pm
Illawarra Hockey Stadium – Waples Road, Unanderra

Exhibitors will be available to chat plus ...
attend any of the free Presentations:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 3.30pm | Universities Admissions Centre – UAC
The ATAR and applying through UAC: information for students in Year 11 & 12 |
| 4.15pm | Apprenticeship Support Australia
Take the Skills Road Journey: Which career path is right for me? |
| 4.45pm | Devika Learning
Augmented & virtual reality display and impacts on careers & training |

Guarantee a seat by booking at:

<https://register.eventarc.com/38080/>

Audio Books for Students

The **Vision Australia Library** has a range of audio books and resources for young people who have print disability. This includes students who have vision difficulties or a perceptual disability e.g. Dyslexia or Visual Processing Disorder.

Membership of the library is free. For students to access this service they require the details of a referrer who can certify that they have a print disability.

Library members can access thousands of audio books, magazines, newspapers and podcasts.

To find out more and join the library follow the links at <http://www.visionaustralia.org/services/library> or call 1800 005 965

Illawarra Schools Careers Expo

#ISCEXpo

The Illawarra Schools Careers Expo has been organised annually for nearly 40 years by the Illawarra Careers Advisers Network and is again held at the Illawarra Sports Stadium at Waples Road, Unanderra. High school students from across the region will be attending sessions and Year 10 and 12 students from Figtree High School are booked in to attend on 10 MAY. Permission notes have been distributed and the cost to travel to the Expo is only \$5.00.

Members of the public are also invited to attend the Parent Session on Tuesday 9th May between 3:30 and 5:30pm.

The Expo is a great opportunity for students to seek out hundreds of career options and speak to the variety of representatives all in one place. TAFE, universities, apprenticeship centres and the defence force are only but a few of the organisations in attendance. Please make sure students don't miss out on this great event.

Facebook site for the Expo is:

<https://www.facebook.com/IllawarraSchoolsCareersExpo/>

#ISCEXpo

Head Lice Awareness

Parents/ carers should be aware that there have been some cases of head lice reported at the school recently. If your child complains of an itchy scalp, you are advised to see your chemist for an examination. If there are any signs of head lice, please follow the procedures outlined by the chemist.

K. Borst

P&C NEWS

New members needed!

Figtree High School has been fortunate to have a P&C committee every year since our school was founded in 1969. We are proud to have a keen group parents and carers attend our meetings on the 4th Wednesday of each month to discuss many issues and the daily operations of our school Canteen.

We have positions available for our P&C committee, so if you are interested in participating in a great community group, this may be the position for you!

Current positions available:

P & C President

P & C Secretary

P & C Canteen Sub Committee Convenor

If you are interested in one of these positions, please contact Diane Grant on 4271 2787 for more details.

Our next meeting is:

Wednesday 24 May 2017

Thank you for your support



Figtree High School

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Respect, Safety, Learning

Dear Parents and Carers

Figtree High School will transition to the new NSW Public Schools' finance system and a new bank account on **24 July 2017**.

To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept payments from parents and carers.

1. **Direct deposits:** As of **30 June 2017**, we will no longer accept direct deposits into our current school bank account as we prepare to close this account and transition to the new one. Any payments made using direct deposit after this date cannot be properly allocated to a student's account in a timely manner. Please ensure you have made any outstanding direct deposits before **30 June 2017**.
2. **EFTPOS payments:** We will not be able to accept EFTPOS payments between **19 July** and **24 July 2017**. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding EFTPOS payments before **19 July 2017**. From **25 July 2017**, EFTPOS payments will be accepted as before.
3. **Cash and cheque payments:** Between **19 July 2017** and **24 July 2017**, we will also not be able to accept payments by cash or cheque as we prepare to close our current bank account and transition to the new one. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding cash or cheque payments before **19 July 2017**. From **25 July 2017**, cash and cheque payments will be accepted as before.
4. **Online payments:** As of **30 June 2017**, payments to our current online payment facility will cease. From **24 July 2017**, we will begin to accept online payments using the Department of Education's Parent Online Payment (POP) system. A button to access this new online payment system titled '\$ Make a Payment' will be visible on the utility bar on the front page of our school's website at <http://www.figtree-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>. By selecting this link, parents and carers will be taken to a secure Westpac QuickWeb payment page from which they can make online payments.

Please note: As a Westpac-hosted solution cardholder and account details will be held securely helping to protect the school and its customers from fraudulent transactions as well as assisting in meeting the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) compliance requirements.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. If you have any questions, please contact us on 4271 2787.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Karen Burke
Principal

2017 ILLAWARRA SCHOOLS CAREERS EXPO

**FIND YOUR PATHWAY TO A
WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES**

FIND YOUR
PASSION

KEEP ON
LEARNING

PLAN FOR
THE FUTURE

KNOW YOUR
OPTIONS

SCHOOL SESSIONS

TUESDAY MAY 9TH
8.45AM TO 3.00PM

WEDNESDAY MAY 10TH
8.45AM TO 1.00PM

PUBLIC SESSION

TUESDAY MAY 9TH
3.30PM TO 5.30PM

Illawarra Hockey Stadium - Waples Road, Unanderra

Find out all of the info and friendly advice you need to inspire your future career decisions. The Careers Expo provides local and national representatives from Unis, TAFE, Defence Forces, Training Organisations and Employers

Educational Partners



Education
Public Schools



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

TAFENSW



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

Gold Partners



CALL 13 11 01 OR VISIT DEFENCELABELS.AU



EXCELSIA
COLLEGE
— Sydney —
Formerly Wesley Institute

HSC MINIMUM STANDARD

ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 9 STUDENTS 2017

March 2017

In 2020, your child will need to meet a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to qualify for a Higher School Certificate (HSC).



PRACTICAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS



The minimum standard will ensure that your child is ready for further education and training, employment and life after school.

The standard is set at Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF), a nationally agreed standard of functional literacy and numeracy.

It means students can do things like:

Find the time and date of a music concert on an online ticket website

Calculate the quantity of paint required to paint a room

Estimate distance, travel time and costs for a transport route

Take notes from a lecture or training session

Create a personal weekly budget in a spreadsheet

Write a job application letter

Measure quantities to follow a recipe

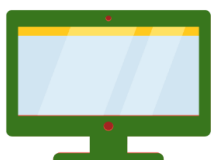
Follow safety instructions in an equipment manual

Enter data in a computer-based management system

MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET THE STANDARD

Your child will show that they have met the standard by passing new online reading, writing and numeracy tests.

They will take the online tests at school. Your child can take the tests up to twice a year in:



- ✓ Year 10
- ✓ Year 11
- ✓ Year 12
- ✓ for up to five years after they start their first HSC course.

Students can take the tests from next year when they are in Year 10.

Visit the demonstration site to see sample test questions:

<https://hscliteracynumeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au>

YEAR 9 NAPLAN: A CHANCE TO PREQUALIFY FOR THE STANDARD

Your child can prequalify for the standard by achieving Band 8 or above in their Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests this year. This means that they won't have to take the online tests.

It is important for you to know that not all students are expected to achieve Band 8 in their Year 9 NAPLAN tests this year.

Your child will not be stopped from getting the HSC on the basis of their Year 9 NAPLAN results.



Your child's literacy and numeracy skills will continue to develop and it is expected that they will meet the standard either by the end of Year 10, Year 11 or Year 12.

Your child's school will provide support for them to meet the standard to get the HSC.

MORE INFORMATION

Contact your school principal for more detailed information about the minimum standard, or visit the NESA website:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au>

STAY UP TO DATE



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Subscribe to the NESA News



educationstandards.nsw.edu.au



strongerHSC@nesa.nsw.edu.au



Fundraising

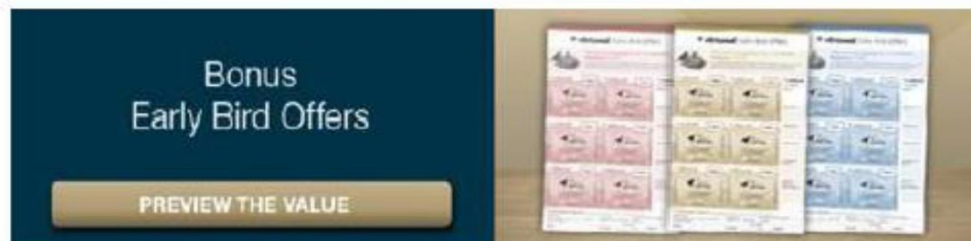
These booklets will be distributed to students on Thursday 18 May 2017

Our Figtree High P&C are raising funds to upgrade the facilities at our school. Here's how you can help...

We are raising as much as we can to support our cause, and we need your help! Order your NEW 2017 | 2018 Entertainment Book or Entertainment Digital Membership now. You'll receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and help our fundraising at the same time!



"The Entertainment Book is such a great way to try new restaurants. It's also a great opportunity to help community organisations. It's been a big year for Entertainment, with the Digital Memberships as well – just when I didn't think it could get any better!" – Ali M



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Tuesdays (Term 2)
3.45pm-4.45pm

FREE!

YOGA

workshops

for ages 12-25



Learn about yoga and meditation techniques to relax, unwind and manage stress in our free yoga workshops with Di.

9 May	30 May
16 May	6 June
23 May	

For more info, contact
headspace Wollongong on
4220 7660 or email
headspace@gph.org.au.



4220 7660

Yoga workshops
thanks to the
generous
support of:



Bookings Essential:
<http://yoga2017.eventbrite.com.au>

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

Unanderra Community Centre provides: information and referrals

Monday to Thursday 9am-2.30pm ph: 4271 2213

We are seeking Volunteers for our Management Committee.

OUR Groups include:

- **Mental Health Recovery Discovery group** Mondays 10.30am—12.30pm
- **Senior Activity Group** Tuesdays 9.30am-2pm
- **Community Garden Group** OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN NEEDS YOU
- **Combined Pensioners** Wednesdays 9am—1.30pm
- **Cyber Club** Thursdays 9.30am-12pm
- **Women 50+ Fitness** Monday, Tuesday 9.30-10.30am & Thurs 9-10am \$7
- **Men's Fitness Tuesdays** 8.30-9.30am
- **NSW Debt Recovery Work and Development Orders-** Community work and participation to work off your fines with

OUTREACH- Centrelink and financial Counselling by appointment

Youth Project includes:

- **Homework Club** -Mondays 3-4.30pm
- **Drop in Tuesday**-Thursday 3.-5.30pm
- **Hall Hire available for casual and regular bookings** for social functions or recreational activities, groups and training.
- **Community Pantry- WEDNESDAY 1-2.30pm**, Food parcels \$7 donation - no one turned away if in hardship.
- **Manna Van** –All welcome to come and enjoy a Free home cooked Meal Every Tuesday 5.30-6.30pm.

BUSH DANCE at Unanderra Community Centre



Featuring: The Band "NO Such Thing"

The Australian Bush Dance Music.

Saturday 29th April 2017

From 2-5 pm at Unanderra Community Centre

Tickets: Adults \$5 Children \$2.50 Family \$15 (more than 2 children)

Devonshire Tea/Coffee provided.

**Join us in Celebrating 2017 Neighbourhood Centre Week 1st-7th May and
this year's theme is..... **"Belonging"****



SOMETHING TO DO @

BELLAMBI

MAY—JUNE 2017

**CHOOSE.
COOK.
EAT.**

You get to CHOOSE
what you COOK.
Learn how to prepare
healthy meals and EAT the
meal you prepared.

**TUESDAYS
3.30-5.30PM**

**2 MAY– 27 JUN
@ Bellambi
Neighbourhood Centre**

**HIP HOP
DANCE
CREW**

Learn hip hop moves,
grooves and bounces with
Gemma O'Brien.

Wear comfortable clothes
and suitable footwear.

YOUNG WOMEN ONLY

**WEDNESDAYS
4.00-5.30PM**

**3 MAY– 28 JUN
@ Bellambi
Neighbourhood Centre**

All activities are FREE.... BOOK your place today!



These activities and events are for young people aged 12-24 years.

To make a booking or to find out more information

CONTACT THE YOUTH SERVICES TEAM

P: 4227 8222 E: youthservices@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Or message us on Facebook





COME & TRY BMX



YOUR LOCAL CLUB IS AT:

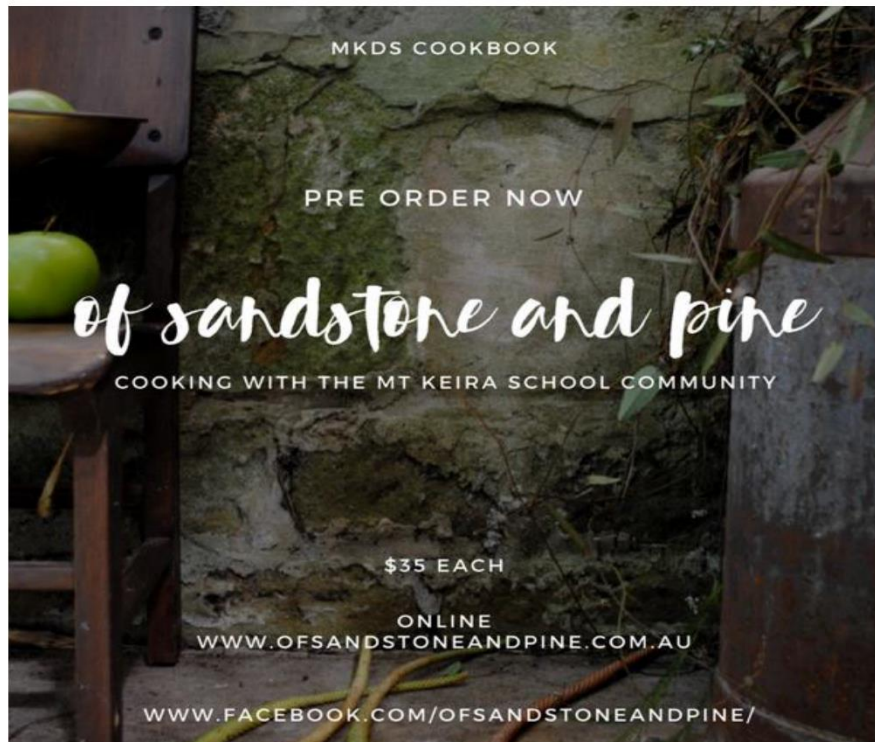
DATE TO COME AND TRY:

CONTACT:

Southlake Illawarra BMX Club
Croome Road Sporting Complex
Croome Road, Albion Park

Sunday, 7th May 2017
11am – 1pm
Full canteen facilities on the day

Michael Bailey
0415 889 910



10AM TO 4PM

WOLLONGONG CITY LIBRARIES PRESENTS

★ FREE ADMISSION

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COMIC GONG

TOWN HALL ★ CITY LIBRARY ★ ART GALLERY

SATURDAY 13 MAY 2017

ARTISTS' ALLEY, STALLS, WORKSHOPS, COSPLAY, PRIZES,
PINBALLS & GAMING, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES, PLUS MORE!

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and more things

wicked
Theatrical & Events

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