



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT BULLETIN

Term 3 Week 2, 28 July 2017

Address: 2 Gibsons Road, Figtree NSW 2525

Phone: 02 4271 2787

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

Fax: 02 4271 6626

T3 Week 3	Week 3 Starting 31 July
Monday 31/7/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Young Women's Forum Subject Selection Evening 8 into 9 - 6pm 10 into 11 - 7pm
Tuesday 1/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 9 - Links to Learning State Futsal Championships U14 Regional Zone Netball Knockout U15
Wednesday 2/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 11 - Geography Assessment due Regional Zone Netball Knockout Open Girls
Thursday 3/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations State Futsal Championships U16 Stage 4 Maths Enrichment Program
Friday 4/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Regional Athletics - Canberra
T3 Week 4	Week 4 Starting 7 August
Monday 7/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 11 - Business Studies Assessment Task Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality
Tuesday 8/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 9 - Links to Learning Young Women's Forum
Wednesday 9/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality
Thursday 10/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality
Friday 11/8/17	Year 12 - Trial HSC Examinations Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 11 - PDHPE Assessment Task Year 10 - AIME Excursion Year 9 - AIME Excursion
T3 Week 5	Week 5 Starting 14 August
Monday 14/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Young Women's Forum
Tuesday 15/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Year 9 - Links to Learning
Wednesday 16/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals

Thursday 17/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Stage 4 Maths Enrichment Program
Friday 18/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Entertainment, Construction, Hospitality Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals
T3 Week 6	Week 6 Starting 21 August
Monday 21/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals
Tuesday 22/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Year 9 - Links to Learning Young Women's Forum
Wednesday 23/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Southern Stars
Thursday 24/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Year 11 - Aboriginal Studies Assessment Southern Stars
Friday 25/8/17	Year 11 - Work Placement - Metals Year 10 - AIME Excursion Year 9 - AIME Excursion Southern Stars
Year 12 Purple Year 11 Olive Year 10 Blue Year 9 Red Year 8 Green Year 7 Orange	



Thoughts from the Principal

Welcome to our Week 2 Newsletter.

Success for every student underpins all opportunities at Figtree High School. Our newsletter is full of acknowledgements of students who are taking these opportunities in our school such as:

Academic: Students received outstanding results in the recent Language Perfect Competition – Nina Graovac, Holly Wyatt, Kobie Kokkin receiving elite status. This is a great honour for these committed students and a tribute to the excellent teaching of Mrs Dive and Mr Simmonds.

Sport: Zac Lomax has once again had his name in the spotlight for his achievements. He has been selected for

the Australian Schoolboys Rugby League team and will tour New Zealand in the September break. We are incredibly proud of Zac's accomplishments.

The Arts: I am also excited to see we have several students selected for various roles in Southern Stars again this year. Halie Josephson and Zoe Williams were selected in the Dance Company, Bailey Craft was chosen to play in the Orchestra and Jessica Nagy as a featured backing vocalist. We also have several students in the combined choir. This event is the pinnacle Arts showcase for the Illawarra in August each year. I look forward to seeing you at the performances in August.

Finally, I seek your support in ensuring your child attends school on time every day. Research supports that regular attendance is directly linked to improved results. We have a significant number of students who arrive at school late on regular basis without a valid reason – up to 50 students per day. Arrival by 8.30am will ensure your child is in Roll Call on time, listening to the daily messages and gaining a positive start to the day.

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

Karen Burke
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 Principals' Report

On Monday 31 July the Trial HSC Examinations will begin for Year 12. These examinations will run for a two-week period and will conclude on Friday 11 August. Students are only required to attend school when they have an examination scheduled. This year, the Trial HSC exams will be supervised by a team of exam supervisors similar to those that will supervise the HSC exams in October and November. This team will be led by Mrs Maureen Waters who is currently the NESA Presiding Officer for Figtree High School. The Trial HSC exams will be run as closely as possible to the HSC examinations to allow students to become familiar with HSC processes and procedures. If students or parents have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school on 42712787. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Year 12 all the best for their Trial HSC Examinations.

Monday 31 July is also a very important date for all students in Year 8 and year 10. Parents/Carers and students are invited to the Year 9 Elective Course Information evening at 6.00pm, in the School Auditorium. Information presented will further assist Year 8 students in selection of their elective courses for 2018-2019. The Year 11 2018 HSC Course Information presentation will follow the Year 9 Elective Course presentation and teacher discussion time at 7.00pm. Following both presentations, you and your child will have the opportunity to talk to representatives from each faculty to discuss individual courses, and their relevance future goals and study options. We look forward to seeing you at this important evening.

Jo Clifford
Deputy Principal

I have enjoyed my first week at Figtree High School and I look forward to working with the school community in the weeks ahead. I have had the opportunity to visit some classes and am impressed by the number of opportunities available to students as they undertake their education at Figtree High School. Figtree is a very impressive high school.

Earlier this year students in Years 7 and 9 sat the NAPLAN tests and parents were informed that for students in Year 9 they are required to attain minimum standards of literacy and numeracy in order to be awarded the Higher School Certificate in 2020. The New South Wales Educational Standards Authority (NESA) has put out an information sheet with advice for parents around the minimum level of achievement required, the advice that will be given to parents regarding student performance in NAPLAN this year and future opportunities for students to sit online tests to demonstrate the achievement of the minimum standards. This advice is provided later in the newsletter for parents reference.

Students in Year 11 are entering a very important time as they complete their Year 11 course work. Term three is a term to consolidate knowledge and build understanding of course content. Final course examinations will be at the end of the term so it is important that students not only complete homework and course work, but they also allocate time to summarising course notes and undertake a study program so that performance in these examinations can be maximised.

I look forward to working together with students and parents as we develop and foster learning opportunities at Figtree High School.

Mr. G. Trethewy
Deputy Principal (Relieving)

TAS Faculty Report

Pizza from Scratch - Exciting times in TAS with a GRANT from Landcare !

It is always exciting to try new things and this term in TAS we are focusing on new programs, which means new recipes!

Students have been learning about where their food comes from and even trying to grow some of their own. Unfortunately, we had limited success with the growing our own part. We have not been put off by this, in fact we were successful in receiving a grant from Landcare to build our own garden for our kitchen.

Mrs Parr will be working with locals as well as Wollongong City Council to create a garden that can be used as a part of our Stage 4 Food Technology courses.

STEM

The TAS Faculty have been experimenting with some exciting STEM based project in Stage 4 this semester. In one unit the students are required to design and develop a wearable object.

Here are some of the samples that were created using our 3D printers.





Food Technology

Our Stage 5 Food Technology classes worked hard on their practical exams in semester 1 and produced quality products that related to Foods for Special Occasions and Foods for Service and Catering.

Mrs Wales class looked at the topic Foods in Australia and completed a modern version of the Australian Lamington and turned them into Lamington Pops – many of which did not make it home.

Mrs Parr and Mrs Williamson's classes enjoyed working in teams and producing foods to share and taste. The students also completed theory assessment tasks that required them to design a themed event and research all of the components necessary to make the event special. Students presented their findings in a digital format and demonstrated their advanced ICT skills.







Mrs Williamson
Head Teacher TAS



WELLBEING REPORT

Merit Assemblies

Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 June Figtree High School held our biannual merit assemblies for Year 7-10. These assemblies recognise academic achievement in the form of Year Advisers and Principal Awards. Also in line with our merit system students were rewarded with Bronze, Silver and Gold Certificates. Congratulations to all award recipients.

Headspace

There are a number of fantastic community resources in our local area. One such organisation is Headspace. Headspace Wollongong is a free youth health service for young people aged 12-25 years. At **headspace**, young people have access to a variety of experienced and friendly staff. These include psychologists, counsellors, youth workers and doctors.



DID YOU KNOW? Headspace is moving to a new centre at **7 Atchison Street** Wollongong on the 27th July 2017. It is closer to the train station and free bus, and also in a separate building. Contact 4220 7660.

R U OK?

It is important to look after your friends and family. Your genuine care and support can make a real difference. Something we're never too young to learn is that asking "are you ok?" can make a difference. By giving teenagers the confidence to start conversations regularly and with real care, they can be the generation that transforms the way we look out for anyone struggling with life. So, after you've had a conversation, put a reminder in your diary to check in with them again soon and do it!

You've got what it takes.



What if someone is not OK?

The truth is, some conversations just become too big for family and friends. If you are worried about someone at school and feel urgent support is needed, contact the school. The agencies below can also help.

Lifeline 13 11 14
Call 24/7 for crisis support

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800
Counselling for young people 5–25 years

GriefLine 1300 845 745
Counselling service for people suffering grief

Mrs Lawson
Head Teacher Wellbeing

Zone Athletics

Congratulations to all our students who participated in the Zone Athletics carnival on 23 June 2017. Our students participated in all events and continually displayed excellent sportsmanship and behaviour throughout the day. Overall Figtree High School came second on the day, which is a fantastic effort.

Congratulations to the following students who were Age Champion on the day: Alyssa Parks (14 year girls), Benjamin Plumb (15 year boys) and Colin Sharman (17 year boys).

We also had 3 records broken by our students on the day. Well done to Teagan Williams who broke the 14 girls 100m, the old record was 12.61 and Teagan ran the 100m in 12.55. Alyssa Parks broke the 14 girls long jump. The old record was 4.76m and Alyssa jumped 4.82m. Kina Suli broke the 17 girls shot put. The old record was 10.38m and Kina threw 10.65m. A fantastic effort by these 3 competitors. Our relay teams were excellent on the day and we have 8 teams that will run in Canberra

Our students who placed in the top 3 of their event at Zone will now compete at the Regional Athletics Carnival in Canberra on the 4 August. We wish all our students the best of luck and look forward to hearing of some outstanding results.



Figtree High Opens Boys Rugby League - Southern NSW Champions

Figtree High Opens Rugby League team have been crowned Southern NSW champions after the Southern NSW finals were played in Cootamundra yesterday. The team defeated Ridley College from Victoria 14-0 in game 1, they then played a tough 0-0 draw against Red Bend Catholic College Forbes in game 2 before defeating Hennessey Catholic College in the final game 14-0.

This is a huge accomplishment, as Figtree High School are now deemed to be the best Opens Rugby League team in the entire Southern part of the state.

With over 150 public and catholic high schools from the South Coast, Illawarra, Riverina, South West and Far South Coast regions competing in the competition, as well as the top ranked school from Victoria, this is a great accomplishment for Figtree High School and the Illawarra.

The team will now progress to the state final to be played in Dubbo against the Northern NSW region winner.

Well done to all the boys involved in the team. Not only were their on field performances outstanding, but more importantly their behaviour and overall attitude over the two days was exemplary. They are a real credit to the Figtree High School community.

Can I also give a huge thanks to Mr Scanlan for his assistance as manager and bus driver.



Thanks
Mr Sargent-Wilson

Language Perfect

In May, all of our students in Years 8, 9 and 10 studying either French or German once again participated in the **Language Perfect World Championships**. This online competition took place over ten days and involved students from around the globe completing vocabulary exercises in various languages. Figtree High was again very successful and this is due to the commitment and enthusiasm shown by our students. We were placed third in Australia in German and second in NSW overall. **Nina Graovac, Kobie Kokkin and Holly Wyatt** deserve special mention as they reached the highest level, Elite, in the competition. We also earned eight Gold, eight Silver and 32 Bronze awards along with 62 Credits. Congratulations to all the students who took part.

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Woolworths is again running the Earn and Learn program. This can help us to obtain some fantastic resources for our school. Please support us by asking for the stickers when you shop at Woolworths. Every \$10 you spend earns 1 sticker. There will be a box located in the Library where you can drop off your stickers. Please support our school so we can gain some valuable resources for Figtree High School.



Southern Stars

Students from Years 7 to 11 interested in being in the audience for the 2017 Southern Stars School Matinee on Friday 25th August should see Mr Malouf in the CAPA staff room. Please be quick as numbers are limited and expressions of interest are only open until Tuesday 1st August. Tickets are only \$25 plus bus fare.



Year 9 NAPLAN results and the HSC minimum standard

Message from NESA

HSC minimum standard required to receive the HSC from 2020

Literacy and numeracy skills are the foundation for success in life after school. This is why eligibility for the HSC is changing. From 2020, students will need to show they have the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to complete everyday tasks.

Your child will have a number of opportunities from Year 9 to Year 12, and even after the HSC to show they meet the HSC minimum standard

Some students will meet the requirement early through their Year 9 NAPLAN results in reading, writing and numeracy. However, most students will show they meet the standard by passing short, online reading, writing and numeracy tests in Years 10, 11 or 12.

The writing test will require students to respond to a question about a prompt or stimulus.

Year 9 NAPLAN reports available in mid-August

Your child's Year 9 NAPLAN report will indicate which online HSC minimum standard test/s (if any) they will need to pass to be eligible for the HSC certificate. Remember your child has three more years of learning before the HSC and can take the HSC minimum standard online tests in Years 10, 11 or 12. Year 9 NAPLAN is a good chance to check they are on track or get support to meet the minimum standard by Year 12.

If your child has achieved a Band 8 or above in reading, writing or numeracy, the NAPLAN report will indicate that they have "Met the HSC minimum standard early" in the respective area/s.

Your child can sit the online HSC minimum standard tests when they are ready

There are three separate 45 minute online tests: reading, writing and numeracy. Students don't have to pass all three tests at once and can attempt each test up to twice a year. The reading and numeracy tests each contain a maximum of 45 multiple choice questions. You can try some sample reading and numeracy questions at <https://hsliteracynumeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

For more information visit www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au

Tuning in to Kids



It made me a calmer parent, and my child is calmer and we feel closer to each other. My child is also better able to manage their behaviour."

**Parenting Program for
Mums, Dads and Carers**



Funded by

**SHELLHARBOUR
COMMUNITIES
FOR CHILDREN**

When

**Wed 2 Aug 2017
(Every Wednesday for 6 weeks)
10:00 - 12:00 pm**

Where

**Albion Park Rail Public School
Tongarra Road Albion Park Rail**

Fee

**No charge (funded by Shellharbour Communities
for Children)**

Topic

**The program teaches you about how you, as a
parent, can help your child develop good emo-
tional skills.**

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

✉ admin@sahssi.org.au

Visit the website for more details. Limited child minding is available (conditions apply).

You must register for this program via the website.

Suitable for Mums, Dads and Carers.

Eligibility: Must be living in the Shellharbour LGA (Warilla, Warilla North, Barrack Heights, Mount Warrigal, Albion Park, Albion Park Rail, Oak Flats)



**Learn More & Register:
sahssi.org.au/programs**

**Communities for Children
Shellharbour**

