



FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 9, 29 March 2018

Address: 2 Gibsons Road, Figtree NSW 2525

Phone: 02 4271 2787

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

Fax: 02 4271 6626

T1 Week 9	Week 9 Starting 26 March
Monday 26/03/18	Year 11 - English Assessment Task Year 10 - Top Blokes Program Year 9 - Top Blokes Program
Tuesday 27/03/18	Year 12 - Food Tech Assess. Task/Practical Year 10 - PASS Excursion Unanderra Pool Year 10 - Marine Studies Excursion – Water Safety Year 9 - Links to Learning Year 9 - History – in class Essay Year 9 - Marine Studies Excursion U13 Boys & U14 Girls Country Cup Championships
Wednesday 28/03/18	Year 11 - English Assessment Task South Coast Rugby League Trials P&C Meeting
Thursday 29/03/18	Year 11 - Aboriginal Studies Assess. Task Year 10 - Science Research Project due Year 9 - Food Technology Assessment Task Year 9 - Child Studies Assessment Task Year 9 - PASS Excursion Unanderra Pool AIME Mentee interviews Open Girls Soccer Excursion
Friday 30/03/18	Public Holiday - Good Friday
T1 Week 10	Week 10 Starting 2 April
Monday 02/04/18	Public Holiday - Easter Monday
Tuesday 03/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Year 11 - English Mock Interviews Year 10 - PASS Excursion Unanderra Pool Year 10 - Marine Studies Exc - Water Safety Year 9 - Links to Learning
Wednesday 04/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Year 11 - CAFS Assessment Task Year 11 – Maths Extension Assess. Task
Thursday 05/04/18	Year 12 – Midcourse Examinations Year 8 – Maths in class test Bill Turner Cup Soccer - Junior
Friday 06/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Year 11 - ITT Assessment Task Year 11 - Studies of Religion Assess. Task Year 11 - Chemistry Practical task Year 10 - History Test Year 10 – Commerce Test
T1 Week 11	Week 11 Starting 9 April
Monday 09/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examination Year 11 - Chemistry Practical Task Year 10 - Geography Research Report Year 10 – Maths Assessment Task Year 10 - Top Blokes Program Year 9 - Top Blokes Program CHS Swimming

Tuesday 10/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Year 11 - Biology Assessment Task Year 10 - Marine Studies Excursion Year 9 - Links to Learning Year 9 - Marine Studies Excursion Year 9 – Maths Assessment Task Year 9 – HSIE In Class Assessment Task CHS Swimming
Wednesday 11/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Year 9 - English Assessment Task School Cross Country Futsal - 14 boys & girls, 16 boys & girls, Open boys & girls
Thursday 12/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Year 9 – HSIE In Class Assessment Task Futsal - 14 boys & girls, 16 boys & girls, Open boys & girls
Friday 13/04/18	Year 12 - Midcourse Examinations Futsal - 14 boys & girls, 16 boys & girls, Open boys & girls
Year 12 Purple Year 11 Olive Year 10 Blue Year 9 Red Year 8 Green Year 7 Orange	



*Thoughts
from the
Principal*

Welcome to Week 9's Newsletter and Happy Easter.

CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT: We have so much to celebrate in our school and enjoyed a very full assembly this morning to recognise a wide range of achievements and participation of students in our school. Student who have represented in team sports, students who are running competitions to raise money for charities and students who have reached elite levels.

DUX OF 2017: Whilst on this topic, I would very much like to congratulate Andrew Watson as our Dux of 2017. Andrew received an outstanding ATAR of 93.05 and has commenced his Bachelor Degree of Surveying at the University of Newcastle. We thank Andrew for releasing his ATAR to the school and wish him well in his future endeavours.

P&C UPDATE: I am pleased to announce that at last night's AGM, Mrs Jackie Brown was re-selected as our President. Mrs Brown has been instrumental in leading our very committed P&C in fundraising, and as a result has released \$7000 to the school. It was agreed at the meeting that the funds would go towards new Sporting Teams uniforms and furniture to support innovative learning in our school. More fundraising ideas later in the newsletter.

UNIFORM CONSULTATION: We are excited to let you know we have moved forward with our uniform consultation. As previously flagged, this will be a comprehensive process with a phasing in approach. At this stage, we have drawings of the new designs and will be having samples on display in our foyer early next term. Comments from students and P&C have been very positive.

SCHOOL PLAN: We have finalised our 2018-2020 School Plan Strategic Directions that will ensure success for every student, every teacher and every leader at our school as:

1. **Collaborative teaching practice informed by data and research**
2. **Systems and practices that support high expectations**
3. **Innovative learning environments**

I wish you a safe Easter break with your family and hope you enjoy this jam-packed edition of our news.

Mrs Karen Burke
Principal

PBL Core Values

WEEK 10:	Respect Put rubbish in the bins
WEEK 11:	Safety When entering & leaving the school, move directly to your destination

Deputy Principal Report

Year 12 Mid Course Examinations

Year 12 students are about to sit their mid course examinations. This examination period will be an important part of their preparation for the Trails and Higher School Certificate. Each subject area will be focusing on giving specific feedback to students about their examination performance. This feedback will enable students to focus on areas for improvement. At the start of next term all Year 12 students will be interviewed to review their HSC Success Plan that they completed in term 4 last year. Their learning goals and how they plan to implement feedback from the mid course examinations will be conferenced with a staff mentor. This will be followed up with parent teacher interviews for Years 12, 11 and 7 on Thursday 24 May. This is an important way we can work together to ensure success for all students as they complete their HSC. Over the examination period you can support your child by talking with them about their exams and how they are preparing.

Year 10 students are completing their Record of School Achievement (RoSA) credential throughout the year. Each course will have a formal and informal assessment program. Students will shortly receive a booklet outlining the school expectations and rules regarding completing the RoSA. This booklet will outline the formal requirements for assessment completion in each subject. It needs to be noted that attendance at school is a key requirement for successful completion of all courses. Students who fail to keep a satisfactory attendance record and who fail to complete course work and assessment tasks will be issued N Warning letters. Two or more N warning letters in any course will mean the student may be ineligible for the awarding of a Rosa.

Mr Glyn Trethewy
Deputy Principal Year 8, 10 and 12

HSIE Faculty Report

Term One has seen a busy start to the school year in the HSIE faculty with a number of the Elective classes going out on Field Trips to further their understanding of the topics being studied in class.

Over the few weeks, Year 9 Commerce have visited Figtree Grove as part as their 'Consumer Choice' Unit. During their visit they gathered and analysed information about factors that influence consumer choices. By collecting information on pricing, options available and the marketing strategies employed by the business they were able to draw conclusions about consumer behaviour. This formed in integral, and practical, way for student to see how the issues they are studying in class work in the real world. Year 9 Commerce students are continuing to develop their skills and knowledge in readiness for studying Business Studies and Economics in Year 11 and Year 12.

On March 20, Year 10 Commerce went on an excursion to visit the Downing St Centre in Sydney. The purpose of the excursion was to provide experiences and observations to reinforce the learning of the core topic: Law and Society. 49 students met with their teachers at Unanderra railway station at 8.15 and caught the train to Museum in the city. We then walked to the Downing Street Centre which is housed in the building that was originally Mark Foys shopping emporium. We were met by the sheriff who spoke to the students about the rules and protocols surrounding court room observations. From there, students were encouraged to visit at least two court proceedings: one local court observation on the fourth and fifth floors, and one district court observation, located on the ground and lower ground floors. A question sheet highlighting relevant points of learning was distributed, and was submitted at the end of the day.

For most students, this was their first time in a court room. Many emerged excited by the authenticity of the experience, noting the sanctity of proceedings and the recognition of individuals playing out their roles as

judge, magistrate, prosecutor and defence council. When the courts started to adjourn for lunch at about midday, all students were asking if they would be able to continue their observations in the afternoon. Alas, we had to board the 1.20 train for the return journey to Unanderra. However, subsequent to the excursion, both Ms Bennett and myself have fielded questions and listened to student reflections of the day. As teachers, we were pleased that our students were so enthusiastic and keen for more. Overall, it was a great day out with some wonderful Year 10 students. We were very proud of the behaviour and respect on display, and remain convinced that this excursion provided a valuable insight into one of the institutional pillars of our society



Students from Year 12 Geography recently conducted fieldwork in the Littoral Rainforest on the spit in Minnamurra and Mystics Beach. Mr Brooks from the FHS HSIE faculty has worked closely with the Illawarra Environmental Education Centre to develop programs and students received the leadership of Stuart Delandre for our excursion. During the fieldwork, students analysed a range of threats to the ecosystem and evaluated the responses implemented by local, state, and the federal governments. However, the weather at time unfavourable, the students actively collected data and engaged in practical fieldwork to assist with their recent Assessment Task.



Year 12 Students engaged in fieldwork on Mystics Beach, Minnamurra NSW (with Stuart Delandre [seated]).



Year 12 Students collecting data in the rainforest with Stuart Delandre.

Ms Deborah Steel
Head Teacher HSIE

News from Creative and Performing Arts

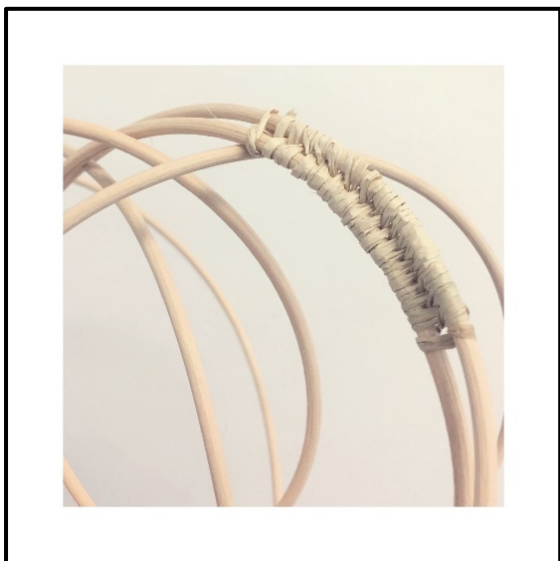
The CAPA faculty has had a busy start to the term with lots of events and meaningful learning experiences happening across all Stages and Subject Areas.

Stage 5 Music students have been composing and exploring diatonic harmony using notation software. The technology has enabled them to hear their creations and see how the notated works are communicated to other musicians.

It was pleasing to see them engaging so deeply in a task based on classical music themes.

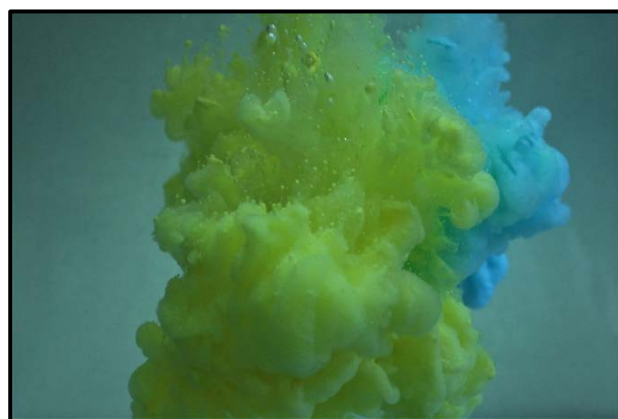


Mrs Basham and her Year 10 Visual Design have been working on contemporary woven forms. They have been using cane and raffia to produce exquisite organic sculptures that incorporate texture, line and form.



Miss Cook and Mrs Szoboszlay accompanied Visual Arts students from Year 11, 12 and selected students from Year 10 on an inspiring excursion to Sydney to experience the ARTEXPRESS Exhibition. **ARTEXPRESS** is an annual exhibition featuring a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the artmaking component of the HSC examination in Visual Arts in NSW. This was a great opportunity for Figtree High students to represent our school in the wider community and engage with the high standard of artmaking that fellow visual arts students are producing around NSW.

Ms Pulham's Year 10 Photographic and Digital Media class have been learning to use the DSLR cameras in manual mode. This has been a steep learning curve for students, requiring them to step outside their comfort zones and think quick when behind the lens. The class put their knowledge of shutter speed and aperture into practice in a studio session based on the photographic work of Alberto Seviso and Kim Keever. We dropped a concoction of pouring cream and ink into fish tanks and captured the reaction using a high shutter speed. The results are impressive!



In Year 7 Visual Arts have been busy completing micro task and building up their knowledge of the visual arts content areas. All 7VSA classes have received their first assessment task which requires them to research Pablo Picasso and discuss his life and artmaking practice. We have been working on short answer responses in class in preparation for this assessment and as a whole, the art teachers have been impressed with the perceptive responses the majority of students are producing.

News from PD/H/PE

Premiers sporting challenge - Learning to lead

On Friday March 16th, Figtree High School hosted the Premiers Sporting Challenge Learning to Lead with the Figtree Community feeder schools and Year 7 and 8 Figtree High Students. The day was led by Year 10 students that ran Netball, Rugby League, Dance, Golf, Cricket, Soccer, Basketball and Initiative Games. The primary school students developed their leadership skills in various sports in a fun and welcoming environment. This day also allowed students from different schools to meet other students and engage in a day full of laughter. The highlight of the day was St. George Illawarra player and graduate of Figtree High School Zac Lomax running the last session of Rugby League with Figtree High Students.

Ellie and Joel, Year 10



I Participated in the 2018 Premiers Sporting Challenge. I participated in a variety of sports such as netball, soccer, basketball, dance and many more. It was a great day and I built many more relationships with my peers. This program developed my leadership skills and my ability to coach in a variety of sports. It gave me a lot of different skills, which I will take forward and use in the future.

Demi, Year 7



The Premiers Sporting Challenge was a great way to learn about leadership and coaching. Students from Figtree PS, Figtree Heights PS, Mount St Thomas PS, Mt Kembla PS, Nareena Hill PS, Lindsay Park PS, Unanderra PS and Figtree HS developed their leadership in many sports. The highlight for me was all the sports we played and learning how to be a young leader.

Isaac, Year 7



Australian MTB Interschools Results

Congratulations to the contingent of Figtree High School students that attended the MTB Interschools competition in Thredbo this year. Well done to Reegan Laird, Clinton Wax, Kaylen Craft and Samuel Buffett. The results are as follows:

3 X Cross country Team Race

A bit of a novelty event to kick things off before the official competition. The Figtree High School Team (Male Division 3) entry of Reegan Laird, Clinton Wax & Kohan Laird achieved an outstanding result of 3rd place.

Flow

The Figtree High School Team (Male Division 3) entry of Reegan Laird, Kohan Laird, Clinton Wax, Kaylen Craft & Samuel Buffett achieved a terrific result of 5th place out of 13 teams.

Individual results were also awesome with Clinton placing 14th, Reegan 21st, Kohan 25th, Kaylen 73rd & Samuel 77th, out of 122 entries.

XC

Figtree High School Team (Male division 3) placed 9th out of 13th.

Individual rankings of Samuel 28th, Clinton 48th, Kaylen 55th, Reegan 57th & Kohan 66th out of 85 entries.

Down Hill

The boys really excelled in this event, with the Figtree High School Team (Male Division 3) placing 3rd out of 11 teams achieving a podium and team trophy for their efforts. Individual results were even better than the flow results, with Kohan 11th, Reegan 12th, Clinton 21st, Kaylen 59 & Samuel 70th out of 120 entries.



Clinton Wax in action



Reegan Laird in action



Podium finish

2018 International Student Visit 12 June - 23 June

We are delighted to announce that 18 students from Vietnam will be visiting our school for two weeks (12-23 June). We are calling on our school community to open up their homes to host students offering them the opportunity to immerse themselves in our vibrant community.

The students will range in age from 14 - 17 years . They will attend school during the week. During the weekend, the students will spend Saturday and Sunday with your family participating in your usual weekend activities.

This is an exciting opportunity for you and your family to be part of this program. You will be remunerated to assist in covering costs.

Information packs are available from the library. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact David Verdejo or Salma Alhindi on 02 4271 2787.

P & C Information

Last year we trialled the entertainment book as a fundraiser, one of the first ones done at the school for a number of years, and as a P & C we made \$900.00 !!!!

As it was so successful, we have decided to promote the entertainment book again this year.

The cost is still the same, \$60.00 and if you go for coffee and dinner using one of the vouchers you will well and truly cover your payment.

On approximately the 23rd May, Years 7 and 8 will be receiving books home, if you want to you can keep the book and activate the membership, or you can activate the online membership if that is your preference. If you do not want to activate any membership, please send the book back to the school as soon as possible.

For years 9 to 12 you will receive a flyer (the same as the one attached to this newsletter) you can activate your membership with this flyer and request either the book or online membership.

If you wish to you can purchase your 2018/2019 Entertainment Membership **NOW!**

Not only will you receive 25 to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers many of the best restaurants, hotels and attractions in your area but you'll be supporting your child's school.

Find out more at www.entbook.com.au/2a81409



The P and C now have their own email address

figtreehspandc@gmail.com ,

if you wish to have the minutes of the P & C, please send your request to be added to the mailing list, to this email address.

We also have established a Figtree High School Facebook site, for those interested with keeping up to date on P & C matters.

Mrs Jackie Brown

P & C President

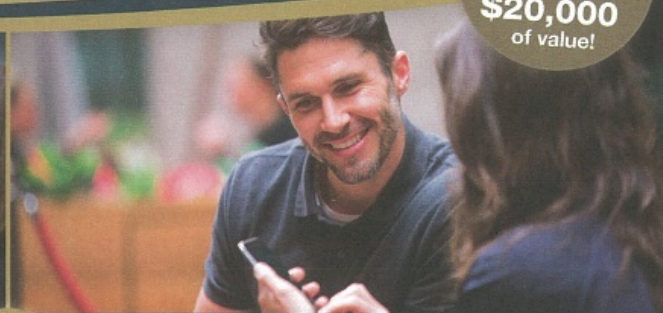
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Figtree High School

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A23 Wollongong North City Flyer 2018-2019

2018 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE



www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au



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CHALLENGE OPENS: Monday March 5, 2018

CLOSES FOR STUDENTS: Friday September 14, 2018

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BEHIND THE SCENES
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**TEAM IGNITE WANTS
YOU!**

TEAMiGNiTE

Wollongong Youth Services are looking for young people to join Team Ignite. The team meets weekly on a Thursday, working to build a vibrant and inclusive live music and performance scene.

**APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN
NOW!**

For more information or to apply please contact Wollongong Youth Services.

Applications close 28 March



Wollongong Youth Services Phone: 4227 8222
Email: youthservices@wollongong.nsw.gov.au



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SERIOUS. FUN.



COME AND PLAY HOCKEY 2018

Juniors U 7'S – U 18's Boys & Girls welcome

Senior Women & Men – grades for all abilities

Junior's training at Illawarra Hockey Complex, Waples Road, Unanderra

Further information: email info@daptohockeyclub.com.au or contact Dave 0407 898198

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GREATER SYDNEY CHS GIRLS AFL **TRIAL**

Who: Trial is for U/15 Girls (Girls can be 15 and not turning 16 this year)

Where: Blacktown International Sports Park - Eastern Road Rooty Hill

When: April 11th from 10.30am to 2pm

Students will play a scratch match to determine selection. AFL appropriate gear, boots and mouth guards are required for all girls trialling.

Students are asked to fill in the attached form and return their registration via the details on the sheet (email or fax) by April 4th 2018.

Selected players will play in the NSW All Schools Australian Football Girls Championship to be held in Blacktown in June.

For further information, contact Michael Strappazon via email at michael.strappazon@det.nsw.edu.au