



# FIGTREE HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 10, 22 September 2020

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Term 3 Week 10 (B)	Week 10 Starting 21 September
Monday 21/09/20	Year 11 – Preliminary Examinations Year 10 – PASS1&2 Assessment Task – P3; Food Technology 3 Assessment Task – P2/P3; Geography 3 Assessment Task – P4 Year 9 – Links to Learning – P1/P2; Science Assessment Task (9Sci5) – P6 Year 7 – Science Assessment Task (7C, 7O, 7R, 7Q, 7N)
Tuesday 22/09/20	Year 12 – English Advanced workshop - 3:00pm – 5:00pm Year 11 – Preliminary Examinations Year 10 – English Assessment Task – P2; PASS 1&2 Assessment Task – P4 Year 9 – Information Software Technology Assessment Task – P6 Year 7 - English Assessment Task; Science Assessment Task (7U/7E) – P6
Wednesday 23/09/20	Year 11 – Preliminary Examinations Year 9 – Top Blokes – P1/P2
Thursday 24/09/20	Year 11 – Preliminary Examinations Year 10 – PASS 1&2 Assessment Task – P2/P3 Year 7 - Special Religious Education (7O, 7N, 7U, 7C)
Friday 25/09/20	Year 11 – Preliminary Examinations Year 10 – PASS 3 Assessment Task – P5 Year 9 – Photography Digital Media Assessment Task – P5 Last day of Term 3 for students
Term 4 Week 1 (A)	Week 1 Starting 12 October
Monday 12/10/20	All students return to School
Tuesday 13/10/20	Year 12 – Principal’s BBQ – 8:00am – 8:40am, Graduation rehearsal and final school assembly Year 9 – Links to Learning – P1/P2
Wednesday 14/10/20	Year 12 – Graduation – 9:30am – 12pm Year 9 – Top Blokes – P1/P2
Thursday 15/10/20	Year 10 – Science Assessment Task (10Sci6) – P1
Friday 16/10/20	Year 10 – PASS Assessment Task – P5/P6; Science Assessment Task (10Sci4/10Sci5) – P1
Term 4 Week 2 (B)	Week 2 Starting 19 October
Monday 19/10/20	
Tuesday 20/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations commence Year 9 – Links to Learning – P1/P2 Year 7 – Mathematics Assessment Task (7N, 7R, 7Q)
Wednesday 21/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 9 – Top Blokes – P1/P2 P & C Meeting – 6:30pm via MS Teams

Thursday 22/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 7 – Mathematics Assessment Task (7E, 7U, 7C, 7O) Twilight Staff Professional Learning – 2:30pm – 7:00pm
Friday 23/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 9 – History Assessment Task – P5
Term 4 Week 3 (A)	Week 3 Starting 26 October
Monday 26/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 9 – History Elective Assessment Task – P2 Year 8 – VALID Test (8U) – P5/P6 Year 7 – Visual Arts Assessment Task (VA8/9/10) – P2
Tuesday 27/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 10 – Photography Assessment Task – P3 Year 9 – Links to Learning – P1/P2 Year 8 – VALID Test (8C) – P1/P3; VALID Test (8E) – P3/P4
Wednesday 28/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 9 – Top Blokes – P1/P2; Visual Arts Assessment Task (9VA1) – P2, (9VA2) – P3
Thursday 29/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 7 – Visual Arts Assessment Task (VA1/2/3) – P5
Friday 30/10/20	Year 12 – HSC Examinations Year 10 – IT Timber – Assessment Task Year 7 – English Assessment Task; Visual Arts Assessment Task (VA4/5/6/7) – P1
Year 12 Purple Year 11 Olive Year 10 Blue Year 9 Red Year 8 Green Year 7 Orange	

### Thoughts from the Principal

I am really looking forward to the day when I can write to the Figtree HS community and note what a peaceful and predictable passage of time it has been, both inside the school gates and in the wider world. However, I will not be able to do that in this edition of the newsletter.

It is a good thing though, given the hard work in Term 3 by all our staff and students, I can see the school holidays in sight.

## **Year 11**

Our wonderful Year 11 students are currently sitting their Preliminary Course final examinations and I would like to wish each and every one of them the very best in these challenging tests. I won't wish them luck as students who study to prepare for an exam do not need it – but I hope the questions suit them and they feel they have the opportunity to show what they know and can do. Exams also give them practice in answering unseen questions and writing first draft answers with a time limit, as required in the HSC.

This week will see students in Year 11 progress to the end of their Preliminary studies. Term 4 will then see them commence their HSC studies, bringing many new opportunities for success. The day the 2020 HSC exams begin, 20 October, our Year 11 students will become our new HSC students of 2021.

I encourage all Year 11 students to take the time to reflect on their schooling so far and be proud of what they have achieved. I strongly urge all Year 11 students to heed the feedback they are given from their teachers following their final exams and utilise this counsel to move towards the best learning outcomes possible in preparation for their HSC in 2021.

## **Year 12**

Undoubtedly, there has been significant impact on the current Year 12 cohort. Not only has their entire final year of secondary studies been turned upside down, their learning, study and exams have been impacted and the more pleasurable milestones, such as their graduation and formal, have also needed reshaping.

Notwithstanding the obvious challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has initiated, I would like to remind our mighty Year 12 students of the need to remain focused on what is within their control. The next few months are going to be critical to their success.

With a dedicated focus on continued exam preparation both at school and at home, students can maintain control over their final HSC outcomes. I would encourage students to connect with all of their teachers in the lead up to the holidays and gather as much commentary and information as possible on what each of them can do to improve.

Our 2020 HSC students should be confident about their preparation. Reflecting on their feedback from the Trial HSC exams, they should be focused on the advice their marvellous teachers have provided them.

Please note that the Year 12 Graduation will be held at Figtree Anglican Church on Wednesday 14 October at 9.30am. I am immensely looking forward to celebrating this fantastic occasion with the HSC class of 2020, and am especially motivated given the misfortunes they have overcome. Please note that, given the prevailing COVID-19 guidelines, only the students themselves will be able to attend this ceremony. However, a video will be supplied to all families following the event.

## **Accreditation**

Teacher accreditation is a celebration of the quality of teaching and represents a significant milestone for new teachers to the profession. It enables beginning teachers to reflect on their initial teaching experiences and practices and learn and build the skills necessary to have a lasting impact on students and the wider school community they serve.

Given the undeniable influence a teacher can have on a young person, it is a shame that teaching is not currently viewed in Australia as being one of the more prestigious vocations.

I would strongly argue that an enthusiastic teacher, someone who is passionate about helping students, has the power to cultivate a curiosity and fascination for learning in young people. Such a teacher has the capacity to make a significant difference in the lives of so many young people and is integral in preparing our youth for a positive future and fulfilling adult life.

These are some of the many qualities I see over and over again in the tremendous teachers at Figtree High School.

It is with great pride that I announce the following Figtree High School staff as achieving their accreditation at the Proficient Teacher level - Ms Casey Tasker, Mr James Olsen, Mr Ewen Porteous, Ms Lucy Pulham and Mr Dan Healy.

To these wonderful young teachers I offer my sincere congratulations and take enormous comfort in knowing that the future of the profession is in the safe hands of such positive, caring and inspirational people.



### **2021 Senior Student Leadership Team**

Following an extensive selection process, the 2021 Senior Student Leadership Team has been decided and announced.

This exercise involved self-nomination, interview by a panel comprised of Ms Tasker, Ms Cook and myself and the delivery of a speech to their Year 11 cohort as well as to the entire Figtree HS staff. The entire Year 11 cohort together with all teachers, were then provided with an opportunity for preferential voting.

I was so extremely impressed with the calibre and quality of the written applications, interviews and speeches. The depth of leadership potential at our school never ceases to amaze me. There is a saying that attitude reflects leadership and in this case it is definitely true.

I would like to pay my compliments to Ms Tasker, our Student Leadership Coordinator, for her exceptional management of our student leaders and the smooth running of this whole of school process.

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who will make up our Senior Student Leadership Team for 2021:

#### **Captains**

Tessa Baldock  
Logan Mathie

#### **Vice Captains**

Bailey Craft  
Zali Moore

#### **Senior Prefects**

Ned Glasgow  
Kobie Kokkin  
Daniel Petrevski



#### **R U OK? Day**

Thursday 10 September 2020 was R U OK? day. It is set aside as a national day of action where we are reminded as Australians that it is important to ask people, "Are you okay?", especially if they seem to be not quite themselves or appear obviously to be struggling with life's ups and downs.

No one could deny that 2020 has been a challenging year for everyone. The prevailing circumstances have made it even more important for us all to stay connected and, for those who are able, be willing to support those around us.

On Thursday 10 September, a group of Year 11 students started the conversation about R U OK? This team of caring students presented a lesson to the rest of the school sharing some ideas of what to say when someone replies they are not OK, guiding our students through how to continue a conversation that could ultimately change a life. The key message being that you don't need to be an expert to reach out - just a good friend and a great listener. This is a vital idea that needs to be pursued throughout every day in our lives as human beings.



The essential communication given to our students was to use the four steps outlined below and to remember to make every effort to have a conversation that could change a life:

1. Ask R U OK?
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in



1. Ask



2. Listen



3. Encourage action



4. Check in

If you, or anyone you know, needs a bit of extra help then the professional services listed below may be of assistance:

Lifeline 13 11 14

Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Beyond Blue 1300 224 636

Headspace 1800 650 890

QLife 1800 184 527

Mensline 1300 789 978

Special thanks to Ms Markham, our relieving Head Teacher Wellbeing, and our exceptional Year 11 students for their organisation and delivery of these invaluable life lessons.



Thank you all for your support in Term 3.

Enjoy the end of Term 3 break from school and let us all look forward to a positive and successful Term 4, in this most unusual of years.

**Daniel Ovens**  
Principal

## Expectation of the Week

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>WEEK 10:</b> | <b>BE RESPECTFUL – Sport</b><br>Show sportsmanship                                  |
| <b>WEEK 1:</b>  | <b>BE RESPECTFUL – All settings</b><br>Wear correct uniform                         |
| <b>WEEK 2:</b>  | <b>BE A LEARNER- Technology</b><br>Phones off and in bag                            |
| <b>WEEK 3:</b>  | <b>BE RESPECTFUL – Playing Fields/Playground</b><br>Respecting others playing space |

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## *Deputy Principal's Report*

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### **Assessment Tasks**

This term has been filled with a number of assessment tasks for students across all year groups. To assist students to manage their time effectively and ensure that assessment tasks are completed to the best of their ability and on time, it is really important for students to be using an organisational tool – such as a student diary, term planner or digital calendar with alerts.

Using a one page term planner can be a useful visual tool for students to track all of their assessment tasks, homework tasks as well as other family commitments so that they can see an overview of the term ahead. An example for Term 4 has been included in this newsletter.

### **N Warning Letters – Year 10 and Year 11**

A reminder that students in Year 10 and Year 11 who have been issued with one or more N warning letters need to complete any tasks listed on the N warning letter that are still outstanding. Any student who has been issued with 2 or more N warning letters in a course, and has not completed and submitted the required tasks, is at risk of an N Determination. The Principal will make decisions about N Determinations in Term 4 Week 1 for Year 11 students and Term 4 Week 4 for Year 10 students. If a student is not aware of the tasks that need to be completed on their N warning letter, they must speak with their class teacher as a matter of urgency.

### **Year 12**

Congratulations to our awesome Year 12 students on nearing the end of their secondary school life. It has been a 'different' final year but still full of great memories. Reports are being issued today, Tuesday 22 September. This is to allow students time to act upon the feedback that teachers have provided as well as enable students to use their reports for University early admission interviews or for job applications.

Figtree High School teachers are celebrating with Year 12 students with a breakfast in the front gardens on Tuesday 13 October. Students will then have a Graduation Assembly rehearsal afterwards. The Graduation Assembly will be on the morning of Wednesday 14 October for students only. The assembly will be filmed and available later for viewing by students, parents/carers and their families. The Year 12 formal is being held at Kembla Grange Racecourse on 18 November starting at 6:30pm. This event is only for students and supervising teachers.

Due to the COVID-19 guidelines the HSC written examinations will be conducted a little differently. Students will need to arrive 30-40 minutes before an examination to allow for students to complete a checklist about their health. It is also advisable for students who have a medical condition (asthma, allergies etc), that may cause them to experience cold or flu like symptoms, to obtain medical documentation to verify this condition. If students are ill (NOT with COVID-19 symptoms) during an examination they need to ring the school and then they will need to complete an illness and misadventure form including a section that a medical practitioner will need to sign. This is then returned to the school so it can be submitted to NESA.

NESA is the authority to grant illness and misadventure claims for the HSC. If students are ill with COVID-19 symptoms they will still need to complete an illness and misadventure form but the procedures are a little different. This process will be emailed out to student's education email addresses as it becomes available. Students are not to attend examinations if they have cold or flu like symptoms rather, they should be COVID tested, making sure that they tell the testing facility that they are an HSC student, so the test result can be fast tracked. It is very important that students are checking their education email each day as updates will be regularly emailed out. Current information provided by NESA can be found on the [NESA website](#).

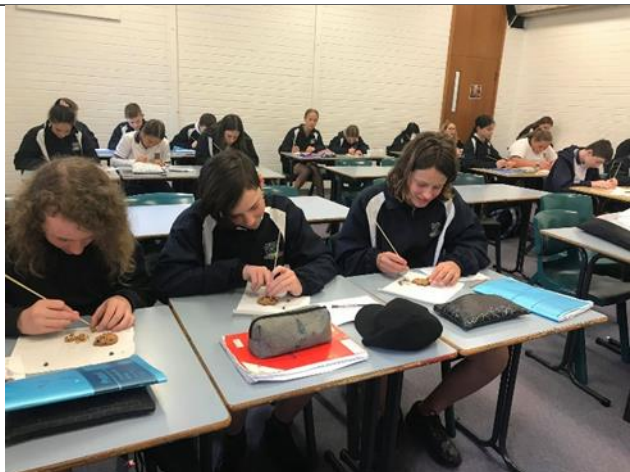
**Jemma Lawson – Years 7 and 10**

**Trish Morgan – Years 8 and 12**

**Ellie Donovan – Years 9 and 11**

**Deputy Principals**





**Deborah Steel**  
**Head Teacher HSIE**

### **CANTEEN NEWS**

The school canteen will be open next term. The canteen will be taking orders only for Lunch 1 and Lunch 2. The canteen will be open for snacks and drinks Lunch 1 and Lunch 2 except Wednesday where we will be open Lunch 1 only.

The canteen will finish trading on Thursday 24 September this term. Every Friday we have Butter Chicken available for \$5.00.

**BUTTER**

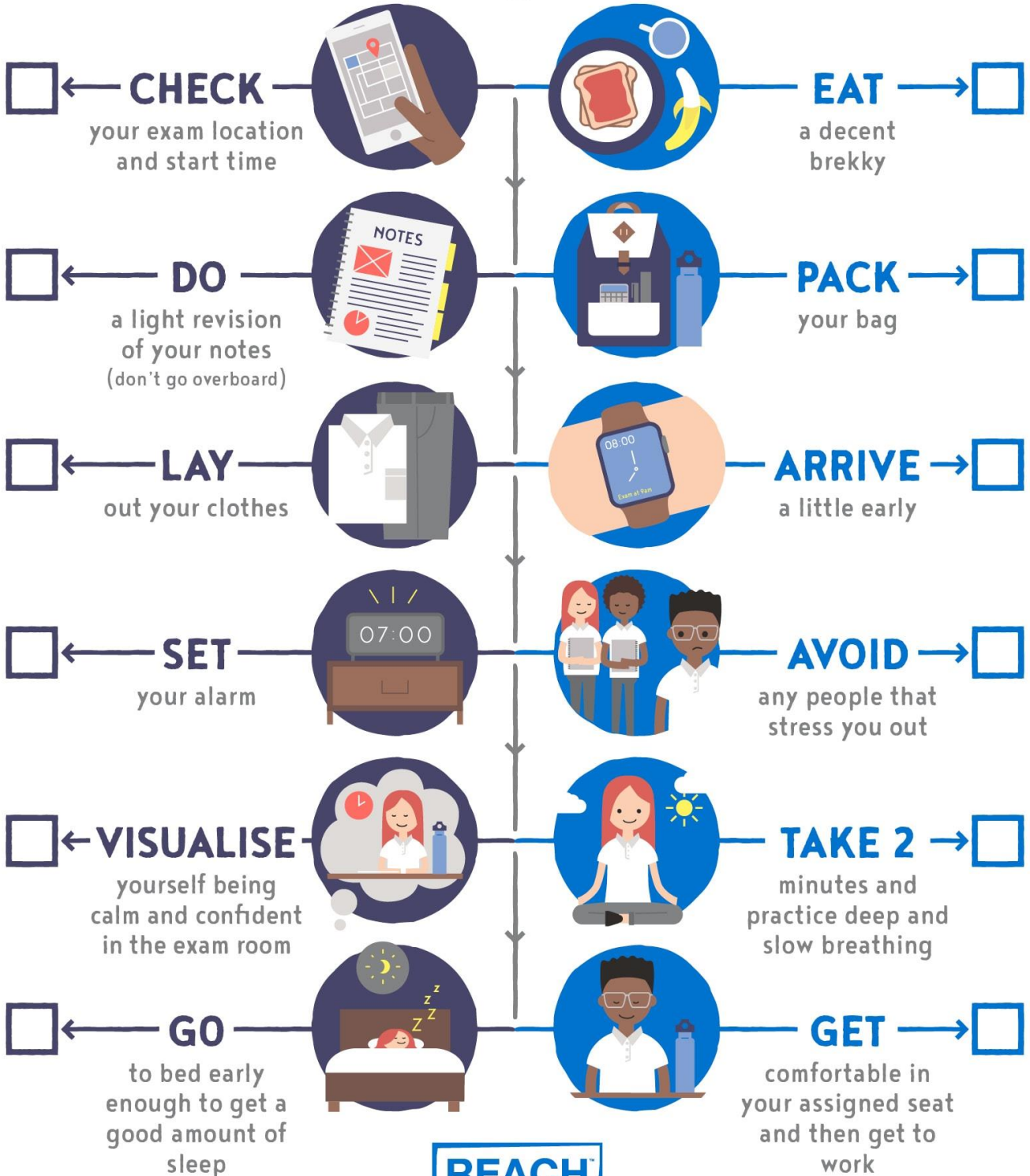
**CHICKEN**

**\$5.00**

NIGHT BEFORE

# EXAM SLAYING CHECKLIST

On THE DAY







# Term 4 2020 Assessment Planner

Fill in the dates of each school week below. Enter the assessment tasks for each course and then the exact due date as soon as you are told about them.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 1</b> 12 October					
<b>Week 2</b> 19 October					
<b>Week 3</b> 26 October					
<b>Week 4</b> 2 November					
<b>Week 5</b> 9 November					
<b>Week 6</b> 16 November					
<b>Week 7</b> 23 November					
<b>Week 8</b> 30 November					
<b>Week 9</b> 7 December					
<b>Week 10</b> 14 December					

# TRY JUNIOR Baseball

## Wollongong Cardinals Junior Baseball Club



Invites boys and girls ages 3+ to try baseball.  
A range of exciting games based around the  
skills of hitting, catching, throwing and base  
running will be run by our accredited coaches



When: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020

1.00pm – 2.00pm (3-11 years of Age)

2.30pm-3.30pm (12-16 years of Age)

Where: Cringila Baseball Field

19 Lackawanna Street Cringila

# COST: FREE

### CONTACT

Nathan: 0411 537 623

or

[cardinalsjuniorbaseball@hotmail.com](mailto:cardinalsjuniorbaseball@hotmail.com)



[www.cardinalsjunior.baseball.com.au](http://www.cardinalsjunior.baseball.com.au)

# JOIN US ON THE BEACH THIS SUMMER!



- ## Illawarra SLSCs
- Austinmer
  - Bellambi
  - Bulli
  - Coalcliff
  - Coledale
  - Corrimal
  - Fairy Meadow
  - Helensburgh-Stanwell Park
  - North Wollongong
  - Port Kembla
  - Sandon Point
  - Scarborough-Wombarra
  - Thirroul
  - Towradgi
  - Windang
  - Wollongong City
  - Woonona

## THE FUN OF SURF LIFE SAVING STARTS WHEN YOU JOIN NIPPERS!

If you're thinking of introducing your child to lifesaving, then Junior Activities is for you. Junior Activities is open to children from the age five up to 14 years.

Every club in the Illawarra offers a Junior Activities program, all with various styles and sizes. Lifesaving is something for the whole family to get involved in and there are many supporting roles that you can play as a parent of a child involved in Junior Activities.

Surf lifesaving is an amazing activity for growing a child's confidence, knowledge and skills in the beach environment. Not only will your child have fun and meet new friends they will become part of an iconic organisation that has served the Australian community for over 100 years.

The program is focused on play, participation and fun. It offers an educational pathway through the delivery of the Junior Development Resource Kit which is designed to ensure children have fun at the beach while participating in lessons that will develop them to become a knowledgeable participant in both lifesaving and sport.

To join one of our 17 Illawarra surf clubs, go to:



[surflifesaving.com.au/join-illawarra-club](https://surflifesaving.com.au/join-illawarra-club)

Please liaise with individual clubs to confirm how their nipper program will be running this season due to COVID restrictions.



**ILLAWARRA**  
NEW SOUTH WALES



# INTRO TO FILM MAKING

## School Holiday Short Course

\$100 Creative Kids Voucher Eligible!



### WHAT YOU NEED

- Mobile phone or DSLR camera
- phone or camera tripod if you have one.

1pm to 3pm 6th to 9th October  
 Ages 12 to 15. \$90 (+ \$10 membership)  
 Limited spots - Bookings Essential.

**FREE**



Help your child get  
 healthy, active & happy  
 with Go4Fun®



Go4Fun® Online is a free 10-week healthy lifestyle program for children aged 7-13 years who are above a healthy weight, and their families.

Register now for Term 4.  
 Call to find out more, or visit our website.

- Make healthier choices for your family
- Personalised support each week
- Online community - chat to other families in the program.

**TO REGISTER VISIT:**  
[www.go4funonline.com.au](http://www.go4funonline.com.au)  
 FREE CALL 1800 780 900

