Term 1 Week 8

**Coming Events**

**This Week**
- Fri 21
  * Harmony Day - see page 3 for details
  * Gymsport K-2
  * AFL Yrs 3-6 (last one for the term)
  * Infants Campout

**Next Week**
- Wed 26
  * Cross Country carnival at school
  * P&C AGM meeting 6.30pm in the 5/6T classroom

- Thurs 27
  Inter-relate evening in school hall 6pm

- Fri 28
  * Pet Education program
  * Gymsport K- Yr 2

**Monday 17 March 2014**

**Activity payments due:**
- AFL sport: Year 3-6 $28. Due Now 7/3/14
- Gymsport: Years K-2 $30. Due by 2/4/14
- Reading Eggs K-2 $20
- Infants Campout
- Textbook payment – selected Yr 3 & 4 students

**Canteen Roster**
- Mon, Wed & Fri – open for recess and lunch
- Tues & Thurs – open for lunchtime snacks only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Sarah Baulch &amp; Gerty Pelekanos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Sonia Latif &amp; Atared Latif</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Pat Gibson &amp; Simone Pratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Denise De Martin, Lee Brett &amp; Leesa Radic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Margaret Burns &amp; Karla Forrester</td>
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**Pizza Meal Deal every Monday**
- Pizza & Milk drink $2.50 or
- Pizza & other drink $3.50

**P&C Voluntary Contribution 2014**

Please remember to pay your P&C Voluntary Contribution for 2014. The amount is $50 per family and can be sent in as cash or cheque (made payable to FHPS P&C) or direct debited into the P & C account.

**BSB: 062644 Account No: 00900425**

Receipts will be issued with as soon as possible.

Happy Birthday to students who are celebrating their birthdays this week....
Joseph C, Ally L, Ava P, Ebony P

Would you like your newsletter emailed? Just send an email to school: figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au with a request for your address to be added to the list.
A Message from the Principal

School Merit Award System
As you are aware we are implementing a new reward system at school. The awards are based on our school's six core values and include: Integrity, Fairness, Respect, Responsibility, Care and Excellence.

Students will be given these awards at school (in the playground and classroom). These awards will be accumulated over the year and students will have the opportunity to obtain 'Values' wristbands.

Please see the attached information sheet for more information regarding our award system.

Infants Camp Out
Only one week to go before the Infants camp out! Please make sure if you have not brought your money and note in, you do so a.s.a.p. We cannot purchase correct quantities to feed everyone if we do not know how many people are attending.

One of the jobs for the Camp Out is Night Watch. To make this a fair role Tracy Chichkan has volunteered to roster shifts during the night. If you can help her in anyway please let the office know so we can contact Tracy. Shifts will be negotiable and probably in 1-2 hr stints if we have enough volunteers.

Many hands make light work!
See you on FRIDAY!

P&C Meeting
Last week it was stated the P&C meeting would be in the hall. This information is incorrect as the hall is used on Wednesday nights. The new venue will be 5/6T classroom.

Please remember it is the Annual General Meeting and all roles will be up for contention. If you are interested in taking on one of these roles this meeting is your only chance for 2014.

If you come you DO NOT have to volunteer for a role, it is simply nice to be involved in such a wonderful part of our school.

Sports Update
Congratulations to our school's AFL team who competed in the Paul Kelly Cup last Wednesday. The boys won two games out of three. Their behaviour whilst representing the school was exemplary and Mr Nielsen was proud of their efforts!

Thank you to Mr Nielsen who organised our involvement in the Cup. These AFL sessions for sport on Friday are certainly paying off.
Harmony Day
This Friday the 21st March is Harmony Day. The message of Harmony Day is 'Everyone Belongs'. It is a day to learn about Australia's cultural diversity and show respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

To celebrate, students are encouraged to wear either cultural dress or orange/yellow/red. Each class will complete activities in order to learn about and celebrate Harmony Day.

Interrelate Evening for Years 3-6
Thursday 27 March in the School Hall

Session 1 “Where did I Come From?” for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 is commences at 6pm sharp.
Session 2 “Preparing for Puberty” for Years 5 & 6 commences at 7.15pm.
Cost $25 for one session and $30 for both sessions per family.

Information notes for the Interrelate evening were sent home last week. Spare notes are available from the school office. Payment can be sent in to school or you can pay at the door on the night.

Reminder - Student Absences
Students are required to bring in an absentee note when they return to school after an absence. Notes are to be given directly to the class teacher.

If students are taking extended leave (more than 20 school days) an ‘Exemption from School’ form must be completed prior to the absence.

Partial absences: Students who are late for school must collect a late note from the office and hand it to their class teacher. Students leaving school early must be signed out by a parent/caregiver or authorised person.
An authorised person is someone who the school has been given permission (by the parent/caregiver) to have contact with the student eg emergency contact person.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions regarding absences please do not hesitate in contacting the school office.

Consent Form for Publication of Students Work, Full Name and /or Photographs
Consent Form for Publication of Students Work, Full Name and /or Photographs have been sent home to parents (light orange note). A number of families have not returned their child/ren's form. If replies are not received it will be assumed you do not want your child’s work, name or photograph used within school activities.

Spare notes are available from the school office.

School Winter Uniforms
It's time to order winter uniforms!
Orders will be accepted up to the last day of this term, Friday April 11. Girl's tunics, girls knee high socks, head-bands, scruchies, boys and girls ties, fleecy jackets, microfiber jackets and pants are all available to order. Orders received after this date cannot be guaranteed to be ready for winter.

Other articles of school uniform eg long sleeved green shirts, boys grey pants and socks are available from Lowes Menswear or we have a good selection of second-hand uniforms available.

For orders placed at school: To get the right size please come to the uniform shop on Monday mornings between 8.30am and 9am and have your child fitted or send your child in at this time for our uniform co-ordinator, Rhiannon to fit them out.
Price list and order forms are available from the uniform shop. Payment is required with all orders.

Taslon Jackets and Pants: We are selling off the last of the taslon jackets and pant (as we have changed to microfiber). Jackets are now $10 and pants are $7 and are available from the uniform shop until sold out.

Thank you
Rhiannon Synott
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

Scholastic Book Club
A huge thank you to Rebecca Anderson who is our new Scholastic Book Club co-ordinator. Brochures will be distributed when the next issue is released. Look out for it in your child’s school bag in the coming weeks.

Lost Property
Our Lost Property Box has a new look and position. We have an orange tub for ‘hard ware’ eg drink bottles and lunch boxes and a blue tub for uniforms. They are located outside the school office on the walkway.

Please come and take a look or encourage your child to look if they have lost anything. Also please label your child’s belongings so they can be returned if lost.

For hygiene reasons un-named ‘hard ware’ will be thrown away if not claimed. Un-named uniforms and clothing that aren’t claimed will be washed and donated to the second-hand uniform pool.

CITYLIFE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
ADHD SUPPORT GROUP
COFFEE AND DROP IN MORNING INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT
For parents, carers and friends of children living with ADHD/ASD and associated disorders. We also support adults diagnosed with these disorders.

Wollongong Catholic Care
Catholic Care Term 2 workshops information is pinned to our Community Noticeboard (outside the front office). Workshop fee: $10. Concessions may apply. Workshops are for parents and children experiencing stress, anxiety, grief and cover a wide range of topics.
New Merit Award System Information

Figtree Heights Public School

Value Merit Awards

How exciting! At Figtree Heights we have revamped our merit awards system. We hope that this rewards system is more significant, student orientated and valuable.

The new merit award system is based on our school’s six core values:

- Care
- Integrity
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Excellence
- Fairness

Throughout the year students have the opportunity to collect these awards when they display acts of value in the classroom, in the playground and at any FHPS event. These awards are instantaneous and have been designed to instil our very important School Values.

These awards accumulate and students have the opportunity to achieve reward levels in the form of a wristband, which they can wear to school with pride.

To achieve a Value Award Wristband, students must have 5 Value Awards and 1 exemplary Behaviour Award. To achieve an exemplary Behaviour Award, students must display exemplary behaviour for a period of 5 weeks. These Behaviour Awards will be given out twice a term, to students who display consistently exemplary behaviour in all aspects of their school life. If a student does not achieve a Behaviour Award in the 5 week period, they are still eligible to receive Value merit awards, just not the Behaviour Award which they need for a wristband. Over the page is a table outlining the required Merit Awards for wristbands.
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<tr>
<th>5 Value Merit Awards + 1 Behaviour Award</th>
<th>= Bronze wristband</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Value Merit Awards + 2 Behaviour Awards</td>
<td>= Silver wristband</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Value Merit Awards + 3 Behaviour Awards</td>
<td>= Gold wristband</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Value Merit Awards + 5 Behaviour Awards</td>
<td>= Emerald “Heights of Excellence” wristband</td>
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With the achievement of levels further special rewards will be obtainable. Students who achieve their Gold wristband will be invited, along with their family, to a morning tea with the Principal. Emerald “Heights of Excellence” wristband recipients will be taken on a special “secret” excursion at the end of the year.

This merit system is for one year. Each year the count is reset and students have the opportunity to strive for the ultimate “Heights of Excellence” Emerald wristband.

To further promote our School Value of Responsibility, students will be accountable for accumulating and ‘cashing’ in their Value Merit Awards. After 5 Value Awards + 1 Behaviour Award students need to present the 6 awards to their class teacher (and for all other wristbands thereafter). Wristbands will be presented at Wednesday afternoon assemblies. Merit Awards obtained will be stored in each student’s classroom. We encourage students to share their success and achievements with parents and family members at home. We also encourage the students to bring their awards back to school for safe keeping and recording.

We look forward to celebrating each student’s success!

FHPS Staff