**Tuesday 29th April  Week 1 Term 2**

**Message from the Principal**

Welcome back! It has been wonderful to see all the smiling faces walking into school this morning, the students seemed quite happy to be back too. It was especially significant for myself, as today is my first official day as Principal of Figtree Heights Public School. At the end of last term I went through a vigorous merit selection process and was notified of my appointment in the last week of term. I am excited for the future of our school and look forward to working with each and every student, parent and teacher to ensure we really do reach “Heights of Excellence”.

I trust all families had a safe and enjoyable break, taking time to relax and unwind over the Easter period. Term 2 brings yet another busy school term with NAPLAN for years 3 and 5 and of course our student reports will be handed out at the end of the term. Parent and teacher interviews will be conducted in the final weeks of the term, teachers will notify parents of available dates once they have been decided.

Over the holidays Mrs Dee Petersen was offered continued work at the University of Wollongong for the remainder of the year in the Education Faculty. Mrs Petersen is working with Pre-service teachers and assisting in the implementation of the new Science curriculum at UOW. We wish her all the best, we are sad that she will not be returning this year, however, it does allow Miss Dejanovic to remain on 3/4D for the remainder of 2014.

A big CONGRATULATIONS to Mr Nielsen and his wife Zoe on their wedding in the school holidays. Mr Nielsen looked smashing in his suit and on behalf of all students, families and teachers we wish them both a lifetime of happiness.

That is all from the Principal’s desk this week.

Skye Hayward
Principal

“'You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.”' Dr Seuss

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**What's Happening at the Heights?**

**This Week:**
- Thurs 1 April
  - District Cross Country Carnival at Kemble Joggers
- Fri 2
  - Gymsport K-2 last session

**Next Week:**
- Mon 5
  - Return Stewart House bags
- Thurs 8
  - Musica Viva 12pm -1pm

**Reminders**
- District Cross Country – selected students $10
  - Due now
- Musica viva- whole school activity $
  - Due now

**Happy Birthday to the following students:**
- Maddi L, Ava G, Connor B, Joshua H, Fatoum M, Anastasia T & Molly W
Musica Viva Information
Figtree Heights will be hosting “JACANA” on Thursday 8th May, 11:30 – 12:30 in our School Hall for the performance “Sounds of the Australian Spirit” the cost will be $6 per student.

District Cross Country
We wish all our students competing in the District cross country carnival this Thursday, the best of luck. Representing our school at a Central Wollongong carnival is a great achievement and you should all be proud of yourselves for making it this far. All the best!

Figtree Heights Public School
Kindergarten 2015

We have begun our enrolment process for Kindergarten 2015.

‘In-Area’ families with children who will be starting school in 2015 please collect, complete and return an Expression of Interest form from the school office.

‘Out-of Area’ families who have children already attending Figtree Heights and have a kindergarten child wishing to start in 2015, please collect, complete and return an Expression of Interest form from the school office.

It is important the school receives enrolment information as soon as possible.

If you have already handed in the above forms, thank you, you do not need to do it again.

If you know new families in our school area who have children ready to start in 2015 could you pass on this information (or slip this message in their letter box).

The school office has the list of streets that make up our area. Families who are unsure if they are ‘in-area’ can phone, email or call into the school office for more information.

Ph: 4228 6555
E: figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Thank you for your assistance.

Winter Uniform Change-over

Week 3 will begin the 2 week changeover period for our winter school uniform. For those parents new to the school we have a 2 week period where students can wear either winter or summer uniform to school, ready for full winter uniform at the beginning of week 5. Please place orders at our uniform shop to ensure Rhiannon has time to order uniforms.

Focus on Reading

This term our school will be implementing the program “Focus on Reading” in our year 2-6 classrooms. This program complements the L3 instruction our kinder and year 1 classes are currently implementing.

Teachers K-6 will be involved in professional development activities throughout the year and we are looking forward to welcoming this reading initiative to our school.

BRONZE Value Wristband Awardees

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving their bronze wristband this Wednesday at morning assembly. WELL DONE!

Primary Ethics
Primary Ethics provides the opportunity for NSW public primary school students who don’t attend scripture classes (SRE) to participate in philosophical ethics classes. We need new volunteers to teach Years 1&2, 3&4, 5&6 ethics classes starting in Term 2. The classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgment, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives.
Volunteer Ethics Teachers are trained by Primary Ethics to deliver our age-appropriate curriculum every week and to use the accompanying learning and teaching materials. Learn more and apply online www.primaryethics.com.au or contact Amanda Bowen, Ethics Coordinator, at email: figtreeheightspsethics@outlook.com or ph: 0404 492 828

School Photo Day
May 29th
Accompanying today’s newsletter is student’s school photo packs. Please follow the instructions on the envelopes. Envelopes can be returned with payment prior to photo day or sent in on the day. Students are to be in full winter school uniform on photo day.

Canteen News:

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<th>Mon, Wed &amp; Fri</th>
<th>open for recess and lunch</th>
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<td>Tues &amp; Thurs</td>
<td>open for lunchtime snacks only</td>
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| Tue     | Diana Mitrevski & Allison McKenzie |
| Wed     | Tracy Ellem & Stuart Wilkinson |
| Thurs   | Denise De Martin & Brooke Kiley |
| Fri     | Anne McKay, Kerry Hatchman, Amanda Taylor, Rebecca Anderson & Cathy Badans |
| Mon     | Carmen Lemmon & Jennifer Harvey |

Pizza Meal Deal every Monday
Pizza & Milk drink $2.50 or Pizza & other drink $3.50

WANTED! Boxes of Tissues
We are coming into our sneezing season. Teachers would appreciate if students could donate a box of tissues to assist with the high demand. Boxes of tissues can be dropped off at the school office or handed in to the class teacher.
Thank you for your anticipated donation!
# Term 2 Planner – 2014

**FIGTREE HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**UNIFORM POOL OPEN** – Monday 8:45am – 9:15 am

**School Security 1300 880 021**

Dates are subject to change please check your weekly Community Newsletter.

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<th>Monday</th>
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<td>WK 1</td>
<td>28 Staff Development Day</td>
<td>29 Return day for students</td>
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<td>1 District Cross Country Carnival</td>
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<td>April/May</td>
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<td>12 NAPLAN Yrs 3 &amp; 5 Writing Language Convention</td>
<td>13 NAPLAN Yrs 3 &amp; 5 Reading</td>
<td>14 Assembly 1W</td>
<td>15 NAPLAN Yrs 3 &amp; 5 Numeracy</td>
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<td>WK 4</td>
<td>19 School Athletic Carnival, Beaton Park</td>
<td>20 Junior band Camp</td>
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<td>27 School Photo Day</td>
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Musica Viva Performance

By: JACANA

‘Sounds of the Australian Spirit’
Thursday 8th May
11:30 – 12:30
In our School Hall

Dear Parents/Students,

Jacana is a contemporary classical music ensemble of four imaginative musicians. They work across the country in a wide variety of groups as both performers and directors.

All classes have been listening to their music at school and learning new ways of expressing how music makes us feel. We have been using creative movement and percussion to help us understand some musical concepts.

The cost of the show is $8.50 per student however the School P&C is again subsidising this amount so that students pay only $6.

Parents are more than welcome to attend the performance at no additional cost.

Please complete the permission note below and return to the school with the amount of $6 as soon as possible.

This is an important part of Figtree Heights Creative and Performing Arts Program so it would be great to see all students attend.

Musically yours

Greg Costello

I give permission for my child/ren ________________________________ of class/es ___________ to attend the Musica Viva performance on Thursday 8th May at 11:30am

I enclose $6 per child

Name: ________________________________

Signed: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________