Monday 4th August
Week 4 Term 3

Message from the Principal

Bookcation Extravaganza
“Bookcation Week” is coming up in Week 6. To make an event to be remembered, filled with exciting activities, we have combined Book Week and Education Week to create a “Bookcation” extravaganza. This week will see open classrooms, a book parade, Doing Things Together activities, Aboriginal cultural activities, fruit and veg activities and even the opportunity for one of our senior student to be Principal for a day. Please see the office if you require more information on this extravaganza.

P&C Meeting POSTPONED
Due to many executive members of the P&C being unavailable for this Wednesday’s meeting it has been decided to re-schedule for next week, Wednesday 13th August. At this meeting we will be discussing the results of the canteen survey, finalising the uniform room organisation, discussing the new 3D printer, selecting a strategic planning team, nominating an enrolment panel, updating Village Fair progress, touching on the upcoming Movie Night and discussing general business. If you have interest in any of these areas or would just like to come and be part of the team making decisions for your child’s education you would be welcomed with open arms. It is a great night to come and meet other parents and teachers and of course there is FREE child minding!

What is NEW?
* Currently our Stage 1 classes are involved in some “inquiry based learning” activities and working on proposals for our school playground. Students are investigating, researching and making proposals for what they think would make great additions to our “plascape” vision.
* Classes are getting on board with the web tool “blog-ed”. This is a forum students can access through their DEC portal and communicate with their classmates on aspects of their learning. It is an exciting way to give and receive feedback, one which the students are actively engaged in.
* The 3D printer has been a wonderful addition to our school. Students have been given the opportunity to design and print some very creative items. They are loving this experience.

That is all from me this week!

Kind regards Skye Hayward

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**BRONZE Value Wristband Awardees**

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving their BRONZE award

1/2M: Anastasia Popovska, Alex Ladmore, Toby Jones
3/4D: Ziggy Badans, Kristiana Brugnera
5/6T: Mitchell Garland  Well Done to these students!

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**SILVER Value Wristband Awardees**

Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving their SILVER wristband.

5/6T: Sam Taafe, Noah Grant  AN INCREDIBLE ACHIEVEMENT!
Focus on Reading (FoR)

Third Strategy PREDICTING
Predicting is a useful reading strategy as it assists readers to think about what is to be expected next. When we predict prior knowledge plays a big part.

What is PRIOR KNOWLEDGE?
Pre-existing knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and experiences all add to a student's prior knowledge. Parents heavily contribute to their child's prior knowledge through the experiences they provide and the stories/knowledge they tell.

At FHPS our students have an abundance of prior knowledge, we as teachers' thank you for that!

How you can help at home... strategies to assist, engage and support the PREDICTING strategy
Predicting is not ONLY about what happens next. Students need to give a justification and supporting evidence of their prediction. Drawing on prior knowledge, looking for clues within the text or illustrations, knowing the author's style or summary of the book all assist this.

Some questions that you can use as prompts:
I think the text/book/story/movie/show will be about ____________ because ____________
I predict ____________ will happen next because ____________
From what I have read so far, I predict that ____________ because ____________
The picture makes me think that ____________
The style of this author is ____________ so I think ____________

If you have any questions about the program or strategy please contact me at school or email sarah.thurston@det.nsw.edu.au

Focus on Reading FHPS School Leader
Sarah Thurston

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Library News
Premiers Reading Challenge 2014
Congratulations to the following students for completing this year’s Premiers Reading Challenge!
Year 1
Khye Forrester
Anastasia Popovski
Year 2
Georgia Baulch
Nathanael Dums
Chase Grant
Year 3
Eve Christensen
Abigail Jones
Year 4
Harmonie Baker-Werth
Breanna Luke
Nathan Mitrevski
Year 5
Paige Gibson

Please Note: Students must complete their online Student Reading Records by 22 August (11:59pm).

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Bookweek Week 6
16th - 22nd August
Watch out for more info soon!

Book Covering

We have some books that need covering. Contact and instructions on how to cover the books is available from the office. If you have some spare time please collect the books from the school office.

What a STAR!
Congratulations to Ally Luke who successfully performed this weekend at Wollongong Song and Dance Festival receiving: 1st in 8UR Contemporary and GUR Broadway Jazz, 2nd in Top Duo, 3rd GUR Ballet and Highly Commended in GUR Modern.

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Kindergarten 2015
Figtree Heights Public School is accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2015. Contact the school to receive an 'in-area' or 'out-of-area' Expression of Interest form. Please pass this information on to neighbouring families. We require some volunteers to do a letter-drop to local families. Please let the office know if you are able to assist.
Ph: 4228 6555  E: figtreehts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthdays this week.....
Lathan Cole & Layal Sawan

Primary Ethics
Exciting news that Ethics has begun at Figtree Heights Public School! Kindergarten students have commenced Ethics classes during SRE time with their teacher Mrs Davey. At Figtree Heights, we require 3 more teachers who are willing to volunteer their time to teach the students from years 1-6. It would be fantastic to fill the positions with grandparents, parents, auntsies, uncles or carers from the Figtree Heights community. For more information, please see the Primary Ethics website or contact Amanda Bowen.
primaryethics.com.au OR figtreeheights@outlook.com

Tea-towel Fundraiser Update:
The approx. date for the delivery of our school tea-towels is early September. We are looking forward to seeing how our whole school looks!

Make it Easy
Children (and adults) are more likely to eat healthy snacks if it is made easy for them.
Try cutting up some fruit and putting it in the fridge for when the kids come home.
If it’s easy to grab they are more likely to eat it.

Canteen News:

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<tr>
<td>Mon, Wed &amp; Fri – open for recess and lunch</td>
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<td>Tues &amp; Thurs – open for lunchtime snacks only</td>
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Please note:
Cheese Triangles have increased to 30c
Meatpies have increased to $2.50
Traditional Pizzas have been replaced by Pizza Roundas - Pizza flavour by Ingham

HELP NEEDED!
We are in desperate need for some volunteers for a letter box drop around houses in our area. If you can help in any way please come see the front office ASAP.

Useful Information
To download our school phone app go to the App Store on iTunes (Google Play for Android users), search for Figtree Heights and simply download. Username: community Password: figtreeheights
Please make sure you allow notifications from Figtree Heights in your phone’s control settings.

$50 Voluntary School Contribution: P & C account, BSB: 062644 Account No: 00800425

Uniform Shop is open Monday mornings from 8.30am – 9am for sales and fittings. Orders with payment can be dropped into the office anytime and will be completed by the uniform co-ordinator the following Monday.