



# Fernleigh Public School

## NEWSLETTER

451 Fernleigh Road, Fernleigh NSW 2479 t 02 6687 8267 e fernleigh-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 Week 6

7 March 2024

### SCCoSS General Knowledge Day

Exciting news! A group of nine students travelled to Cabbage Tree Island School Public School today to participate in the SCCoSS General Knowledge Trivia day, and we are so excited to share that our senior team secured the trophy! A big congratulations to our enthusiastic students for their outstanding achievement. We are so proud of all of the students who attended and did so well. A big thank you goes to Miss Munro and Fabia for driving the students to the event and being their cheer squad.



### Congratulations to our Swimming Relay team!

Our P5 Relay Team are continuing their success after winning at the Far North Coast PSSA Swimming carnival last Wednesday. They will now be competing at The Regionals in Casino for the chance to compete at Sydney.



## What's Happening

When	What
Every Tuesday	Library day for all year groups
Tuesday 12 March	Byron Bay High School information visit for Years 5 and 6
Wednesday 13 to Friday 22 March	Years 3 and 5 - Naplan
Monday 18 March to Friday 22 March	Whole School - School Swimming and Water Safety Program
Tuesday 19 March	BBHS Information Evening @ 5.30pm
Tuesday 19 March	Sushi Orders due for Thursday
Wednesday 20 March	Regional Swimming in Casino
Thursday 21 March	Afternoon Tea Playground Opening All Parents/Carers welcome
Thursday 21 March	Street Sushi Day
Friday 22 March	BBHS Year 7 2025 Taster Lessons
Wednesday 27 March	P&C Bake Sale
Wednesday 27 March	Easter Raffle is being drawn
Friday 29 March to Monday 1 April	Easter Long Weekend
Thursday 4 April	Pie day (in place of Sushi today)
Friday 12 April	Last day of Term 1
Monday 29 April	School Staff Development Day
Tuesday 30 April	First day of Term 2 for all students

*Together We Grow 'Stronger and Smarter'*

### Change of Date - Afternoon Tea and Playground Opening

Due to an unforeseen delay in completing our playground, we regret to inform you that we have had to postpone our School Community Afternoon tea and Playground Opening. **The new date is now Thursday 21 March from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.** We hope you all can still make it.

### School Water Safety Program

Our annual Water Safety program will start on Monday 18 March and go until Friday 22 March. The School Swimming and Water Safety Program is a program that develops water confidence and provides students with basic skills in water safety and survival. The program is conducted over five days. Each daily lesson is 50 minutes. All students will receive a permission note with more information on it with this newsletter.

### The Yarning Circle

The addition of our Yarning Circle, has become a very special space for heartfelt conversations and shared stories among our students. It warms our hearts to witness the use of this special gathering place, where students engage in meaningful discussions and play. We are so pleased to see the positive impact our Yarning Circle has on nurturing a supportive and inclusive atmosphere in our school.



### Moreton Island Excursion

We are in the process of organising this years overnight excursion for Years 1 to 6 to Moreton Island, staying at the amazing Tangalooma Island Resort.

The overnight excursion will include a bus trip to Brisbane followed by a passenger ferry ride to Moreton Island, three days of activities and two nights accommodation. The students will participate in a wide variety of engaging tours, walks and presentations by the knowledgeable Eco Rangers. For a sneak peak go to [Moreton Island](#).

The approximate cost of the excursion will be between \$250 and \$300 per student. This excursion is being heavily subsidised by the school and P&C fundraising.

At this stage Mrs Reid, Mrs Gillott, Miss Ruby and Miss Munro will be supervising the excursion.

All students received an 'Expression of Interest' note last week, **please return the signed permission slip by Thursday 14 March** indicating if you would consider sending your child/ren on this excursion.



### P&C Bake Sale @ Newrybar Market Wednesday 27 March

We will continue with our famous P&C Bake Sale at the Newrybar Eats and Produce Markets once a term this year. The next one will be Wednesday 27 March, just prior to the Easter weekend. If you are able to contribute cakes, biscuits and/or slices please drop them to the school the day of the bake sale or take them along to the stall between 2pm and 3pm. If you would like to help at the market please see Fabia or Bec at school.

### P&C Easter Raffle

This week, each student has been given a raffle book, and we're seeking your support in selling these tickets. By reaching out to your family, friends, and neighbours, you play a crucial role in helping our P&C fundraise for this year's Tangelooma Island excursion. The raffle draw will take place at the Newrybar Market on Wednesday 27 March at the Bake Stall. Your assistance in selling these tickets will directly contribute to lowering the overall cost of the excursion for each student. We appreciate your continued support and active involvement in our school community.

### Sushi Thursdays

Our Sushi Day has become a favourite among our students and staff. With the positive feedback from both students and their parents, we will continue fortnightly for now. The next Sushi Thursday will be 21 March. All orders are to be in on Tuesday 19 March. If we do not receive an order on the Tuesday prior to Sushi day we will



assume you do not wish to place an order. Thank you for your help in getting orders back to school on time.

### NAPLAN

Students in **Years 3 and 5** will be participating in NAPLAN tests next week, starting on Wednesday 13 March. The four NAPLAN tests consist of - writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

All schools in NSW undertake NAPLAN online. However, Year 3 students do the writing test on paper. Our teachers will ensure students are familiar with the format of the tests before they begin the NAPLAN test.

Years 3 and 5 students will receive more information with this newsletter.



## Succulents

In a celebration of nature and hands-on learning, our students have enthusiastically begun a fascinating journey of succulent propagation. Equipped with pots, soil and curiosity, our budding gardeners have delved into the art of cultivating succulents from the ground up. The succulent propagation project is not just about plants; it's about cultivating a love for learning, nurturing creativity, and sowing the seeds of a brighter, greener future. Stay tuned for updates on our flourishing succulents and the lessons it brings to our school community! You might even see some on our school stall for sale.





## Attendance and Compulsory schooling

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### *Working in Partnership*

Next week we will be having a visit from our local HSLO (Home School Liaison Officer) who will be looking at our attendance data. Our HSLO works in partnership with you and your child's school to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities. The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

### *What are my Legal responsibilities?*

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. Children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### *The Importance of arriving on time*

Arriving at school and class on time

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption.

### *What if my child has to be away from school?*

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday.
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral).

Following an absence from school you must ensure that you respond to the text message that is sent to you from our attendance system within 7 days of receiving it. Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long-term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child.

### Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

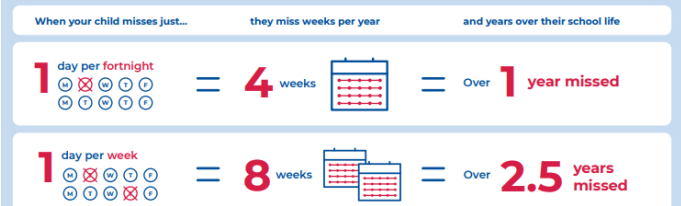


**Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.**

education.nsw.gov.au

### Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



education.nsw.gov.au



*Our school will be transitioning to an upgraded School Bytes finance system next Tuesday 12 March 2024!*

In preparation for the transition to a simplified finance system for both you and the school, we are required to implement a short payment lockout period where we will not be able to receive any payments.

***What this means for you***

- No payments can be made online from 9am, Tuesday 5 March 20 2024.
- We will advise you when payments can resume.
- Any existing payment links that have been sent to you previously in emails can still be used after the transition and will automatically redirect to the new system.
- We recommend you download the School Bytes Parent App from the 'App Store' or 'Google Play' where you will be able to save your card details to make a secure payment for school excursions, etc.
- All previous payments made will be migrated to the new School Bytes finance system and portal.
- Moving forward, when making a payment online, you will be redirected to a Service NSW page to complete an online payment. This is the new payment platform for online as directed by the NSW Department of Education.
- Payments made online will display as OSCHOOLSONLINE 0000 PARRAMATTA AUS on your bank statements moving forward.

***What is the School Bytes portal***

The School Bytes portal provides flexibility for you to conveniently:

- Make school payments online (including paying for multiple siblings at once)
- Use a family credit to pay for excursion, uniforms, etc.
- Download a receipt for payments made
- View all historical payments in one place
- Complete and submit digital permission notes
- View the status of all permission notes
- Request a refund if required

This can be done where you want at any time: day or night.

Through the portal, you will easily be able to download a receipt once a payment has been made and have access to view all historical payments when needed. Online payments are processed in real-time and can be viewed by school staff immediately.

While our preference is for payments to be made via the portal, we will still accept payment via cash if you do not have a credit card available.



**Byron Bay  
High School**



# **YEAR 7 2025 INFORMATION EVENING**

**Come along and find out more  
about our great school!**



This information night is for families with children moving into Year 7 in 2025. Other families wishing to find out more about Byron Bay High School are also welcome to attend.

**NO RSVP REQUIRED –  
SIMPLY COME ALONG!**

**Tuesday 19 March  
5:30 – 7:00 pm**

For more information contact :

02 6685 8188



byronbay-  
h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

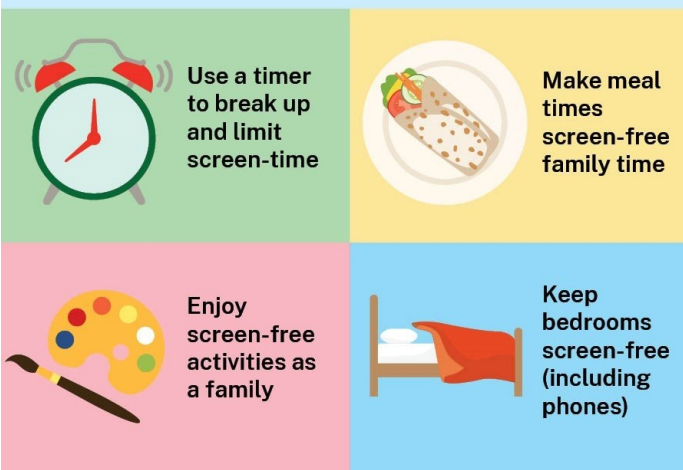




## Healthy Eating Active Living

We often get resources emailed to us from the NSW Health Department. These aim to inform parents and carers about healthy lifestyle ideas. Take a look below for some fun ideas to help manage your family's screen time and have fun time together.

### Tips to help manage your family's screen time



Healthy Eating  
Active Living



### A healthier lunchbox can help your child go, grow and glow



Healthy Eating  
Active Living



### Water has lots of benefits



Healthy Eating  
Active Living



Scootering



Gardening



Ball sports



Rollerskating

**Fun family activities**



Bushwalking



Hula hooping



Skipping



Dog walking

Healthy Eating  
Active Living

