

NEWSLETTER FERNLEIGH PUBLIC SCHOOL

30th March, 2015

Term 1 – Week 10

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Dates to Remember in 2015



Term 1

APRIL

- 1st Food Day
- 2nd Harmony Day-
3-6 Bake off
- 2nd **Last Day Term 1**
- 3rd **Good Friday Holiday**

TERM 2

- 20th **Staff Development**
- 21st **Students Return**
- 29th School Photos

MAY

- 21st Bravehearts

Student Banking –
Wednesday/Friday

Munch and Sip - Every
Day

Office Days – Monday,
Wednesday, Friday.

**Dates and times may
Change**

BELL TIMES

- 9.30am - Class
- 10.30am - Fruit break
- 11.40am–12.25am Lunch
- 2pm – 2.30pm Afternoon
Tea
- 3.30pm Home



Dear Parents,

What a busy last 2 weeks we have had, and there is quite a lot contained in this newsletter....

Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to the many parents who baked/cooked, organised, bought, or all of the 'above', for the **P&C stall** last Saturday. A huge thank you to Sarah, and her mum, Heidi (and Ryder) and Hayley (and Ruby) who assisted on the stall and undertook much organisation for the morning (and into the afternoon). Also, we would like to thank Marlow (new student) who also assisted. Welcome Marlow.

A number of sausages, cakes and slices were left over after the stall and we intend to hold our **Term 1 School**

Food Day this Wednesday, so there will be a sausage sizzle available for lunch this Wednesday. **Attached to this newsletter is a brown paper bag. If you would like your child to participate in the lunch order this week, the available items are listed. Please write your child's name on the bag, tick the appropriate items to order, and return to school by Wednesday morning at the latest, along with the money.** Normally we have more choice, but need to use up some of the remaining P&C food from the weekend. Proceeds will go to the P&C. **We will require parental help in organizing the lunch bags by 11:40am.** I'll ask Don to cook the sausages for lunch so they will be ready for the orders. Please speak with me if you can help.

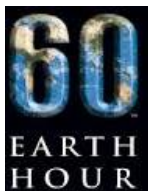
Last Friday saw us 'running the race' at the **Small School's Cross Country**. While the weather was once again rather hot, I feel quite confident in saying that if there was a prize for cheering others on, our students would win hands down. Their enthusiasm for helping each other to do their best is never failing. Great work everyone. What a team! Thanks to the many parents who were able to attend here too.



Our early **end of term assembly**, which we held last Thursday, was well represented with parents and grandparents. Thank you all so much for coming. Our children always like to display their talents, or some new things they have learned about, or to do. It was so delightful to see our children show their musical talents as well, and how wonderful it is to have Mr Nolan's expertise in this area.

Just over a week ago our school capably represented us at the **Small Schools' General Knowledge Day** held at Ballina Public School. While the questions were tough, our students behaved beautifully, worked together well and tried their best to answer the questions. I can't ask any more than that! I am always so proud of them. Well done everyone!

As part of **Earth Hour** (held on the weekend just passed), Fernleigh PS will be holding our own 1 hour of no electricity usage today. Children will have some of the reasons for this explained as part of our understanding of environmental sustainability.



Thank you also to the many parents who have paid their **voluntary contributions** for 2015. This helps us in organizing learning materials and online programs such as Reading Eggs and Maths Online for your child. If you have not yet done so, it would be much appreciated if this could be paid as soon as possible.



March 21 also saw **Harmony Day** and we have deliberately held off on this celebration due to the large number of 'other events' that have been held lately. Although the children performed our 'harmony song,' 'I am children of the World' beautifully at the assembly last week, it is time for us to be a little more deliberate. So there is now a double activity day planned for **This Thursday**.

On the last day of school (Thursday this week) we ask that students come dressed in a **multicultural dress** of their choice. Along with their outfit (choice of country) we ask that your child come prepared to share **at least one fact about that country**. A simple sentence would suffice for K-2, but Years 3-6 should be prepared to share information such as **population, geographical location and at least one fact of interest**. K-2 could choose to share this too, if they wish. (There is no other homework this week – generally not given in the last week of term.)

On the same day (Thursday) our 3-6 students will be holding a **multicultural bake off**. This is a Senior Student Fund Raising Initiative. Separate information about this for the 3-6 group will also come home today.



No nuts will be permitted in the recipes. We hope to share the bake off with ALL STUDENTS, including K-2. If your child has any allergies that might be in the cakes, biscuits, muffins, slices or treats (aiming to be multicultural), then please inform the school immediately. **The 'treats' will be sold for 50c each at Recess**. If there are any parents who would like to help with supervising the bake off, and you can spare some time on Thursday morning, please inform me asap.

This week, as part of our Work Health And Safety requirements, the school will be conducting an **evacuation practice**. All children will be required to follow teacher directions for a quick and safe evacuation drill.

Next term, our school will be increasing its health practices through a more rigorous **hand washing** routine. This will involve children washing their hands more routinely and deliberately – prior to entering the classroom and just after leaving the classroom for eating times. **Should you require special hand washing material for your child, please provide it to the school this week. It will be named and stored for your child's use only.**



Attached to this newsletter is a **survey** that the school requires for our 2014 **Annual School Report (due soon)**. If your child attended Fernleigh PS in 2014 I would ask you to take a moment and fill in this form and return it to school tomorrow. I hope to tally these forms on Wednesday for the final data collection and to inform the planning process for school improvement.

It has come to my attention that we need to remind parents of **safe collection and drop off procedures for their children**. I have been advised that it is a finable offence to park near the main school gate to collect or drop off your child. (We are currently organising to get new signs as the old ones are either rusted or completely unreadable.)

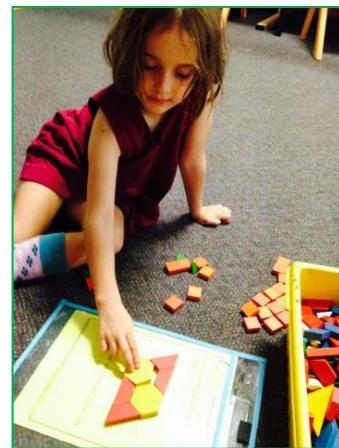
While our new flashing light system reminds us to take care when approaching the school, we need to rethink where parents drop their children off and collect them at the end of the day. As a result I have asked Don to fix the **double gate near the garden and just before the produce shed**,



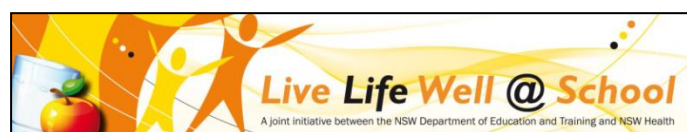
in the holidays. Next term we would like all parents to use either that gate, **or the one to the office building. Cars must be parked in the off street lane area that is provided, and not pull up near the main gate.** Children can walk with their parents, either through the double gate, or the 'office' gate, depending on where you park. Our children will be informed of this new drop off and collection rule. As this is for their safety, Don and I will be looking at some type of pathway or stepping stones to the double gate. Any suggestions from parents welcome here.

We trust you will all have a safe and happy holiday. We look forward to seeing you all next term when school returns on Tuesday, 21st April.

Dawn Douglas
Principal



Measuring volume



WHY DON'T WE SELL SOFT DRINKS?

In Australia, children are consuming too many sugar-sweetened drinks, which are high in kilojoules and low in nutrients. "One in five (21.2%) 2 – 15 year olds drink at least six cups of sugar sweetened drink a day according to "The Health of Children and Young People in NSW" Report of the Chief Health Officer 2014. Some are having more than 11 cups or 176 gr sugar a day. Since 2007, the Sugar-Sweetened Drinks Ban has been in place in all NSW schools.

This ban applies to soft drinks, energy drinks, fruit drinks, flavoured mineral water, sports drinks, cordials and iced teas.


Be sure to try some of the nutritious and tasty drink options at the canteen instead, or go for the best of all: water.

**ThemeParks.com.au
Ticket Sale**



Village Roadshow Theme Parks is offering our school community a limited time ticket offer. Simply visit ThemeParks.com.au/promocode and enter our promocode "CPC014" to gain access to these ticket offers.

*Terms & conditions apply, offer valid for a limited time.





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for future reference.



**SUGAR SWEETENED DRINK BAN
FOR NSW SCHOOLS**



Cross Country held at Teven last Friday. Well done to all students for participation and for all the cheering – some on the verge of losing their voices!



Debating years 3-6



WHATS HAPPENING AROUND US

Ballina Girl Guides meet each Monday night from 5.30pm through to 7pm. We meet during the school term and break during the school holidays.

Ballina Guides are inviting girls from 5yrs of age through to 14yrs to join us at our hall in Swift St Ballina.

Guides enjoy cooking, craft, games, badges, camping and meeting lots of new friends, come along for a few nights free to see if you enjoy the experience.

We are also looking for adult leaders to assist us in making guiding a very enjoyable experience for the girls.

If you are interested either turn up at the hall on a Monday night and introduce yourself to us, you will be welcomed by the girls and the leaders or contact Gwen Balchin, District Manager on 0404256827.

LOST

After a recent celebration a bag containing a pair of girl's blue/white swimmers and a white/red rashie went missing. If you have seen or picked up this bag by mistake could you please return to school. Thank you.