



Fernleigh Public School

NEWSLETTER

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Term 1 Week 11

10 April 2025

Relay Swimming Team Heads to State Swimming - Congratulations!

Our Relay Swimming Team has once again made it through to the NSW PSSA Swimming Championships in Sydney this Friday! A huge congratulations to Alex, Caleb, Juniper and Lolly for their incredible effort and dedication in securing their spot at this prestigious event.

These four swimmers showed incredible teamwork and spirit, securing their spot in the State event. Their determination and support for each other in the pool is truly inspiring! We couldn't be more proud of them for earning a place at the State level.

A huge thank you to Alex's, Caleb's, Juniper's and Lolly's families for going above and beyond to support their children. From transporting them to training sessions to getting them to all the carnivals, your commitment and effort have played a huge role in their success.

We wish Alex, Caleb, Juniper and Lolly all the best this Friday. We know they will represent our school with pride and we can't wait to cheer them on. Go team!



What's Happening

When	What
Every Tuesday	Library (Bring your library bag)
Friday 11 April	NSW PSSA Swimming Championships in Sydney
Friday 11 April	Last day of Term 1
Friday 25 April	ANZAC March in Ballina (10am)
Monday 28 April and Tuesday 29 April	School Development Days for Staff only
Wednesday 30 April	All Students First Day Term 2
Friday 2 May	Cross Country at Teven Tintenbar Public School
Saturday 3 May	Election Day Bake Sale- Newrybar Hall
Tuesday 6 May	School Photos
Tuesday 13 May	Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary excursion
Thursday 15 May	Kindergarten 2026 Information session @ 10am
Friday 16 May	Grip Leadership Conference in Lismore (Years 5 and 6)
Friday 16 May	District Cross Country
Tuesday 27 May	Spelling Bee
Friday 30 May	FNC Cross Country
Thursday 5 June and Friday 6 June	Students day off in lieu of extended hours
Monday 9 June	Kings birthday public holiday
Friday 13 June	NC Cross Country
Friday 4 July	Last day of Term 2

General Knowledge Day Champions Again!

Eight of our Year 5 and 6 students travelled to Cabbage Tree Island Public School to participate in the SCCoSS General Knowledge Day on Wednesday, and we are so excited to announce that they won for the second year running! A huge congratulations to our enthusiastic students for their outstanding achievement – we are so proud of all of you!

A special thank you goes to Mrs. Reid and Fabia for driving the students to the event and being their biggest cheerleaders!



2025 ANZAC Day March in Ballina

This year, our school will be attending the ANZAC March in Ballina on Friday 25 April to acknowledge and remember the service and sacrifice of our veterans and serving personnel. As ANZAC day falls in the holidays, we understand that many families may be away at this time, so participation is entirely optional.

A reminder will be sent out via text the day before the march, to ensure everyone has the details.

- Students are to wear their school uniform.
- Meet at the corner of River and Martin Streets (between the Slipway Hotel and the Court House) at 10am
- The March will step off at 10.30am sharp.
- Students, parents and siblings are all welcome to March with our School group. Ms Munro will be supervising students on the day.
- The March will conclude at RSL Memorial Park (1 Grant Street), where the Commemoration Service will begin at approx. 10.55am.
- The March will still go ahead if it is raining.
- There will be independent photographers and TV news crews attending the ANZAC Day events. There is a possibility that participants will appear in photographs or video footage.



Cross Country

It is that time again where Mrs G goes Cross Country crazy, and the students are training for the upcoming Small School Cross Country in Term 2. If weather permits, students will continue to train every afternoon before pick up time. Please ensure students have suitable runners with grip to keep their feet safe.

The Cross Country Carnival will take place at Teven Tintenbar Public School on Friday 2 May, from 9.30am to 1.30pm. Parents and carers are asked to drop off and pick up students directly from the event. If you're unable to arrange transport for your child, please get in touch with Mrs Dunbar-Reid. Families are invited to stay and cheer on the runners! For further details, please refer to the permission note emailed to families on 2 April.

Support Our School Election Day Bake Sale at Newrybar Hall – Saturday 3 May!

On Saturday 3 May, voting will be taking place at Newrybar Hall. Our P&C will be having a Bake Sale on the day from 9am to 12 pm (maybe longer if we still have items to sell) to raise funds for the school. We are requesting that anyone who is willing and able to make some cakes/sweet treats to be sold at our bake sale, please deliver them to the Newrybar Hall on Saturday morning. Alternatively, if you are unable to deliver them to the hall on Saturday, give them to Fabia on the Friday at the Cross Country.

We are also requesting any parents who are able to help out on the Saturday to man the stall for an hour or two, that would be SO helpful! Please see Fabia or Bec at the school gate, before or after school prior to the day, and let them know you are available.

Thank you all in advance!!

Uniforms in Stock

With the cooler weather arriving soon, we've got everything your child needs to stay warm and cozy! Our school jumpers, vests, and track pants are now in stock. Here's why you'll love them:

- **Great Value—Sold at cost price**
- **School-Approved**
- **Durable and long lasting**
- **Super Comfy**
- **UPF Rated & Anti-Pill**
- **Name Tag Included**

Pick up from the office Tuesday to Thursday, or email your order, and we'll send it home with your child.

School Holiday Fun

The Ballina Coast & Hinterland is bursting with fun these school holidays – from wild adventures to creative workshops, there's always something fresh and exciting to keep the kids busy. Make sure to visit the Ballina Tourism Teams [What's On calendar](#) for your go-to daily inspiration – packed with kid-friendly events and updated regularly with new activities. Check back often so you don't miss a thing!

Download the [School Holiday Activity Sheet](#) for a fridge-friendly version. The condensed activity sheet is perfect for planning and pinning up at home for an overview but make sure to check the calendar regularly for updates and

Turtles Classroom

A World of Art

This term, the Turtles class has been busy exploring a range of exciting art concepts and discovering the works of iconic artists like Picasso and Andy Goldsworthy. We've delved into their unique styles and learned how their art has influenced not only the art world but also the world around us.

The Turtles had a blast experimenting with Picasso's abstract techniques, creating funky fish using fun shapes and warm colours. They were also inspired by Andy Goldsworthy to venture outdoors and create their own nature-based sculptures using materials like leaves, rocks and sticks.

Through these hands-on projects, the Turtles have developed a deeper appreciation for art, learning how it can express ideas, tell stories and connect to the world in creative ways.





Looking ahead, our next project will focus on recycled art. After reading *Bungara's Big Bush Clean Up* by Sally Morgan in our literacy unit, the Turtles learned about the impact of rubbish on the environment and the importance of cleaning up after ourselves. They're excited to get creative with recycled materials, experimenting with new ways to repurpose them into art and functional pieces.

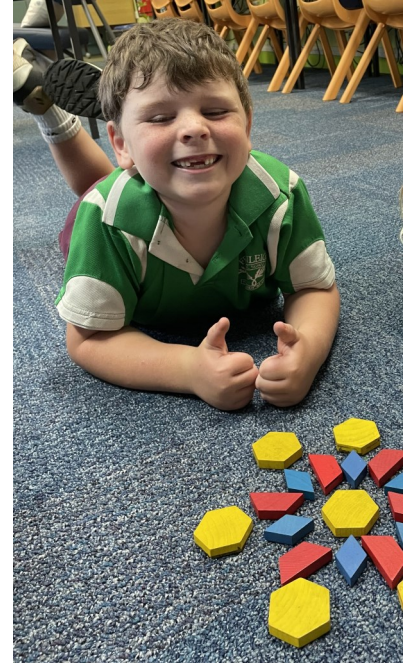
Exploring Literacy with Multimodal Texts and Quokkas!

In literacy we have been learning a range of text styles including multimodal texts. Our favourite text this term has been 'A is for Australia' written by Frané Lessac. We learnt so many cool facts about Australian animals and learnt where they all lived. We then made our own multimodal text about the cutest critters there are - Quokkas!



Learning About Patterns, Symmetry and Mandalas!

In class, students have been learning about patterns and symmetry, exploring where they appear in the real world. They also studied mandalas and their symmetrical designs and challenged themselves with pattern blocks to apply their symmetry skills. It was a fun challenge!



Talk Time and History Lessons

We have continued our focus on family for the term in our talk time and history and have had some incredibly delicious recipes shared that are special to different students and their families. Below is a picture of Ilithya, who shared her delicious brownie recipe with us. We hope the Turtles class members and their families have enjoyed the recipes coming home. Pippi, also shared some special news about her favourite furry family members. It's been a lovely time of sharing stories and treats with everyone!



Whales Classroom

In HSIE, we have been learning about the First Fleet and Australia's Federation. We explored why the First Fleet came to Australia, what life was like for the convicts and Indigenous people and how these events shaped our history. We also studied how Australia became a nation through Federation in 1901, and why this was such an important moment for the country. As a fun activity, we conducted independent research on the movers and shakers of Federation. We then presented our findings creatively by designing a deck of cards, with each card highlighting an important person and their contributions to the formation of the Australian nation. We also played a game of Federation Guess Who!



As part of our art unit, the class created their own versions of the famous *Starry Night* painting. Students thoroughly enjoyed the creative - but sometimes tedious - process of layering oil pastels, adding details with markers, and using blotch painting techniques with food dye to bring their masterpieces to life. The end results were vibrant, expressive and a true showcase of everyone's individuality.



In English, we've been focusing on persuasive writing and learning how to build strong arguments. Through class debates, we've had the chance to put our skills into action - expressing opinions, backing them up with evidence and learning to see both sides of an issue. Many of us discovered a love for debating and the fun of a friendly argument!

Last Monday 31 March while our wonderful students were coming through the gates, an unexpected visitor decided they wanted to join in on the fun. Labelled 'the mystery chicken', we put a call out to the neighbours and on our social media to find its rightful owners, but to no avail.

As a fun activity, some of the Whales wrote a short story explaining their thinking as to where the chicken came from. Enjoy their creativity and sense of humour below!

Last week the strangest thing happened. A mystery chicken arrived at Fernleigh Public School. Let me refresh your mind, I'm pretty sure it was on a journey all the way around the world. It has gone a long way and stopped here for break and wants to stay. Who wouldn't want free food and water?

By Ripley

Last week the strangest thing happened. A mystery chicken arrived at Fernleigh Public School. Let me tell you where I think the chicken came from.

I think it flew all the way from Adelaide to Fernleigh Road and walked on the side of the street. But, lets go back to Adelaide. It had boarded a private jet with its family then the chicken jumped out with a BOOM and flapped its wings! It came down with a FLAP FLAP FLAP! The chicken thought it was going to be a soft landing, but it wasn't.

By Darcie

Last week the strangest thing happened. A mystery chicken arrived at Fernleigh Public School. I think it was spying on Fernleigh Public School. The neighbour sent a quest for the chicken. But, the chicken was getting picked on by Mrs Reid's chickens so Miss Herwig had to lock it up.

By Edmond

I can confirm the chicken has settled in well and as expected, our students love her. However, if anyone does know where it has come from, please let us know!

All smiles and birthday fun at School!





How much should I pack in my child's lunch box?


How much to pack in a school lunch box is a common question, especially when kids are starting school. It depends on how active they are, their appetite, and whether they prefer to sit and take their time eating or like to race off to play.


When you first pack a lunch box, how much to pack can be trial and error. Here are some handy tips to consider:

- **Plan ahead:** make a weekly lunch box plan, consider what activities your child may have before or after school each day as this will determine if you need to pack more.
- **Involve:** get your kids to help with deciding how much to [pack in their lunch box](#).
- **Portion size:** think about how much your child typically eats at home during usual school hours.


In the beginning, if you are not sure if they will be hungry, pack extra, [shelf-stable items](#) that can be eaten when they get home or reused if not eaten, like sultanas, a tub of fruit in natural juice, a carton of UHT milk, some wholegrain crackers or an extra piece of fruit.


Make sure to pack some of these everyday:

 **Something made with wholegrain carbs** like a sandwich, wrap or roll, naan, roti, pasta, rice, couscous or quinoa. Carbs give kids the energy they need to make it through the day.

 **Vegetables**, because most kids don't eat enough and including some at school is the best way to up their intake. It's as easy as some cherry tomatoes, carrot sticks or salad in their sandwich. **Just a few strips of red capsicum gives you all the Vitamin C you need for the day!**

 Some **protein** to keep them fuller for longer like cheese, chicken, tuna, egg or hummus.

 Some **fruit**, either in season fresh, dried or tubs in natural juice.

 A **water bottle**, as kids get thirsty and water is the best way to keep them hydrated. Freeze it to keep their lunch cold.

For kids who like a bit more at lunchtime pack:

- Some dairy foods like plain milk or plain yoghurt. Dairy provides calcium which is important for growing healthy bones and teeth.
- Cheese and wholegrain crackers for protein and fibre to help keep them full for longer.
- Extra fruit and vegetables and dip such as [hummus](#), [guacamole](#) or [tzatziki](#). These foods are packed with vitamins and fibre needed for good health.
- Larger portions such as a bigger sandwich or roll.

Need some inspiration? Check out these packed [lunch boxes examples](#):

For kids with small appetites or who are too busy to eat, try a sandwich, fruit, tomatoes, cucumber, cheese and biscuits and a water bottle. Cut up sandwiches, fruit and vegies to make it easier to eat.

- For hungrier kids, try a chicken roll, fruit and yoghurt or if they don't like sandwiches try [crustless quiche](#), [bliss balls](#) and veg sticks or [fried rice](#), vegie sticks and a piece of [fruit slice](#).

Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

Lithium-ion batteries are the fastest growing fire risk in New South Wales. Fire and Rescue NSW wants members of the NSW community to understand the risks and be prepared if things go wrong.

Preparation is Key:

- Ensure functioning smoke alarms where batteries are charged or stored.
- Charge batteries on non-flammable surfaces like concrete floors, avoiding beds or sofas.
- Large batteries should only be charged in well-ventilated areas like garages or sheds.

Charging Caution:

- Never charge batteries unattended or when sleeping.
- Disconnect devices once fully charged.
- Avoid using and charging devices on flammable surfaces or if damaged.

Charging Essentials:

- Use only approved chargers with the Australian Regulatory Compliance Mark.
- Beware of compatibility issues with chargers.

Safe Disposal:

- Never dispose of damaged batteries in regular waste bins.
- Use designated battery recycling drop-off points.

Warning Signs:

- Dispose of damaged batteries promptly to mitigate fire risks.

For further information go to <https://www.fire.nsw.gov.au/chargesafe>.



ELECTRIC BIKE AND SCOOTER CHARGING SAFETY



Lithium-ion batteries are the fastest growing fire risk in New South Wales. Charge E-bikes and E-scooters safely to reduce your risk.



Don't charge when you're asleep.



Once the battery is full, disconnect it from the charger.



Don't charge in or near living-spaces like bedrooms or living rooms. Charge in an open area like a garage or shed, away from exits. Make sure you always have a working smoke alarm.



Charge batteries on hard surfaces like concrete or tiles. Make sure that there's nothing around it that could catch on fire.



Always use the charger that came with your device. Just because the plug fits, it doesn't mean it's compatible.



Buy known brands with the Australian Regulatory Compliance Mark tick.



SHOP, CHARGE, AND RECYCLE SAFELY.

