



# Fernleigh Public School

## NEWSLETTER

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

Term 2 Week 10

2 July 2025

### Principal's Message

As Term 2 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for another productive and rewarding term at Fernleigh Public School.

It has been a particularly busy term, with students working hard on classroom assessments and teachers finalising the Semester 1 reports. These reports provide a valuable snapshot of each child's progress, growth, and learning achievements and I would like to acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of our staff in preparing them.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to our wonderful staff who have stepped up to support the smooth running of the school during times when both myself and Dee were absent. Your commitment to our students and our school community is truly appreciated.

This week, we also welcomed a new family to Fernleigh Public School, with Isabel and Sofia joining our learning community in the Turtles classroom. We are so pleased to have you with us and hope you already feel a part of our small, supportive school.

A reminder to keep an eye on our school calendar, which is regularly updated in each newsletter, on our website and by email. Term 3 is shaping up to be another full and exciting term, and staying informed will help ensure you don't miss any important events or updates.

Wishing all of our students and families a safe and restful holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone back for Term 3, refreshed and ready for another great term of learning.

*Melissa Dunbar-Reid*



When	What
Every Tuesday	Library (Bring your library bag)
Friday 4 July	Last day of Term 2
Monday 21 July	School Development Day - Staff only
Tuesday 22 July	First Day Term 3 for all students
Wednesday 23 July	P&C Meeting @ 8.15 am
Thursday 24 July	Athletics Carnival @ Chickiba Park
Wednesday 30 July	Biggest Morning Tea for Parents/Carers
Wednesday 6 August	Writers Festival @ Bangalow Showgrounds (Years 2 to 6)
Friday 8 August	Headlands PSSA Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 19 August	Archery Incursion (all years)
Friday 22 August	FNC Athletics Carnival @ Kingscliff
Tuesday 26 August	Book Week Parade and Fair
Thursday 28 and Friday 29 August	Students and staff day off in lieu of extended hours
Wednesday 10 September	Jarjum excursion to Broken Head
Wednesday 18 September	Colour Fun Run (more info to come)
Monday 22 to Friday 26 September	School Swimming and Water Safety Program @ Lennox Aquatic Centre
Friday 26 September	Last day of Term 3
Monday 13 October	School Development Day - Staff only
Tuesday 14 October	First day of Term 3 for all students

## Thursday 3 July is End of Term Treat Day!

To celebrate all the hard work and kindness shown this term, we are finishing Week 10 with a fun-filled End of Term Treat Day! Students are invited to wear their pyjamas to school for a cosy, relaxed day this Thursday. We will enjoy a delicious sausage sizzle lunch, followed by a movie with popcorn in the afternoon. A big thank you to our wonderful cleaner, Neil, who has kindly donated the popcorn for the occasion. It is a lovely way to celebrate our school community and finish the term with smiles and gratitude.

## Wellbeing Focus: The Resilience Project - Kindness and Teamwork

As part of our wellbeing journey and commitment to The Resilience Project, we have been focusing on the key pillars of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM) in everyday school life. This week, our spotlight has been on kindness and teamwork - two powerful ways we can practise empathy and build strong, respectful relationships with others.



In class, students have been learning how small acts of kindness - like a smile, a compliment or helping someone in need - can make a big impact. We have also explored what it means to be a good team player: listening to others, taking turns, encouraging each other and working together to solve problems.

You might like to continue the conversation at home with questions like:

- What are you grateful for today?
- What is one kind thing you did or saw today?
- How did you work as a team this week?

By nurturing these habits at school and at home, we're helping our children build the tools they need to be resilient, kind and connected members of their community.



## You're Invited – Parent/Carer Morning Tea & Fundraiser!

We are excited to invite all parents and carers to a special Morning Tea at school on Thursday, 31 July at 9:15am at our School as part of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea!

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other families, enjoy a cuppa, and support an important cause. We are proud to be combining our parent/carers morning tea with a fundraiser for the Cancer Council, helping to raise vital funds for cancer research, prevention and support services.

Let's come together as a school community, have a chat, share a treat, and make a real difference.

Please donate to our fundraiser here: [Fernleigh PS Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser](#).

We hope to see you there!

### P&C meeting

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 23 July (Week 1 of Term 3) in the Whales classroom. We would like to invite all parents and carers, both new and returning, to join us. Our meetings are relaxed and provide a great opportunity to stay informed about what is happening in our school and to connect with other parents. Your children are all welcome to come along and play outside. We hope to see you there!

### Small Schools Athletics Carnival – Thursday 24 July

Get ready for a day of fun and friendly competition at our annual Small Schools Athletics Carnival, happening on Thursday 24 July (Term 3, Week 1) at Chickiba Sports Fields, East Ballina. All students will be taking part in a range of exciting track and field events. Parents and caregivers are asked to drop off and pick up students at the venue, and are invited to stay, watch, and cheer on our athletes throughout the day.

Please ensure you have signed the online permission form that has been emailed with further details along with the event program. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the school office. We look forward to a fantastic day celebrating effort, sportsmanship and school spirit!

### Byron Writers Festival Excursion for Years 2 to 6

Our Years 2 to 6 students will be attending the Byron Writers Festival's Primary School Session on Wednesday 6 August, at the beautiful Bangalow Showground. They will have the chance to meet amazing authors like Australian Children's Laureate Sally Rippin, comedian and children's author Peter Helliard, and celebrated poet Maxine Beneba Clarke.

Students will enjoy their own Byron Writers Festival experience, with learning resources made available and books available to buy. More details with online permission will be shared early next term.

### Exciting Archery Incursion Coming in Term 3!

On Tuesday 19 August, our students will get to experience an exciting and unique incursion - Arrow Tag by *Evolution Arrow Tag*!

This activity combines the fun of archery with the action of tag, all delivered safely with foam-tipped arrows and protective gear. It is the perfect way to get students active while developing important skills like teamwork, coordination and strategic thinking.

Best of all, the experienced team from Evolution Arrow Tag brings the entire setup directly to our school. We can't wait for our students to enjoy this action-packed incursion right here at school!

### Save the Date: Book Fair & Costume Parade - Tuesday 26 August!

We are excited to announce that our much-loved Annual Book Fair and Costume Parade will be held on Tuesday 26 August! This year 2025 Book Week theme is "Book an Adventure". Book Week is the perfect opportunity for students to come dressed as their favourite book characters and share their love of reading.

Parents, now is a great time to mark the date and start planning those creative costumes! More details about the event and Book Fair times will be shared early next term - stay tuned!

## Turtles Classroom

As Term 2 comes to a close, it has been nothing short of a buzzing, fun-filled adventure in the Turtles room! We have had a jam-packed term full of learning, creativity and excitement. We are especially lucky to welcome Sofia and Isabel to our class this week – it has been wonderful having you join our Turtle family!

### Exploring the Living World

In Science, we have continued our exploration of the living world. We learned about what living things need to survive and took action by creating our very own egg heads - growing seeds in eggshells and observing the seedlings as they sprouted. To top it off, we had a fantastic excursion to the Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. The animals were a huge hit, and we learned so much about how we can care for them both in the sanctuary and in the wild.

We have also brought the living world into our art projects! The students crafted beautiful turtles using paddle pop sticks and yarn, learning a weaving technique to create unique shells. We also took a bold dive into Pop Art, drawing inspiration from Andy Warhol. Our colourful final pieces are nearly complete and looking amazing!



### Mathematical Minds at Work

Our little mathematicians have been hard at work! The class explored both 2D and 3D shapes, with the Year 1 and 2 students stretching their brains by investigating equivalence, while our Kinders have been working on partitioning. So many sweaty (but happy!) brains!

### Writers in the Making

In writing, we have been sharpening our skills by learning about adjectives, verbs and nouns. The students have been putting this knowledge to use by crafting their own imaginative narratives. It has been fantastic to see their creativity shine through their stories.

### On Your Marks...

And of course, the excitement is building for our upcoming Athletics Carnival! The Turtles have been practicing with enthusiasm and determination, showing great team spirit and effort. We can't wait to see them in action on next term.

Thank you all for a wonderful Term 2. Have a restful break, and we look forward to another great term ahead!

*Miss Herwig*

## Whales Classroom

Thanks for a great first semester of 2025! Enjoy your break and see you all next term. *Miss Munro*

### Poetry in the Whales

In the Whales class, we have been making magic with words as we explore poetry in English. The children have been experimenting with imagery - learning how to create rich, sensory pictures in the minds of their readers. From the sizzle of delicious food to the rustle of leaves in nature, and even the pitter-patter of rain, we have been tapping into all five senses to bring our poems to life. We have also been playing around with poetic tools like metaphors, similes, alliteration and personification to add extra sparkle and depth. It has been a joy watching their creativity bloom!

#### Chocolate Cake

Creamy chocolate oozing down the side,  
the juicy strawberries as bright as blood.  
Icing as thick as watered down mud.

Fresh, delightful melted chocolate.  
The sweet, fluffy smell of whipped cream.  
I thought it was a dream.

Sticky, squishy cream like fluffy clouds,  
that are really loud.

Flavours dance on my tongue,  
just like gum.

*By Murdoch*

#### Music in the Whales

Rhythm dances in my ear  
Silence is coming, I know its near  
Boom, Bang, Beats Bass  
Music is a form of art you can't replace.  
4/4 sequence is super fun  
Tons of learning to be done.

*By Henley*

#### Rain Poem

The sweet natural sensation  
Dances on my tongue.  
Rain runs through the rust on the tin roof.

Rain rushes on a rusty roof.  
You can hear the sweet sound of  
cold drops down onto the freezing ground.

The rain is as soft as silk  
on your skin.  
The rain gets harder and splashes  
into the clear puddles.

Rain has a thick scent that  
spreads all the way through town.  
Rain has a sweet smell of harmony.

Blue drops fall from the sky.  
The rain is sweet and soft from the  
Sky to the ground.

Rain has a power of calmness.

*By Gemma*

The Whales Class has been learning about music on an app called Amplify over the past few weeks. We have been learning about rhythms, pitch, the importance of silence, beats and 4/4 sequence. Pitch is how high or low a musical sound is. It allows us to switch between different tones. Rhythm is a pattern of sound and silence. It creates movement, pulse and groove. We got to create our own rhythm sequences on the drums. A 4/4 sequence mostly refers to a time signature also referred to common time. We got to use different types of notes and silence to create different sequences on the drums and tambourines. A beat is the basic that defines the rhythm we learnt about, think of it like a heartbeat of music.

## Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

What a wild adventure we had on our whole school visit to the Byron Bay Wildlife Sanctuary! From the moment we stepped off the bus, excitement was in the air. We spent the day getting up close and personal with some of Australia's most iconic animals. Kangaroos and emus wandered right up to us, lizards lounged in the sun, and the goats - well, let's just say they were very enthusiastic about snack time!

The children learned about animal life cycles, got hands-on in a private petting session with the guinea pigs and rabbits and watched a brilliant bird show that left jaws dropped and eyes wide. It was a day full of curious questions, lots of laughter, and plenty of "Did you see that?!" moments. A wonderful mix of learning and fun!





### Junior Wildlife Rangers School Holiday Program

Join Oceana Wildlife for a fun-filled day of nature exploration at Fenwick Foreshore, East Ballina, on Wednesday 16 July, from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

This engaging program is designed for children to dive into nature, learning about local wildlife through hands-on activities, games and art. The cost is \$80 per child and bookings can be made by emailing [bookings@oceanawildlife.org](mailto:bookings@oceanawildlife.org).

Spaces are limited, so reserve your spot soon!



### Ballina School Holiday Activities

The Ballina Tourism Team has created a School Holiday Activity Calendar packed with fun, affordable (and often free!) events, workshops, and family-friendly activities across the Ballina Coast and Hinterland. Families can download a printable activity sheet and find daily updates on the Discover Ballina What's On Calendar. Plan your holidays and explore the region! [School Holiday Activities](#).



### Ballina Basketball

Term 3 registrations are now open for Ballina Basketball's primary school programs! Registrations will remain open until the end of Week 2, Term 3.

