

From our *Principal*

3rd March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is amazing to see the progress in all classes since our last newsletter! The students are settled in their classes, and routines are being established—thank you to families and staff for working together to create such a smooth transition into learning in our new community!

Community sausage sizzle

What a great turnout we had on February 14th— I think we all relished the opportunity to meet informally and relax in the lovely surroundings that we enjoy each day at Fernhill School. Next time, I will remember to turn off the watering system—thanks to all of you for being so understanding..

Personalised learning plans

Each Tuesday, all staff engage in professional learning after school, and this week we have begun to look at personalized learning plans for all students. Our teachers are working collaboratively to write rich and engaging programs to share in all key learning areas, to ensure all students can engage in meaningful learning at their

developmental level. Classroom teachers have been assessing all students in literacy and numeracy and it is lovely to see and hear all the terrific work that is occurring in each block. Teachers are planning to meet with a family or two this term to address the personalized learning needs of each student this term, the the remaining meetings to be held next term. We will be using a program called COACH 3 as a basis for the meetings, and staff will be learning to use this program later in the term. Thank you for your patience with us—we are all working on getting to know each student well before embarking on detailed personalized learning plans.

Therapists

The NDIS is allowing a fantastic opportunity for all of our students to receive specialized programs from therapists. An increasing number of families are asking for time out of school to visit therapists or to have the therapists come in to Fernhill to work with students.

Any therapist or volunteer who works in a school has to provide a working with children check, undergo a criminal record check and complete mandatory training in child protection. I also need to speak to each therapist to ensure that they understand their role within the school. I would like to know what they are assiting the student with so that the same skills can be practiced across the school week. I want to make the use of the skills of speech pathologists, occupational therapists and physios so that we at school can assist the students to achieve their goals. The best way to do this is for each therapist to share their learning goals and startegies for the children with the school.

Our school motto is 'Independence through learning' - learning occurs in many places, with many teachers— making sure that we are all working together to help our students achieve their independence!

I am looking forward to catching up with all families who are seeking therapy in school time in the next two weeks to discuss the goal of the therapy visits and to discuss the best way for therapists and school to work together to generalize the skills being taught.

Have a great weekend, *Julie*

From our Office



PHOTO DAY 29th March

Photos will be taken on
Wednesday 29th March.

Envelopes with an order form is sent home today. All payments are made directly to MSP Photography, you may either pay via the envelope on or preferably before photo day, or pay online prior to photo day. School has no involvement with the payments .

Student photos will begin from 9:15 am. Can you please ensure that your child is wearing school uniform on the day.

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH :

Each child has received a Permission to Publish note. Can you please ensure it is returned to school with your choice yes or no. If your child did not receive a note please ask the classroom teacher for a new copy.

Regards Kisane and Bec

SCHOOL FEES STATEMENT:

Statements have been sent home with your child. Payments can be made at the office with cash or EFTPOS. If you are unable to come to school and would like to pay via credit card please call our office and we will be happy to process over the phone. Payments on line via our webpage will be available shortly.

Just a thank you to all our families for your support and patience whilst we have been establishing our new office and procedures. You have all been wonderful.

Homebase BLUE

Welcome to the Blue Block news.

Over the past few weeks, Blue 5 have been working hard covering all the Key Learning Areas. We have started using the Letterland program during our literacy lessons, looking at a letter and corresponding sound each week. In our maths lessons we have been learning a different number each week. This week we are learning about number 4. Blue 8 have been working hard on their literacy skills and covered the sounds of m, s, a, t, b and c. We enjoy doing sound craft activities with Jenny. Circle times are generally settled and the students enjoy selecting a song from the choice

board that they would like to hear.

This semester in PDHPE, both classes are learning about Our Body. We have been labelling body parts, playing Simon Says and even completing an obstacle course each morning! In Creative Arts lessons we are learning all about colours. So far, we have covered green, red and blue. We are in the process of planning a Rainbow day for the end of Semester 1!

Students in Blue block are learning to follow school rules. This term we are focussed on personal space and being a good friend.



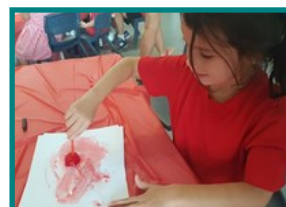
Homebase YELLOW



It's hard to believe we are already in Week 6! All of the students in Yellow Block have settled into school life and are all working hard to learn the school routines. Last Friday all of Yellow Block joined together to participate in Red Day. This involved students enjoying a range of activities based around the colour red, tying in with our Creative Arts unit on colours. The students got to play with red play-dough, paint with red ice blocks and make red pasta necklaces. While they all enjoyed these activities, they particularly loved

playing with large red Lego bricks, red balloons and bubbles outside. It was wonderful to see all of the students dressed in red and enjoying themselves – there were so many smiles and a whole lot of laughter. We also got to eat some watermelon, which many of the students loved. Our Red Day was a great success and we look forward to celebrating Blue Day next Friday...so come dressed in your blue-coloured best!

Alison, Alyssa, Kimberley, Tania, Robyn, Kerry and Steve



Homebase GREEN

What's happening in Green Block?

Students have been working very hard in the classrooms! We have been looking at the human body and how it works. Both classes had fun having their bodies traced around to see how big they are and then labelling body parts; both inside and out.



Green 13 are learning how to cook and how to follow recipes. This week they are cooking rainbow pancakes as part of the colour program. Green 16 have also been learning about different colours. This week is yellow week. So far, students have made a yellow collage and there are many more exciting yellow activities to complete next week.

Bye for now – Green Block Staff Kylie, Chris , Chris Vicki



REMINDER
Starts
Monday
6TH March

What foods are allowed in the classroom?

The Crunch&Sip® break is a time to introduce children to vegetables and fruit and encourage the water drinking habit. Fresh vegetables or fruit are the best choice. Please only send foods with a tick:

✓ Allowed

Vegetables

- ✓ All fresh vegetables (eg celery, carrot sticks, broccoli bits etc.)

Fruit

- ✓ All fresh fruit (eg whole fruits, chopped melon etc.)
- ✓ Fruit canned in water, juice or 'no added sugar' (eg peach slices)
- ✓ Dried fruit – please limit as it contains concentrated sugar and tends to cling to teeth, increasing risk of tooth decay

Water

- ✓ Only plain water

✗ Not Allowed

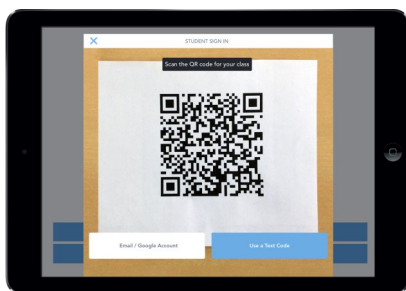
Drinks

- ✗ Drinks other than plain water not permitted
- ✗ All other drinks (including waters with added vitamins, minerals or carbonates)
- ✗ Fruit or vegetable juices or fruit juice drink
- ✗ Fruit cordial or mineral waters

All other foods are not permitted including:

- ✗ 'Fruit' products (eg fruit leather, fruit roll-ups, fruit bars or similar)
- ✗ Fruit jams, jellies, pies and cakes
- ✗ Fruit canned in syrup or jelly or with artificial sweeteners
- ✗ Canned or processed vegetables
- ✗ Vegetable or potato crisps, hot potato chips, olives
- ✗ Vegetable pastries (pies, pasties, sausage rolls)
- ✗ Vegetable cakes, fritters, quiches, breads or similar
- ✗ Popcorn

GET SEESAW NOW!!



Would you like to see your child working within their class environment?

Fantastic new app called **SEESAW** can help you do just that.

Many of our teachers have sent a note home advising parent of their QT code and how to join in.

So please, check your child's school bag then check out the website

<http://web.seesaw.me?>



Floribunda Community Cottage

"Taste of Everything" Group

Meet each Thursday

9.30-12.30

Open to any age woman

Come along and bring ANY craft you like.

Learn how to make these sensory blankets

Chat with like minded woman and it's FREE.

A special thank to some wonderful ladies outside our local community.

Each Tuesday we have had some ladies volunteer their time, covering the many hundreds of brand new books for our school library and teacher resources. Each week these ladies drive from Glenfield area and donate their time. Many giggles are heard throughout the day and we simply cannot thank them enough for all their support.

To find out more email Martha :

marthastep@yahoo.com.au

We also send a HUGE thank you to ladies from

Floribunda Community Cottage Group.

Martha and Lindsay visited our school and donated these wonderful sensory blankets for our students.

The first lot were so popular the ladies had to make a second batch for our students.

Not only have they donated the blankets but they also give their time freely each Tuesday helping to cover the library and resource books.

Many thanks go to these ladies.



CONTACT US

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