

From our *Principal*

March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can hardly believe it's almost the end of Term1—we have come so far already, and I can hardly wait for next term to start—mind you, I will be enjoying a couple of sleep ins over Easter...

Thank you foremost to our brilliant students who have settled into their new school so well, and made each day a wonderful time of learning and discovery—for themselves and staff! Thanks to all parents and carers for your support and excitement—a school is a community, and parents/carers are a massive part of this. Finally, thank you to all the staff, for pulling together, coming up with fabulous ideas, nothing being too hard, and for meeting the challenge of not being sick all term!

P & C

We had our first get together to decide on a P&C this week, and I am thrilled to say that all agreed to formalize and create a P&C for Fernhill School—so come and join us on Wednesday, 5th April at 9.30 in the Hub, Admin Block. All most welcome to join this enthusiastic bunch of parents—and please, if the time does not suit, we will try to work out a way to

accommodate all of our parents/carers.

Swimming

Our school has a beautiful pool that we are going to use next term—we have the teachers coming to run the Special Swimming Scheme in the middle of the term—dates to be finalised. Teachers are working on their risk assessments, and once we have finished the scheme, we will be asking for volunteers to assist students in their lessons in the pool. Each teacher will contact families about their times, and all students will be expected to shower before and after swimming, and we will provide you with details on dressing for the pool—rash shirts will be expected, as will appropriate clothing for students who are incontinent. The pool is maintained by our fabulous GA Terry, and we need to ensure that we use it correctly so that we do not make undue work for him. Thanking you in advance for your support.

Car park

Many of our students are on special transport—we have arranged for these vehicles to park along the front of the

school so that staff can safely assist the students into school. Please avoid parking in the bays marked with letters in the mornings and afternoons, that way we know that there are no vehicles travelling along the road as we assist students from the vehicles. If it is raining, please wait in the numbered bays for us to clear the taxis, then drive around to avoid the rain! Thank you.

Also, please park carefully—we have had a number of minor knocks to various cars in the past week....

Personalised Learning Plans

Now that teachers have had a chance to get to know the students, PLP meetings are starting to happen. Please make the time to come and have an indepth chat with the teachers about your child and their goals for the year.

Finally

Have a terrific holiday—I am sure our lovely students especially kindies will enjoy a rest as they have all made such great progress! I am sure that all the staff will join me in wishing everyone a safe and happy break. We look forward to Term 2, where we will have our 8th class and new students to get to know!

With kind regards,

Julie

From our Office

Making your life more simpler

ONLINE PAYMENTS are now available.

When making payments for your child they can now be made through Fernhill School's Webpage for school fees, uniforms, excursions etc

Go to :

www.fernhill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

Go to \$ Make A Payment TAB

And follow instructions on Page 4.

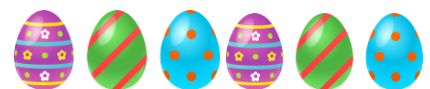
WINTER JACKETS:

Cooler mornings have arrived.

Winter zip front jackets in our school colour, cherry red, are available in sizes from 4-16 for \$30 each. We are also expecting sloppy joes sizes 6-XL for the same price, due the end of April.

Please see ladies in the office to purchase—and thanks for waiting for your back orders!

EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS



Please show your support and get behind Fernhill School's first ever Easter Raffle. We are asking for donations to create lovely baskets of eggs for our lucky winners. Please return them to school with your child or drop into office during school hours.

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5, can also be purchased from front office.

Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated. And good luck!

HOMEBASE BLUE



On Wednesday the 22nd March, Blue block attended Harmony Day celebrations. We watched a smoking ceremony and participated in sporting games, craft activities and an Aboriginal presentation from The National Parks and Wildlife Service. It was lovely to have so many parents come in and celebrate with us!

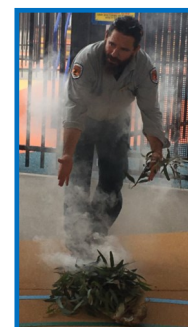
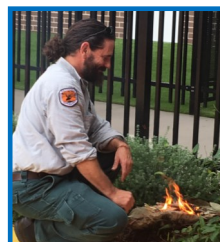
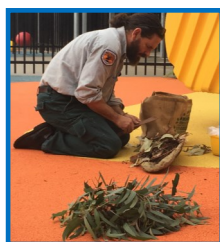
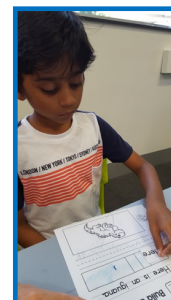
Each Friday we join classes and have a music lesson. This week we decorated clapping sticks with

aboriginal symbols to play in keeping with the Harmony Day theme. The students really enjoyed playing the instruments they made.

Blue block have been cooking up a storm, making Anzac biscuits and banana bread. Yum!

We have continued working on colours in Visual Arts, My Body in PDHPE & Living Things in Science.

Rachael, Vicki, Deb and Jenny



HOMEBASE YELLOW



It's been a busy, and fun time, in the yellow block. The students continue to settle well and it is lovely to see them happily moving about the school. Our classes have enjoyed walks into the sensory garden where we can see the different coloured flowers and leaves, and feel the different textures. They also enjoy running along the 'road' in the bike track and using our legs to jump on the trampoline. The cooler days have seen many happy faces as we get to use the playgrounds consistently.

In class we are having fun exploring our bodies. We have drawn around our body and labelled its parts. The children love using their bodies to join in the actions to songs and when balancing on logs or crawling through tunnels.

The students continue to enjoy our special themed days. This past month we have enjoyed 'Blue Day', especially

playing with the ooey gooey spaghetti. We also participated in many craft activities and games for Harmony Day and our block's Orange day celebrations. Thank you to the many parents who came to share Harmony Day with us. It is beautiful to see so many parents willing to share our special times.

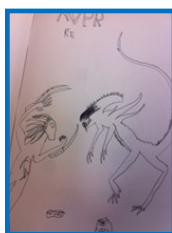
We are starting to plan for Easter, doing some Easter craft and talking about this fun time of year. We look forward to seeing some families for the Easter Hat Parade.





Green Block would like to say a big Thank You to Sacha who has been the teacher for Green 16 for Term 1. We wish her all the best for the future and she will be missed by all students and staff.

Speaking of missing people – we all missed William from Green 13 while he was having the time of his life on an 8 day cruise with his family. We were happy to have him back and he enjoyed showing us his slide show of photos, like this one which made us very jealous!



Matthew from Green 13 has shown his creative side through drawings and making dinosaurs, snakes and aliens out of clay and a 'Great Wall' in the sandpit.



We have had a few exciting things recently, such as school photo day and taking turns on our brand new trampolines!

Students in Green enjoyed completing a number of activities and listening to special talks from Chris from the National Parks and Wildlife during Harmony Day. It was a fantastic day and it was great to see so many students listening carefully and engaging in activities. Students from Green 13 were proud of the Harmony Day banner they created.



We are all looking forward to the Easter Assembly and some students in Green 13 have been busy creating resources for the day. We hope everyone has a safe and happy Easter and we are looking forward to coming back in Term 2, nice and refreshed from our two week break!

Kylie Chris Sacha Vicki

Changes!

Fernhill School is growing—I am currently enrolling new students and we are planning to open a new class next term—Blue 6. Once all the new students have been enrolled, I may need to make some slight changes in classes to accommodate the new students who range from kindy to Year 9.

I have been able to go through the recruitment process and have appointed two new permanent teachers—Nadine Swanson and Sam(antha) Rowe. Nadine will be teaching Blue 6 with Julie Bennett, and Sam will be taking over Green 13. Sacha, thank you so much for all your work this term on Green 16—I know the students and families have really enjoyed having you as the teacher. We wish you all the best!

Every Thursday at 11am in odd weeks, we have potential parents and carers attending the school for a tour and a chat. I anticipate that the school will continue to keep growing until we have all of our rooms full of learners!

Julie

Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to try healthy Easter treats.

Before the kids get too crazy on chocolate, why not mix up the Easter treats with some fun but healthy festive fare?

Egg-cellent surprises: fill brightly-coloured plastic eggs with the kids' favourite fruit and veg.

Breakfast bunny: add fruit adornments to pancakes to create a "you-beaut" bunny.

Or try carrot pot plants and fruity chicks.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.

Health
Nepean Blue Mountains
Local Health District

\$ Make a Payment on Line

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card, [and can be made via computer, tablet or mobile phone](#). The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting \$ Make a payment

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called 'Other' this to cover items not covered in the previous headings, Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the \$ Make a payment you must enter:

- the students name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the students name, and
- date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. **There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them, these are optional fields OR there is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number these are not used at our school, please leave blank.**

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child's account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.



CONTACT US