

**Friday 11th February 2021**

## **From our Principal**

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Community Members,

Welcome new families and welcome back to our returning families! In 2021, we've welcomed 13 new kindergarten students, an upper primary and a high school student – making a grand total of 119 learners in all. We now have 18 classes, including our new Red Block – a pair of demountable classrooms behind Blue Block, fully air conditioned, with a bathroom, and just waiting for the final telephone connections within the school. Green and Red Blocks now have 5 high school classes and a Year 6 class – very exciting to watch our students grow to be lovely young people.

A huge thank you to homes and school for making these transitions to the new school year happen. The way that the students settle in never ceases to amaze me and is a real credit to home/school partnerships!

### **Car Park**

To those returning, thank you for your ongoing cooperation as we get used to more vehicle movements in the car park. The parking spaces along the front of the school and many on the far side of the car park are required for the school transport vehicles that bring many students to and from school each day. Please do not use these parking spots between 8.45am - 9.05am and again from 2.30pm - 3.05pm. I am very aware of the need to keep everyone safe when we are assisting students on to 17 vehicles and up to 25 parent cars at these busy times of day. Please also reverse park into the parking spots – it is much safer to see if a student has forgotten to hold a hand safely in the area when you are facing straight ahead. Of course our families who need to manoeuvre a child in a wheelchair into a vehicle are able to park front to kerb. At the moment, staff are in the car park to assist with the traffic in the mornings and afternoons. Finally, we have a 10 km speed limit at all times.

Please respect the safety of all our students at all times by following car parking guidelines. Thank you.

### **Nuts and other allergies**

We have a number of students who have allergies to nuts and other foods. Please do not send in peanut butter or Nutella for your child – it may cause a health crisis for a peer in their Block.

## **Staff and class changes**

At the end of each year proposed classes are sent home, as with all plans for mice and men, things may change. One of our teachers, Brody, accepted a move to Newcastle, so we are looking forward to welcoming Renee on Monday to our school and Orange 9 in particular. Thanks to our DP, Alison, and RFF teacher, Jodie P for settling the students into their routine.

We welcome Amanda, Jessika, Sinead, and Renee to our school community – hopefully, you will meet them at our Meet the Teacher Evening on Tuesday 23 February and PLP sessions on Tuesday 9 and 16 March and whenever schools can go back to being a welcoming hub for families in a Covid safe way!

Our newsletter shows that some of our classes have an extra staff member attached to them who also helps out across the Block. This is due to some extra funding for all SSPs and is making learning more accessible across the school. We've also moved a small number of students between classes to make the best learning groups that we can – parents are being informed, it has mostly happened with our younger students.

## **Swimming and Health**

Swim scheme starts on Monday 15 February for our primary students. We know from previous years it is really tiring for staff and students! Please remember to label your child's belongings, including socks and towels.

2021 is seeing our Covid restrictions lesson, but wellness at school is still a priority. For the health and safety of all, students who are unwell need to stay home until they are better. Sick children are not able to concentrate, neither can sick staff teach. Let's keep our school a place where all our well and engaged in learning.

Warm wishes,

*Julie*

## From our Office

Welcome back to both our new and existing families for 2021. We look forward to your visits to our office and friendly chats throughout the year.

A few gentle reminders to start our year with:-

### COVID –SIGN In’s-

As of today the Department of Education has released a new sign in procedure, for parents and carers dropping or picking up students you no longer need to do the QR Codes. If you are visiting the school for a meeting you will need to sign into the Service NSW QR code **and** sign the Visitor’s Sign In Book.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

At this time of year we take the opportunity to update as much information as possible.

We appreciate circumstances often change at home and it is very easy to overlook notifying the school of new contact details or updated phone numbers.

If you are unsure, can we please ask that you complete the

**CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS** on **page 7** and return to the office as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for this.

### FEES:

Attached to this newsletter is your child’s statement of fees due for 2021. I’m sure you will all agree these are minimal to the standard and quality of teaching and learning our wonderful staff provide your child on a daily basis.

For those who had been “early birds” and paid already we thank you so much. For new families– you have the option to pay by Eftpos or Cash at the main office between the hours of **9am & 2.00pm** daily OR pay via the Parents Online Payments option on our Fernhill School website. We have attached a copy of the instructions for “How To” pay on line on **page 8**. If you need any additional assistance please ask our friendly ladies in the office and they will be happy to assist you.

### SCHOOL CLOTHING:

Sometimes your child may lose an item of clothing at school and it will be handed into front office on most occasions.

Can you please ensure ALL of your child’s items– drink bottles, lunch boxes, clothing , hats and shoes are well labelled so as we can return them swiftly. They are too expensive for you to keep buying.

Stay Safe;

*Kisane, Elisha, Chris & April*



## Term One Block Leaders 2021



Earlier this week we announced our new Block Leaders for Term One, we are looking forward to seeing them do a fantastic job!

The new Block Leaders are:



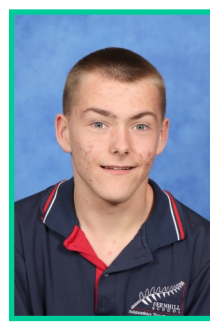
**JAKE**



**PAOLINA**



**KODY**



**TYLER**



**ARIN**



# HOMEBASE YELLOW

## Welcome to Yellow Block News

Yellow Block staff for 2021 are:

Yellow 1	Yellow 2
<b>Teacher:</b> Julie B <b>SLSO:</b> Jess V <b>SLSO:</b> Julie E <b>SLSO:</b> Natasha ( Fri )	<b>Teacher:</b> Krista <b>SLSO:</b> Donna <b>SLSO:</b> Sophia
Yellow 3	Yellow 4
<b>Teacher:</b> Kirsty <b>SLSO:</b> Shania	<b>Teacher:</b> Rebecca <b>SLSO:</b> Kelly

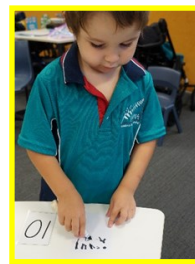
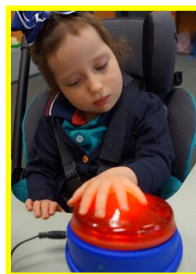
We have had a busy start to the year in Yellow Block as we have welcomed 13 new students in our 2021 Kindergarten group. Right now students are learning the very important business of school routines. Our Kindergarten students are lucky to have help from friends that were in Yellow Block in 2020. Students across Yellow Block are learning to do things like unpack their own bags, take care of their own things, eat with their group, follow school bell times, wear their hats and navigate the school playgrounds. Just a reminder to please label all of your child's belongs, as this helps them to more independently look after their own things and avoids items going missing.

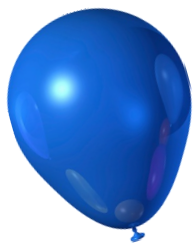
Our Shared Reading topic this term is *'Lets Read!'* and it has been exciting to start our shared reading activities this week. In our busy days we have also managed to fit in some great numeracy work with a focus on whole number and time, while we learn new routines and schedules. Most of all, we have been making new friends, working together and having fun!

Thank you to all of our parents for your support so far. We look forward to a great year ahead working with you and your child.

### ***Yellow Block staff,***

***Krista, Donna, Kirsty, Shania, Rebecca L, Kelly S, Julie B, Jess, Julie E, Sophia, Natasha and Laura***





# HOMEBASE BLUE

## Welcome to Blue Block News

Blue Block staff for 2021 are:

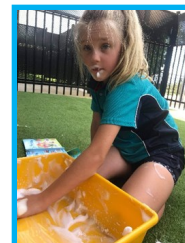
Blue 5	Blue 6
<b>Teacher:</b> Danielle <b>SLSO:</b> Kimberly <b>SLSO:</b> Janeetha	<b>Teacher:</b> Nathan <b>SLSO:</b> Belynda <b>SLSO:</b> Kerry
Blue 7	Blue 8
<b>Teacher:</b> Kayla <b>SLSO:</b> Tania	<b>Teacher:</b> Rianna <b>SLSO:</b> Tyrone

Blue Block has had a great start to the year and everyone is settling in. We have already started our combined Blue Block sports program on Fridays and it was a fun time had by all with the parachute and speed races!

At school this term, Blue Block will be learning about Digital Literacy with Dr. Seuss in English. For maths, we are exploring patterns, whole numbers, addition and subtraction as well as length. In science this semester, we are investigating the physical world involving forces with push and pull experiments. There are many exciting and simulating activities planned for all students to participate in and have fun.

This term we have some exciting activities and events planned, starting with Swimming Scheme in weeks 4 and 5. Later this month we will have a Meet the Teacher night and we are looking forward to meeting everyone.

***Danielle, Kimberley, Kate, Janeetha, Nathan, Belynda, Kerry, Rianna, Tyrone, Kayla & Tania***







# HOMEBASE ORANGE

## Welcome to Orange Block News

Orange Block staff for 2021 are:

Orange 9	Orange 10
<b>Teacher:</b> Renee <b>SLSO:</b> Jenny	<b>Teacher:</b> Rachael <b>SLSO:</b> Lorette (M, T, W) <b>SLSO:</b> Charisse (Th, F)
Orange 11	Orange 12
<b>Teacher:</b> Shannon <b>Teacher:</b> Jessika (Term 1) <b>SLSO:</b> Linda	<b>Teacher:</b> Ben(M) <b>Teacher:</b> Naomi (T, W, Th, F) <b>SLSO:</b> Ash

Orange Block welcome all students back to school for a wonderful new year of learning!

This term in Orange Block we have lots of exciting programs planned! In English, we are looking at Digital Literacy with a focus on Dr Seuss books. We are continuing to use the Four Blocks Framework of working with words, guided/shared reading, writing and self-selected reading. We are looking forward to watching the progress of all students in these areas.

In Maths this term, students will focus on whole number, patterns & algebra, 2D shapes and money. We are busy assessing students in each area and completing lots of hands on, engaging lessons.

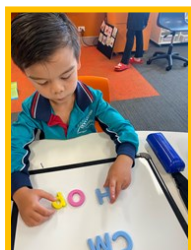
Our other Key Learning Area topics this term include: HSIE (History): Influences on Australian culture, PDHPE: How do we grow and change over time, Creative Arts, Visual Arts, and Science: Physical world.

Swim Scheme begins next Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February (week 4). Students will swim daily for two weeks. If you have given permission for your child to swim, please remember each day to pack your child's swimmers, towel and swim nappies (if needed) into their swim bag. A plastic bag is also handy to put wet clothes into!

Meet the Teacher night is going ahead on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February. Teachers are looking forward to welcoming parents & carers into their classrooms to meet you and learn more about your child.

This year we are trialling doing student Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs) a little differently. All PLP meetings will be conducted in Term 1 on Tuesday afternoons in weeks 7 & 8. It is imperative that all parents & carers attend PLP meetings in order to set student goals for the year.

*Jenny , Rachael , Lorette , Charisse , Shannon, Linda C, Ben , Naomi & Ash*





# HOMEBASE GREEN & RED



## Welcome to Green and Red Block News

Green Block staff for 2021 are:

Green 13	Green 14	Red 17
<b>Teacher:</b> Meredith <b>SLSO:</b> Ashana	<b>Teacher:</b> Cheryl <b>Teacher:</b> Courtney <b>SLSO:</b> Amanda	<b>Teacher:</b> Kylie <b>Teacher:</b> Nadine <b>Teacher:</b> Deb <b>SLSO:</b> Vicki
Green 15	Green 16	Red 18
<b>Teacher:</b> Leanne <b>SLSO:</b> Jodie C <b>SLSO:</b> Natasha (Wed)	<b>Teacher:</b> Daniel <b>SLSO:</b> Liv	<b>Teacher:</b> Liz <b>SLSO:</b> Jess M

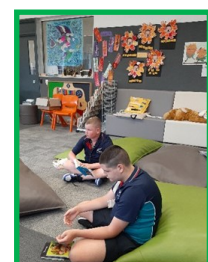
There are exciting new developments this year as we welcome two new High School classes in Red Block, Red 17 & Red 18. That takes the number of High School classes at Fernhill School to five! The High School program this semester includes learning about the effects of drug and alcohol on our bodies and how to respond to peer pressure. We are also learning about Ancient Egypt, food technology, cybersafety, nutrition and continue developing our literacy, numeracy and communication skills. We have also started using the Library for a lesson and for borrowing books each week.

We have one Primary class in Green Block it is Green 16. They will be following a primary program and notes have been sent home for participating in Swim Scheme. They will also be learning about Digital Literacy, Numeracy, Science, Art, History and PDHPE this term. Green 16 will be sure to join in all the fun things that the other primary classes do too.

We are already busy and settling in to our classes and making some new friends. Just a quick reminder please ensure that all items are labelled and that you check Seesaw for more news and photos.

*Warm regards from the Green & Red Block Teams*

*Leanne, Jodie C, Natasha, Cheryl, Ben, Courtney, Amanda, Daniel, Rebecca C Olivia, Meredith, Jodie P, Ashana, Kylie, Nadine, Deb, Vicki, Liz and Jess M*



## **Change of Contact Details**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent/Carer 1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent/Carer 2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Emergency Contact 1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Emergency Contact 2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_



A note was sent home last week with information on our Meet The Teacher Evening which will be going ahead on Tuesday 23rd February 2021 from 5.00pm to 6.00pm.

There has been a change from the Department of Education in our sign in procedures. On the evening all visitors will be required to:

- Sign in via the Service NSW QR code which will be placed at the door to each block
- Complete the sign in sheet provided by your child's teacher in each classroom

Please remember to bring your mobile phones with you, practice social distancing and sanitise on entry and exit of every room. If you have had any flu like symptoms please stay at home.

If you have not returned your attendance note please send it into the school by Friday 19th February 2021. Please contact the school office on 02 4733 0388 if you require another note.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

## FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES

### POP - Parent Online Payments

Our school has the option to pay for school fees and excursions etc, through our online payment system "POP".

Please see below for instructions on how to use this option, if you have any difficulties please see our office staff who are more than happy to help.

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.



# FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES



## How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

### For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "Install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



### For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

### For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.



# Kylie's Kitchen Budget Tips

## Nutrition Snippet

Pack a food safe lunch box



Check out our [blog](#) for all you need know.

TIP: Freeze a bottle of water overnight, add to the lunch box in the morning to keep food cold.

For other tips and more visit:  
[healthylunchbox.com.au](https://healthylunchbox.com.au)



*Fun easy  
recipes & tips  
to follow at  
home for all  
the family*

To check out the blog for more information visit:

<https://healthylunchbox.com.au/blog/>



## CREATIVE KIDS SENSORY EXPLORATION KIT

**\$100.00 Inc. GST**

The **Creative Kids Sensory Exploration Kit** contains a set of three fantastic art packs including painting, drawing and creating. These packs are designed to promote abstract thinking through creation, encourage sensory development through a range of different mediums and textures, enhance fine motor skills and promote imaginative play and expression.

*This item can also be purchased using a NSW Creative Kids Voucher. On the **CART** page use coupon code **NSWKIDS** and on the **CHECKOUT** page please provide Child's Name, DOB and Voucher Number. Any enquiries please email [sensorystore@nado.org.au](mailto:sensorystore@nado.org.au)*

Each kit includes everything needed to take your child on a sensory development adventure!



Further details can be found on the Link below

<https://sensorystore.nado.org.au/product/creative-kids-sensory-exploration-kit/>

# FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES



## MASTER LOCKSMITHS ACCESS KEY

MLAK is a innovative programme which uses a universal lock and key to allow people with disabilities 24 hours a day access to public facilities. Accessible facilities should be open during the day, but it is sometimes necessary to lock them after hours.

The MLAK is designed to increase access to these facilities.

Eligible people will be able to purchase a key that will open all accessible toilets, facilities and Liberty Swings that are fitted with the MLAK system. Keys may be purchased from Master Locksmith Association or by mail from the MLAO office.

*\* Please note that not all Councils/Shires provide MLAK facilitated toilet access. Enquire at your local Council for alternatives.*

## ***"Making Community Facilities Accessible"***



Spinal Cord Injuries Australia maintains a directory of MLAK-enabled facilities across Australia. Please visit [www.scia.org.au](http://www.scia.org.au) for MLAK locations.

## ORDER FORM

Access is restricted to people who have a disability and/or those who have written authority from a doctor, disability organisation, community health centre or the owner of a building with an accessible toilet on site. We do ask that you provide some form of documentation to ensure that the keys are distributed to these that require them most.

Please include one of the following:

- ☐ a letter from a Doctor
- ☐ a letter from a Disability Organisation
- ☐ a copy of your Disability Card
- ☐ a copy of your Disabled Parking Permit
- ☐ other

## DELIVERY DETAILS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT DETAILS - The cost is \$20 per key.

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ CSV: \_\_\_\_\_

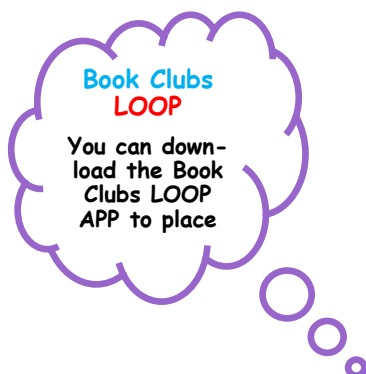
*\*3 digit no. on back on card*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Master Locksmiths Association 4a/34 Carrick  
Drive TULLAMARINE VIC 3043 or email:  
[national@masterlocksmiths.com.au](mailto:national@masterlocksmiths.com.au) or fax to: (03) 9338  
6299



# FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES




## Scholastic Book Club 2021

Scholastic Book Club Brochures will be sent home regularly throughout the year. There is no obligation to purchase. The school does receive points from your purchases we can use to obtain resources. If you are interested in purchasing ***please order online as no cash or orders will be taken through the school.***

With compliments  
Leanne Hayes  
Book Club Co-ordinator.

**Orders Close  
19th February 2021**

FERNHILL SCHOOL | 12-40 Ridgetop Drive, GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745 |  
PH: 02 4733 0388 | FAX: 02 4733 0644 | E: [fernhill-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fernhill-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au) | [www.fernhill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.fernhill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au)

 <b>FERNHILL School - Term 1 2021</b>					
Term ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4	15 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6
5	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb SWIM PROGRAM K-6 MEET THE TEACHER 5-6pm	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb  SWIM PROGRAM K-6
6	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar
7	8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9 <sup>th</sup> Mar  PLP MEETINGS 3.30 to 5.30pm	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12 <sup>th</sup> Mar



## CONTACT US

FERNHILL SCHOOL | 12-40 Ridgetop Drive, GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745 | **PRINCIPAL:** Julie Raciborska |  
PH: 02 4733 0388 | FAX: 02 4733 0644 | E: [fernhill-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fernhill-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au) | [www.fernhill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.fernhill-s.schools.nsw.edu.au)