

From our Principal

Friday 4th April 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Community Members,

Term 1 is almost finished and what a busy one it has been, with swimming, athletics excursions, PLP meetings, Easter raffles and getting to know everyone in our classes. We are all looking forward to a safe and happy holiday next week, with school returning for students on Wednesday 30th April. Staff will be back at school on 28th April, with professional learning on PODD (Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display) and understanding behaviour lead by the Team Around the School.

Post School Options Bus Trip

Yesterday Kylie, Naomi and Sue, our transition teacher, took a number of families to some post school settings in our wider community. As our students reach their senior years (Years 10, 11 and 12) thoughts do turn to 'where to next?'. This is why we schedule transition meetings starting in Year 10 to look at services for students once they graduate. While this may seem a long way off, it is important to plan for it, as students need their own bank accounts, tax file numbers, disability support pensions and guardianship becomes an issue to consider. Well done to all those parents looking into these issues for their children. We have found this year that support is needed from NDIS and must be specifically requested in order to fund options post school. Something to remember when the time comes for you and your family!

Attendance Matters

It's always wonderful to have our students in classrooms, ready to engage and learn. As the cooler weather approaches with seasonal illnesses, this becomes a fine balance at Fernhill School between attendance and good health. Students at school are busy with learning and expected to engage with tasks throughout the day, which is difficult for them when they are sick. Attendance is important, as is recovering at home and keeping sickness away from peers and staff.

Thank you to everyone who responds to the text messages when your child is absent – it is a requirement from the department that all absences are explained promptly.

BBQ Help

Fernhill School will be an accessible voting station for the election on Saturday 3rd May. We always have a BBQ running to sell a democracy sausage or more and it is a great fundraiser for the P&C. It is also a chance to spend some time with other members of the community and get to know them. Please help out if you can – the time zooms by and it is for a good cause – your child.

Happy Holidays

Enjoy some quality time away from alarm clocks in the holidays – most families will receive a PLP document by the end of next week, the result of the PLP meetings earlier in March. Stay safe and have a relaxing time.

GET TO KNOW OUR STAFF

This week we get to know our Blue Block Staff!

Warm wishes,

Julie



Meredith
Blue 5



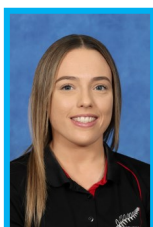
Steph
Blue 5



Julie E
Blue 5



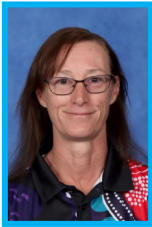
Megan
Blue 5



Shannon
Blue 6



Caroline
Blue 6



Dani
Blue 7



Ronin
Blue 7



Deb
Blue 8



Jess M
Blue 8



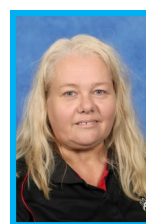
Fiona
Blue 8



Kelly
Blue 8



Daniel
Blue 18



Kimberley
Blue 18



Natasha
Blue 18



HOMEBASE PURPLE

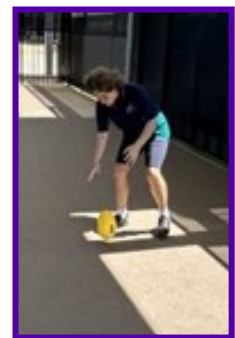
Welcome to Purple Block News

Purple 17 has 8 students. Ben is the teacher and Tracy K is the SLSO. We do PDHPE with Julie B on Mondays, we swim on Tuesday afternoons with Purple 19 and we do music on Thursdays with Purple 20. Our students are in early high school and we have lots of fun while getting our learning done.

We asked the class what the best thing about Purple 17 is, their answers are below:

Liam (typed): L like witing email in the purle 17

(I like writing emails in Purple 17)



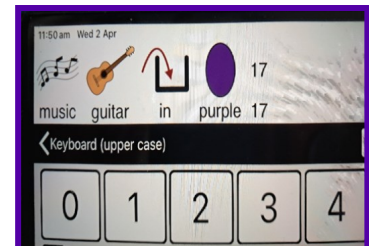
Maddison (typed): I like monsik wif purple 20

(I like music with Purple 20)



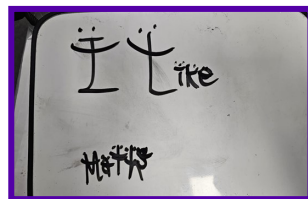
Dylan (typed in LAMP): Josh

(Josh was Dylan's 2024 teacher)



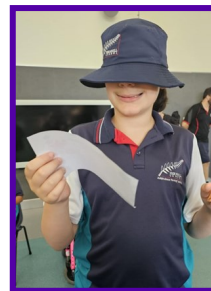
Faran: Music guitar in purple 17

(P2G)



Chris: Maths

(handwritten)



Lachlan: Maths

(chosen PCS)



Sierra (P2G Keyboard): I like redi

(I like reading)



Sapphire: Music

(handwritten)





HOMEBASE PURPLE

Welcome to Purple Block News

Hello from Purple 19!

We have been very busy this term, learning about our senses during our Food Technology lessons. Everyone has been able to identify what foods are sweet, salty, sour and bitter. We have also enjoyed participating in 'push and pull' Science lessons with Luana on Wednesdays.

On Tuesdays, some of us have been participating in work experience at school, some of us have been going to Sunnyfield ADE and Alannah goes to TAFE to study Retail!

We have begun swimming on Tuesday afternoons with Purple 17, which is a nice way to end our busy day. We take turns washing the swimming costumes on Wednesday and using the washing machine is a great way to build our independence.

We enjoy using the laptops in class and are learning to write emails to our parents. We write to them about our day or messages about what is on our mind. We love when we get reply emails!

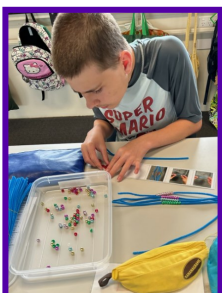
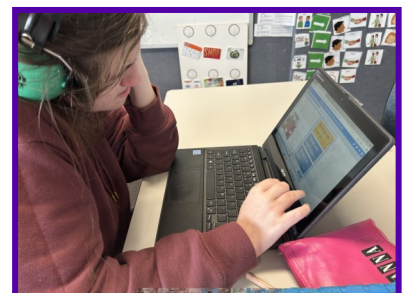
During maths lessons we have been practicing making groups and placing the correct amount of objects against a number. This skill helps those who attend work experience.

On Fridays we participate in dance classes with Kyla. This helps with our body awareness and is great practice for the Year 12 graduation party at the end of the year!

Purple 19 are very excited to be celebrating Arron and Alannah's 18th birthdays this coming week and celebrating Easter with some painting or colouring of wooden tags.

We hope everyone has a safe and happy break!

Kylie, Luana and Lorette



From our Office

Dear Families,

It has been a very busy term 1 and we can't believe we are almost at the end. It has been lovely meeting some new families and seeing some of our regular ones as well.

Uniforms

We have polo shirts back in stock (still waiting on some senior medium sizes), so if you require any new shirts you can pay via the School Bytes Parent Portal or pop into the office where we can assist you with an Eftpos payment.

There has been a slight increase in uniform costs, please see the new prices listed in yellow on the order form included on this page.

Remember we do also have a second hand clothing pool at the school, if you are interested in any items, please drop into the office or phone the school on 02 4733 0388 so we can check if we have your child's size available and we will send it home in their bag.

Current & Upcoming P&C Notes to Home

Easter Raffle

Don't forget to get your raffle tickets and money in if you would like to be in the draw to win one of our fantastic Easter hampers. More tickets are available through the school office. Good luck to you all!

Volunteers Needed for Two Upcoming Events



Mother's Day Stall - Volunteers Needed

The Mother's Day stall will be held in week 2 next term, a note was sent home with students on Wednesday. If you have not received a note, please contact the office and we will send another one home. All gift payments will be **CASH only** and is NOT available through the payment portal. Please contact the school office if you are available to help with gift wrapping or running the stall, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Election Day BBQ - Volunteers Needed

A note will be sent home with students next Monday asking for families who can volunteer some time to help out at the Election Day BBQ on Saturday 3rd May (first weekend back in Term 2). Please keep an eye out for the note, any support on the day will be appreciated. This is a great fundraiser for our school and money raised goes towards special family events.

We hope you have a safe and relaxing holiday with your family and friends and look forward to seeing you in Term 2.

Stay Safe;

*Kisane, Elisha, Chris,
April & Lisa R*



UNIFORM ORDER FORM

Student's Name:	
Class:	
Parent & Contact Number:	

Item	Price	Size	Qty	Amount	Collected
Polo Shirt - <u>Short</u> Sleeve (Jnr / Snr)	\$37.50			\$	
Polo Shirt - <u>Long</u> Sleeve (Jnr / Snr)	\$37.50			\$	
Dress	\$45			\$	
Sloppy Joe	\$37.50			\$	
Zip Jacket	\$37.50			\$	
Hat	\$20			\$	
TOTAL				\$	

Sizes Available: 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 or S, M, L, XL, 2XL 3XL

OFFICE USE ONLY			
Amount Paid:		Uniforms Collected:	
Date Paid:		Collected By:	
Payment Method:		Receipt #:	
Items on Backorder:			
2 nd Payment			
Amount Paid:		Uniforms Collected:	
Date Paid:		Collected By:	
Payment Method:		Receipt #:	



Below is a sample of some of the hampers up for grabs in the Easter Raffle!



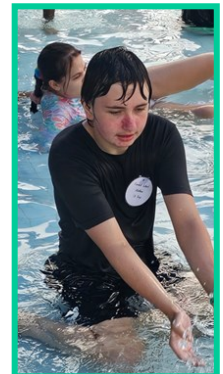
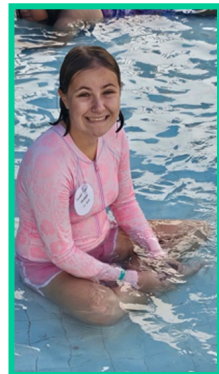
Combined Schools Swimming Carnival

Cabarita Pool

On Friday 7th March, 21 of our senior students attended a combined schools swimming carnival at Cabarita Pool. We all participated in the novelty races and had a great time.

The day ended spectacularly as we won the RUNNER UP trophy!!!

We are now looking forward to the Sports Carnival at Blacktown during Term 3!



Hi All,

Have a chat
from Betty!



April is Autism Acceptance Month. Recently I had the privilege of hearing from the amazing Jordyn Zimmerman at the AGOSCI conference. Jordyn is autistic, went to special schools for many years and didn't receive a communication device until she was 18. She delivered a keynote presentation using her device and she shared about her journey learning to communicate. She shared about the key people in her life who believed in her and worked with her to learn to communicate. We also got to watch a documentary film about Jordyn's life and then had the opportunity to ask her questions about her experiences which she answered in person. The film is called "This is not about me". I highly recommend watching this one as it's so valuable to hear Jordyn's insight into the successes and barriers on her communication journey.

The link to the video is:
<https://thisisnotaboutme.film/>

Betty Campbell
Speech Pathologist



Hi All,

OT - finding
solutions
to empower
everyday living



In term 1 I have had the pleasure of running dance sessions with some of the blocks as part of their PDHPE program. Each week I have watched the student participation increase and have seen the confidence among students grow. We have practiced:

- Moving different parts of our bodies in isolation
- Coordinating some more complex movement patterns
- Copying/mirroring actions
- Following instructions
- Listening and counting to the beat of the music
- Working together as a group
- Free dance (creative expression of movement to music)
- Stretching
- Deep breathing
- Participating in popular party dances
- And just generally having fun together as a group!

I hope that everyone has a wonderful break over the holidays. I am looking forward to continuing to work with the staff and students at Fernhill throughout term 2!

Kyla

Counsellor
Corner!



Coffee & Chat - Friday 4th April 2025



Thank you so much to everyone who came for Coffee & Chat today at Fernhill School. It was a good chance for parents to network, exchange their experiences and learn more about Fernhill School.

We were superbly catered for and waited on by the students in Purple 19 with delicious Anzac biscuits, coconut rough slice, mars bar slice and more! We felt very well looked after!

The big take away for me today is that more chances to meet up informally would be welcomed. So, look out for more Coffee & Chat dates in Term 2.

Sally & Justin

FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES



Penrith Toyota Easter Family Fun Day! Saturday 12th April 2025

Penrith Toyota are hosting an Easter Family Fun Day with lots of fun-filled activities available for all ages, this includes:

- Meet the Easter Bunny
- Face Painting
- Arts and Crafts
- Egg Guessing Competition
 - prizes include a Lindt Easter Egg Hamper and a family pass to Sydney Zoo
- Colouring-in Competition
 - prize includes a family pass to Sydney Zoo
- BBQ & Drinks

Date: Saturday 12th April 2025

Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm

Location: Penrith Toyota (Great Western Highway Kingswood)

For further information and to register your interest, please visit the Penrith Toyota Website:

<https://www.penrithtoyota.com.au/special-offers/easter-family-fun-day/>

Kylie's Kitchen Budget Tips

Sultana and coconut bliss balls

★★★★☆ (33)

Preparation time: 25 minutes

Cooking time: 0 minutes

Makes: 18

Vegetarian, Dairy free, Nut free



Ingredients

1 cup sultanas
1¼ cups desiccated coconut
1½ cups rolled oats
½ cup pepitas
2 tsp vanilla essence
½ tsp ground cinnamon

Savvy swaps

You can swap:

Food processor ● Blender
Oats ● Almond meal
Pepitas ● Sunflower seeds
Sultanas ● Raisins

Method

Step 1

Put the sultanas in a heat-proof bowl and pour over boiling water until covered. Set aside and soak for 10 minutes or until soft. Drain.

Step 2

Process the sultanas in a food processor until a paste forms. Add 1 cup coconut, oats, pepitas, vanilla and cinnamon and process until the mixture comes together.

Step 3

Place the remaining ¼ cup coconut in a shallow bowl. Using wet hands, roll approximately 1 tablespoon of mixture into a ball and roll in coconut to coat. Shake off excess and repeat to make 18 balls.

Step 4

Cover and chill in the fridge for 1 hour or until firm.

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

FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS at Allowah

Allowah's School Holiday Program is a day program where your child is supported as they enjoy engaging in games, craft and other activities that suit their skills and interests.

9.00am – 4.30pm, weekdays
during NSW school holidays
(excludes public holidays)

PRICING INFORMATION

There are two different levels for pricing. *Your child's level will be confirmed before intake into the program.*

STANDARD

This includes 0.25hr non-face-to-face time for planning and admin.

\$542.56/day

HIGH INTENSITY

This includes 0.25hr non-face-to-face time for planning and admin.

\$585.42/day

The price per day will change depending on if you reduce or extend the set hours of 9am-4:30pm - these changes must be pre-approved. All pick-up and drop-off times must be finalised before the start of the program. The program fills up fast so get in touch as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.



Book today by emailing
admin@allowah.org.au

AUTUMN 2025 THEMES

A Storybook Adventure



ON THE STAGE



Respite Accommodation

Consider also booking in for respite!
Give your child the chance to enjoy a safe and fun respite stay. With round-the-clock care from our experienced staff, you can have peace of mind that any additional needs are met.

Respite stays can be booked 365 days a year, even public holidays!

FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES



APRIL 2025						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				Term 1 ends	Holiday Respite Stays	
14	WEEK 1:	15	16	17	18	19
1:1 Holiday Program				Public Holiday		20
21	WEEK 2:	22	23	24	25	26
Public Holiday				Public Holiday		27

School Holiday Program runs weekdays excluding public holidays

Respite Bookings can be made for any day of the week!





Book today by emailing
admin@allowah.org.au

8 Perry St, Dundas Valley NSW 2117
 8877 3400 | admin@allowah.org.au



FERNHILL COMMUNITY NOTICES

 FERNHILL School - Term 1 2025					
Term ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
11	7 th Apr	8 th Apr	9 th Apr	10 th Apr EASTER HAT PARADE FOR YELLOW BLOCK & BLUE BLOCK	11 th Apr LAST DAY TERM 1
	Hols	Hols	Hols	Hols	Hols

 FERNHILL School - Term 2 2025					
Term ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	28 th Apr SDD	29 th Apr SDD	30 th Apr STUDENTS RETURN	1 st May	2 nd May ELECTION BBQ TOMORROW 3 RD MAY
2	5 th May	6 th May	7 th May	8 th May MOTHER'S DAY STALL	9 th May
3	12 th May	13 th May	14 th May	15 th May	16 th May YR 7 VACCINATION CLINIC



CONTACT US

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02 4733 0388



Fernhill School



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Glenmore Park NSW 2745



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Fernhill SSP