Dear Parents and Friends,

Jim Asimakopoulos Presents Citizen of the Year
Congratulations to Kaitlin Johnson as the recipient of the Jim Asimakopoulos Citizen of the Year award for 2016. It is truly deserved. The look on her face when Ryan Jewell announced her name was priceless. Kaitlin exemplifies our school values of Respect, Inclusion and Responsibility. Well done Kaitlin. Thank you to Ryan Jewell (last year’s recipient) for returning to Ferny Creek and presenting the award and delivering a thoughtful and relevant speech.

Well-Being
There is an amazing amount happening at Ferny Creek this year with student well-being and safety:

- Our two week Valued Start Program was again very successful concluding with our Ferny Creek whole school picnic.
- Our Senior Students’ Leadership roles involving Peer Support in the playground with selected students wearing High Vis vests to help with students.
- The launch of the 2016 Friendship Chair. Students in F-2 who are ‘lonely, hurt or sad’ sit on the chair and are looked after by the closest senior students.
- Our Student Leaders have attended a leadership conference (GRIP) with the central theme being about how to be a positive role model in our school.
- A really strong F-5 and 1-6 Buddy program. Watching the care our senior students demonstrate towards our young students is truly heart-warming.
- Student Leadership are about to attend a two day program involving mentors from local High Schools.
- Our new Inamojo Well-Being Program. This pilot program will be undertaken by some students selected from grades 3 and 4. It is run by Anna Kelly, parent of Maia in Grade 4. We hope this program can continue in our Junior Grades in the future.

“Together we make a Difference!”

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1

11th March – School and House Captains Badge Presentation
- This has been Postponed
14th March – Labour Day Holiday
15th March – Responsible Pet Ownership for Foundation - Grade 2
15th-18th March – Grade 5/6 Camp
19th March – Bush Dance
21st March – Easter Raffle tickets due in
22nd March – House Athletics Grades 3 - 6
24th March – Easter Parade and drawing of Easter Raffle
24th March – End of Term 1 (early 2.30pm dismissal)
A refresher course for our Restorative Practices program for selected staff.

Our new Sentral student well-being online program will be up and running from term 2.

School Council 2016
School Council is set to go for 2016. Your Council is;
Parents: Bek Cranmer, Will McGoldrick, Tracey McGregor, Jenny Royle, Vanessa Roberts, Liam Smith, VACANCY, VACANCY.
Staff: Adam Crotty, Brian Graham, Cheryl Martin, Lynda Russell.
Executive Officer: Matthew Coyle
You probably noted that there are still two vacancies for Parent positions. Please come and chat to me if you are interested in one of the positions. These two would be one-year terms.

AGM is Tuesday 22nd March at 7pm followed the first meeting of the new Council.

Bush Dance
Wow, are the kids very excited. We have been learning bush dances with Melody and Doug and are ready to rock! Oops, I mean bushdance! Forecast is for fabulous weather (yep, I’ve made that up!) so we’ll open up the doors and kids can play on the oval and play ground as well as dance. The added bonus is that we will have our five Japanese students with us! What an experience for them!

Lots of delicious food including chili bean, pulled pork and beef sliders, sausage sizzle, salads and desserts, and more!

AND helpers are needed for the night and the next day clean up (given most of the committee Cranmer-Tyler’s, Edge’s and Hawkins families have Japanese students).

Please get you tickets early so we can best cater for the numbers attending. I encourage all families to support this new Ferny Creek social activity. To team up with another school (Mt Dandy) is not something common. We really want to promote a sense of broader community. If this is successful we hope to invite the other ‘ridge schools’ to participate in future years.

Tickets are purchased online www.mountainbushdance.com.au

School Athletics Fun Day
Well, the heat almost beat us, but we made it through the FUN part of the day. It’s not hard to understand why the ‘water’ activities proved the most popular. Thank you to the huge team of parents who helped out running the activities – your help was essential!!!! A massive, huge thank you to Doug. The amount of prep time and organising teams etc. was enormous. Well done Doug. The running part of the athletics will be Tuesday week, weather permitting.

Year 5/6 Camp
Our Year 5 and 6 Camp to Camp Nillahcootie is ON NEXT WEEK!!!
Can I wish all our Year 5 and 6 students a terrific camp? This is the second time we have been to this camp. We all had a wonderful time on camp then, so I’m sure this year’s group will also. Good luck and thank you teachers for organising and getting the camp moving!

School Uniform
It is very pleasing to see our children in school uniform. On Thursday and Friday I visited every classroom and all students were in uniform – 100%. I am very pleased with the pride our students
are showing in Ferny Creek. Our school mantra ‘together we make a difference’ is all about teamwork and achieving together. I would like to thank all parents for making the effort to ensure our compulsory uniform policy is followed.

Have great weekend and see you all next week,
Matthew

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**School Crossing:**
*Diane Garsed*

**Uniform Shop:**
*Tuesday 8:50 - 9:30am*
*Lease Robinson*

**Library:**
*Beth Byrne*

**Buildings & Grounds:**
*Michael Paterson*
*mpaterson@probuild.com.au*

**School Banking:**
*Tuesday*
*Lease Robinson*

**Costume Hire:**
*Sarah Jennings*

**OSHCare 4 KIDS**
*Head Office: 9758 6744*
*P.O. Box 7082*
*Upper Ferntree Gully*
*Vic 3156*
*Email: admin@oshcare4kids.com.au*
*Website: www.oshcare4kids.com.au*

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**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

*Deadline by Wednesday 1pm*
*Email - fernt.creek.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au*
*If you would like to receive the Newsletter every week via email then GO TO THE WEBSITE TO SUBSCRIBE TO ONLINE NEWSLETTER*

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Last year, we ran a very successful clothing recycling drive. Through this drive, you are invited to bring in any unwanted clothes, shoes, handbags, linen or soft toys. These are reused/donated to developing countries. As and additional incentive, our school earns 25 cents for every kilo collected. It also gives you the opportunity to actually have a ‘clean out’!

We will be running this drive twice this year – one at the end of this term (bags will be sent home with your child for filling over the Easter break) and another early in Term 4. Each child will be given a bag to bring home but we also accept additional bag-loads using just ordinary bin bags (if you wanted to start collecting now.)

Bags will be collected at the school during the first two weeks of Term 2.

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**School House**

**Sports Day**

**Thank you to all the helpers.**

Our House Sports Day turned out to be an energetic and spirited event full of old fashioned good fun.

The success of the day was due to strong support from many, many people.

Thank you to all the staff who stayed behind and came early to help get things organized.

It was overwhelming to see all the parents and grandparents who dedicated their day to make the event run so well. Also, a big thanks to Mark Barlow for mowing the oval at short notice.

We postponed the Athletics component until early next term due to the excessive heat Tuesday afternoon.

The results of the sports will be announced at assembly Friday morning.

Thank you
Doug
“STARS OF THE WEEK”

**Foundation Jodie/Kristy**

Romy R-D: For always remembering to use his “inside voice” and working quietly at his table to finish all work. Well done Romy!

**Amalia O:** For always using her “listening ears” and asking such thoughtful questions during share and chat time. Great work!

**Foundation Rhian**

Evie O: For using her ‘listening ears’ and ‘looking eyes’ all the time, and focusing so well on her work. Well done Evie!

Sebastian C: For being such a focused and helpful member of our class. Good ‘listening ears’ Sebastian. Well done!

**1/2 Anna**

Henry G: For demonstrating initiative by using a dictionary to help with his spelling and for taking great pride in his work.

**Georgina W:** For being a motivated and enthusiastic learner and for earning her very first Mathletics certificate.

**1/2 Brian**

Lily-Marie M: For being a friendly and co-operative member of the class.

**Malachy O’S :** For doing a great job every week with Mathletics – keep it up Malachy!

**3/4 Cheryl**

Ash T: For being a wonderful mathematician and performing very well in ‘Speedy Maths’.

**Sammy W:** For looking out for her friends in the yard and being kind and including others.

**3/4 Lynda**

Oliver C: For being an excellent role model to the younger students and always trying his best.

**Alexis R:** For making a great start to Grade 3, showing respect for all her classmates and always trying her best.

**4/5 Samantha**

Lucas W: For sharing lots of different multiplication strategies and helping others during challenging math tasks.

**Vanessa B:** For displaying fantastic sportsmanship at the House Sports Day. It was excellent seeing you help people all day.

**5/6 Adam**

Robert B: For your determined and focused efforts to improve your handwriting. I can now easily decipher what it is that you have written. Keep up the great work!

**Jenna C:** For the high level of pride you take in everything you do and the friendly and supportive way you interact with your peers. It’s a pleasure having you in our classroom Jenna!

**5/6 Coby/Kelly**

Lachlan McG: For being a brilliant team co-captain, treating all in a caring & courteous manner and looking out for younger students.

**Oliver W:** For being a responsible student, following our iPad agreed practices without prompting and looking out for what benefits the group as a whole.

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**Riding to School Bus Guide**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leave Sassy Village Green</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilton Road</td>
<td>8.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horse Paddock</td>
<td>8.25am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laubes Lane</td>
<td>8.35am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Top of School Road</td>
<td>8.40am</td>
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</tbody>
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*Please note that times are approximate and may vary considerably.

Adam and Doug
The "Tomato Farm Run" is on!

Saucing Tomatoes are in abundance right now! These little red rippers are organic and come farm direct from Koo Wee Rup. Available in 10kg bulk boxes. Buy for yourself or team up with some friends to share! Produce is ripe and may have some blemishes - just perfect for making passata, chutney or tomato sauce!

Orders are now open and will close 12noon on Saturday. Delivery will be to your nominated hub on Friday 11th March (afternoon).

Thanks to our local supporters, pick up locations will be offered at The Patch Store, Menzies Creek Primary School, Coonara Community House and Ferny Creek Primary School. To order, jump on to the Farm Foodstore online shop at https://openfoodnetwork.org.au/farm-foodstore/shop

Boxes are $30 each
Credit Card payment is available at the time of online checkout
Deliveries will be in the afternoon
Coming Up Term 2, 2016 . . .

**Become an Expert on Shells.**
**A WiseOnes program for Fast Learners**

We will use sea shells to learn how to become expert at anything. Here are some of our shells. We have plenty of them for you to choose some to help you become an expert.

Did you know that an expert does not know everything about everything?

By the time we get to week 8 in WiseOnes sessions you will be an expert in some kind of shells, knowing their scientific names and characteristics and how that system works. You will be able to present your ideas confident that you know what you are talking about. You will be using the shells every week and having fun in a small group of others like you, fast learners. Then use the skills you have learned to become expert in your choice of topic for sharing.

**WiseOnes Application for Term 2, 2016**
This program is available for all Year 1 - Year 6 children who have qualified for WiseOnes.
The unit commences week beginning Thursday **21st April** and will run for 8 weeks.

I wish to enrol my child in the unit "**Become an expert in Shells**” starting week beginning 21/4/2016
I give permission for a copy of this slip to be handed to the WiseOnes teacher.

Child's Name ___________________________________________ School: **Ferny Creek Primary**
Date of Birth ___________________________ Class (2016) ________
Email: ____________________________________________________

My child has already qualified for WiseOnes YES/NO
I would like a free test for my child YES/NO.

**Please send this slip and payment of $238.00 to your school by Wednesday, 13th April 2016.**

Please tick:  ☐Cheque  ☐Cash  ☐EFTPOS  ☐ Direct deposit BSB: 063414  Acct :10022451

Credit Card:  Please debit my ☐Mastercard  ☐ Visa Card  Expiry Date: __/____
[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
Card Holders Name: ___________________________Signature: ___________________________
Telephone contact: ___________________________

*For further information, please contact Sandy Robertson on 9756 7780 or Mobile: 0432 326 070*

sandyrobertson777@gmail.com
Free Family Fun Day

National Rhododendron Gardens

The Georgian Road, Olinda

Tuesday 5th April, 10am-3pm

Enjoy this magnificent garden in all its autumn splendour and join in the FUN activities:

- Andy’s Antics
- Stax the Didgeman workshops
- Platypus Education Group
- CFA Fire Tanker & activities
- Victorian National Parks Association Nature Watch Program
- The Great Garden Hunt
- Parks Victoria Wildlife Display
- Southern Dandenongs Landcare Group
- BirdLife Australia Display
- Eastern Regional Libraries
- Interactive activities and games for children
- Yarra Valley Water
- Pot and take home your own plant
- Food available from Olinda Primary School and Café Vireya

For further information contact Parks Victoria on 13 1963
Or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au
What’s On Next Week?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 14th</th>
<th>Tuesday 15th</th>
<th>Wednesday 16th</th>
<th>Thursday 17th</th>
<th>Friday 18th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create some fantastic images as you use leaves to print their patterns onto paper! You’ll be amazed.</td>
<td>Decorate your own Autumn tree by simply using dots! This will take a lot of patience but absolutely worth it in the end</td>
<td>Book in now and join us today for our super fun Autumn-themed scavenger hunt! Will you find all of the items?</td>
<td>Create some beautiful Autumn-inspired nature pictures and explore your surroundings for your artwork</td>
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**Cooking Club**

On Friday we’ll be making fruity jungle juice!

**Joke of the Week**

This week’s joke comes from Miss E!

Q: What do you call a cow that eats your grass?
A: A lawn moo-er

**After The Bell News**

Book before March 15 to avoid LATE FEE for Vacation Care!

**FEEDBACK**

We welcome any feedback or suggestion of things that your children are interested in so that we can develop the program to meet the needs of you and your children.

**ENROLMENT AND BOOKINGS**

We always welcome new faces to Before and After Care! 2016 Enrolments can be completed online or by downloading a paper version, or you can pick one up at the OSHCare room. Should you need any assistance with the online process, feel free to come and see us and will be happy to help you out with the process.

**CONTACTS**

Booking/Cancelation: enrolment@afterthebell.com.au
OSHC: 0428 258 940

**Kids Corner**

Just some of the fun to be had at Ferny creek OSHC!