PRINCIPAL’S BLOG

Dear Parents and Friends,

Easter Raffle and Parade Day
Next week is our grand Easter Bonnet Parade on the last day of the term!! Get those hats ready! Please also remember that we have an Easter Raffle and would very much appreciate it if families could donate some ‘Easter eggs’ for the prizes. We have a box outside my office that you can place the chocolate in.

Bush Dance is still on!
Have you bought your tickets online??????

- Kids very excited.
- Planning Committee very excited.
- We have been learning bush dances with Melody and Doug.
- Our five Japanese students are 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 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 staying with them).
- 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 a broader community. If this is successful we hope to invite the other ‘ridge schools’ to participate in future years. Tickets are purchased online. See the advertisement on page 4 for further details.

Year 5/6 Camp
Our senior students are currently enjoying their time at Lake Nillahcoote Camp. From all reports they are having a fantastic time. They arrive home tomorrow afternoon.
Japanese Exchange
What an important and wonderful week at FCPS this week. Our first exchange students from our sister school in Mito, Japan, have been with us since Tuesday. We have five students who are placed in our Grade 3 and 4 classes. They are having an ‘eye opening’ time. Toshi, Cheryl, Lynda and Doug have planned the best week’s worth of experiences we could for them. They WILL go home happy! Thanks to the Edge, Cranmer, Hawkins, Piening and Jacobson families for billeting the students this week. The Japanese students spent a couple of days in Sydney before coming to us and leave at 7am on Monday to visit Brisbane.

A reminder that term 1 concludes at 2.30 pm next Thursday as Friday is the start of the Easter break.

Have a great week,
Matthew

Attention all EnviroKnights!
We will be having a working bee at the frog bog this Friday 18 March during lunchtime. There is a lot of weeding and general cleaning up to do.
Please bring a rain jacket, boots and a change of clothes.
If any parents would like to help out, we could certainly use some extra pairs of hands.
NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline by Wednesday 1pm
Email - fenny.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

Building and Grounds Report March 2016

Where has the first term gone!! It is nearly over and we have not managed to fit a working bee in - we will make up by holding two next term (I can hear the excitement in all your voices!!).

The first will be on Saturday 16th April from 12 - 4pm. We have reverted back to house colour working bees this year and Red house are first out of the blocks - come along and raise points for your children’s house. The second working bee of the term will be held on Saturday 28th of May at the same time and will be hosted by Blue house.

Thanks are due to the following people who have recently given up their time to make our school a better place:

- Ian Sykes and Deb and Steve Andrich for assisting in setting up/dismantling the Billy Cart course
- Marc Barlow for picking up/dropping off the ride on mower and cutting the grass to the oval and rear area prior to the Billy Cart Derby and prior to the school sports day.
- Alex Pinnager for donating 2 loads of mulch to be used in our front car park area and adjacent garden beds
- Sander Groeneveld for spraying the blackberries around the school
- Andrew Wolstencroft for repairing the front playground swings – the quotation we received to replace these was in excess of $3000, so it is a tremendous saving that these have been able to be repaired at no cost to the school.

Building and Grounds hold a meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. We are always looking for new members to join Matthew, Tracey McGregor, Graham Lawrence, Andrew Wolstencroft and myself.

Best wishes,
Michael

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.
University of NSW Tests for Schools 2016 (Final Reminder)

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools provides grade 3 - 6 students with an opportunity to measure their own achievement in an external testing situation. They are completed in schools in many countries in Asia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

In recent years the Ferny Creek students who have entered the competitions have tried their hardest, and several students have obtained the highest possible scores.

In 2016, the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools will comprise of Science, Digital Technologies, Writing, Mathematics, English and Spelling. The competitions are open to all students in grades 3 to 6, and students are encouraged to enter one, two, or all of the competitions.

An individual notice has been sent home with grade 3-6 students with information about dates for sitting the examination, costs, payment dates and how the competition is run. Please note that entries need to be received by Monday 21st March if you wish to participate. Please note that no late applications can be accepted. Thank you,

Brian Graham
ICAS Co-ordinator
**Guess The Easter Eggs In The Jar**

Come try your luck and guess how many eggs are in the jar and help raise money for the Royal Children’s Good Friday Appeal!

**When:** From Tuesday 15th - 22nd March at Recess  
**Where:** The Shade Sails  
**How Much?**: 50c for 1 guess  
$1 for 3 guesses

The lucky winner will be announced at the Easter Bonnet Parade.

All monies raised will be donated to the Royal Children’s Good Friday Appeal.

Thank you for your support, Alexis, Ava, Bridget, Layla, Maddle & Wren (G3)

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**ANZAC DAY**  
**APRIL 25th 2016**  
**6.30am** **DAWN SERVICE**  
Anzac Avenue Of Honour Memorial  
Cnr Sherbrooke Rd/Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd,  
FERNY CREEK  
Parking & Breakfast to follow @ Ferny Creek Reserve

**10.30am** **MARCH/SERVICE**  
Sassafras Village Green  
Cnr Mountain Hwy/Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd,  
SASSAFRAS

**ALL WELCOME**

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**MASSIVE PLANT SALE**

Monbulk Recreation Reserve Development Group  
Proudly presents  
**SATURDAY 2nd APRIL**  
8AM onwards  
Rec. Reserve Moores Road Monbulk

All proceeds to go towards NEW COMMUNITY PAVILION at Moores Road Rec. Reserve for the whole community  
Wholesale & Retail Sales Welcome
**What’s On Next Week?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 21st</th>
<th>Tuesday 22nd</th>
<th>Wednesday 16th</th>
<th>Thursday 17th</th>
<th>Friday 18th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Today we begin the countdown to Easter by making cute, fluffy Easter bunnies</td>
<td>Take part in our Easter egg and spoon race! Then see how good you are at hopping in a fun game of Easter Bunny Hop</td>
<td>Welcome the Autumn sun as we make incredible Easter Egg suncatchers! They will look fantastic as they glisten on your window</td>
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**Cooking Club**

On Thursday we are making Easter bunny choc chip cookies!

**Kids Corner**

Art and wildlife at Ferny Creek OSHC!

**Joke of the Week**

This week’s joke comes from the ever-mysterious Mr B!

Q: Why was the boy sitting on his watch?

A: Because he wanted to be on time.

**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