DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1
19th – 25th March – Life Ed Van
20th March – School Photos
26th March – House Sports Day
27th March – Last Day Term 1
2.30pm Finish

Term 2
13th April – Term 2 Commences
21st April – Anzac Ceremony
30th April – Athletics at Knox

“Together we make a Difference!”

PRINCIPAL’S BLOG

Dear Parents and Friends,

Easter Raffle and Parade Day
Only two weeks to go before 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.

Jim Asimakopoulos Presents Citizen of the Year
Congratulations to Ryan Jewell as the recipient of the Jim Asimakopoulos Citizen of the Year award for 2015. It is truly deserved. Ryan exemplifies our school values of Respect, Inclusion and Pride. Well done Ryan. Thank you to Steph Barlow (last year’s recipient) for returning to Ferny Creek and presenting Ryan with his award and delivering a thoughtful and relevant speech.

Year 5 and 6 Camp
Last week we had our first camp of the year where we sent our year 5 and 6 students to Lorne Surf Life Saving Club. What a camp! I was lucky enough to attend on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I was extremely impressed with the campsite and the camp staff. The weather was glorious and the surfing lessons were a hit!! The camp’s activities were all about building confidence, raising self esteem, taking risks, cooperating together, living together and respecting each other’s differences. I was particularly pleased to witness countless examples of children praising other children when they attempted, and often succeeded, in standing on their board!

I was particularly impressed with the relationships built between teachers and students. There is already a serious bond between our teachers and students this year. Having our senior camp in term 1,
following our Valued Start Program, has seen our students in Years 5 and 6 committed to doing their best and being the best they can for Ferny Creek Primary School. I witnessed an outstanding example of this when, on Wednesday night, one of our Year 6 boys went to bed with a headache. When the other Year 6 boys went to bed later, they left lights off and went straight to sleep with no talking so the boy could stay asleep. Thank you teachers and students!

Of course none of this could have gone ahead without the massive planning effort from Adam, in particular, and Doug, Coby, Kristy and Allen. Thank you to our wonderful aides who went to support Archie – Beth, Shelley, Dana and Katrina. Thanks also to Lease and Barb for their support.

Camp Woorabinda 2015
Every two years our school is offered a limited number of places at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Department's Woorabinda School Camp. This year our allotted time is from 16th March until the 20th March. Ten students selected from our school will join with 160 Grade 5 and 6 children from our school district in this very special Outdoor Education and Personal Development program. The camp has both indoor and outdoor activities all run by specialist permanent teaching staff with the assistance of nine local teachers who will accompany the children to and from the camp. The activities are mainly physical and outdoor and include High and Low Ropes Courses, Boating, Rock Climbing, Abseiling, Challenge Swing and Initiative Activities, which require a
Parent Contributions
As you all are aware, our Requisites and Levies are helping us present the programs at Ferny Creek that we would struggle with without your generosity. Your contributions provide resources for our English, Mathematics, Technology, Science, Health and Physical Education, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Lexile Reading Program, our new reporting program (Sentral), Reading Improvement Program, Reading Enrichment Program, Mathletics, and Kitchen Garden Project. Final budgets for our school programs were finalised after February 27, school census day. At this point in time we have not received as much as we anticipated from looking at past years, which means that there will be an impact on some of the above-mentioned programs. I certainly understand that we have had two school camps this term and that this may have impacted on some families’ abilities to contribute. Unless our situation improves we are at risk of seeing an effect on some of our programs. We always attempt not to impact too heavily on the key curriculum areas, but areas such as Facilities, Administration, eLearning, Music and Art and others may be impacted. If you have not yet contributed could you please consider doing so as soon as possible? Of course, parents who may have difficulty with payment are invited to see Jill to organise a payment plan.

House Athletics Sports next Thursday
Next week is our House Sports day!! This is a great day in our school year. We want all children to come in House colours. We need LOTS of parent help on the day – wear your colours too. Our Preps to 2 compete up until lunchtime and Senior School (grades 3-6) after lunch.

Year 3/4 Camp
Our Year 3 and 4 Camp have been to Portsea this week. For many it was their first school camp. I attended Tuesday and Wednesday and witnessed a terrific camp. The staff managed your children exceptionally! As I was told many times, we had the BEST time! Thank you to Cheryl, Heather and Doug for organising and running such a fantastic camp!

Have a great week,
Matthew

Easter Egg Donations
Thank you to those families who have already donated eggs at the office! We need truck loads more!! I’m hoping to see the box outside Matthews’ office full as soon as possible.
CHOIR EXCURSION – ANZAC Ceremony

Next week an excursion notice will be going home with Choir students and Grade 6 reps on Tuesday. We will be performing at the ANZAC day Ceremony at the 1000 steps which will take place from 11am – 12 noon on Tuesday the 21st of April. Parents will have until the end of the first week of Term 2 to return the permission forms and money for the bus trip. Could all choir members please practice the four songs we will be singing over the school holidays. Thank you.

I am also contemplating having a group of students walk back to school up the 1000 steps following the ceremony. If we are to do this I will require some parental assistance. Parents are welcome to catch the bus down with us and walk back to school with the students. If you are interested please let me know. The bus will be available for the return trip home for students who do not wish to walk back. I will stress that only students who have completed this walk before successfully should attempt it on the day as it is a difficult walk and I won’t be able to carry them! A final decision on the walk back will depend on parental assistance and the weather.

Melody Petersen

THE OPERA IS COMING TO SCHOOL!!!!

Opera Australia has been booked to perform Hansel and Gretel at the school on Tuesday the 2nd of June. This will be a wonderful incursion and a great experience for all children. Stay tuned for more information next term.

Calling ALL Ferny Creek P.S. Mums, Aunties, Nannas, Teachers, Guardians, Friends and Neighbours!

Ladies Night at Lyndy’s place for the benefit of one of our school families that is dealing with Cancer. Let’s help lighten the financial load that comes with the main breadwinner laying low for treatment.

The plan is to get together at 49 Hilton Road, Ferny Creek from 8pm on Friday 27th March. While we “cheers” the end of first term, meet some new faces and show our heart-felt support to a local family, your $25 pp entry fee will go directly to help where it is needed.

Bring Your Own, Bring a Friend and Bring a Plate to share please. 😊

P.S. While the intention is for this to be a Ladies Night, any blokes brave enough to deal with the amount of oestrogen in the house are welcome to join us! Their cash will be just as helpful!!!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

If you don’t believe then you don’t achieve
Charlotte
We’re pleased to inform you that we have just launched a school app.

The school will be using the app to send out the school newsletter, general updates, reminders, events and much, much more!

The app is called tiqbiz and is available on iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and Windows phone devices.

If you don’t have a mobile device, there is also an app available for computer, both Mac and PC. We kindly ask that you download tiqbiz to one of these devices, register a free account then find and tick the school.

When you are ticking the school boxes, please make sure you tick on “Whole School” and the specific grades/years that apply to your family.

You’ll receive all the information with a push notification – much like a text message directly to your device. Any last minute changes or reminders, we’ll be able to can reach you to keep you completely informed and up-to-date.

The app has some great features that will allow us to get information through easily and quickly, you’ll be reminded about important calendar dates 24 hours before, and everything we post can be translated into one of 81 languages!

You will also be able to submit student absence via the app now, authorised by your signature, electronically signed straight onto the screen with your finger!

We hope you will enjoy using this great communication tool.
The Week That Was.......... 

Last week (week 7) was ‘Sports Fun!’

We had a great time trying out some new sports and having fun while we did it! We made our very own basketball hoops, surfboards and skiing paper dolls!

We had a great week!

This Week’s Program.......... 

This week is ‘Cultural Diversity Week’! We have been exploring different cultures and even tried some traditional food to match! Our taste buds have really enjoyed this! So far this week we have made some beautiful Japanese fans and celebrated St Patricks Day by finding gold at the end of our rainbows! We are looking forward to ending our week by travelling to Mexico and making some festive, brightly coloured Sombreros!"

The Upcoming Week.................

Next is ‘Farmyard Friends’ week! We’ll look at the different animals Old McDonald was talking about!! We’ll make cotton wool sheep, hand print chickens and experience real farm life from the comfort of the OSHC room! We’ll also create Easter Bunnies and go on an Easter Egg Hunt!

Cooking Club This Week....

Cooking Club has been heaps of fun this term! Last week we made pizzas and they were delicious! Next week’s cooking club is a SURPRISE again!

Joke of the Week....

This week’s joke is from Oliver in 1/2K.

What do you get when you cook bacon with caterpillars?
Bacon and scrambled legs!

Kids Corner....

Oliver ran an Origami Challenge last week on Friday! It went very well with everyone creating some great pieces of work! We have good news! For those who weren’t there on Friday and weren’t able to join in, we will be holding the Challenge weekly so we can have more entries. The more the merrier! Oliver and I look forward to seeing you there!

BOOK NOW FOR APRIL VACATION CARE

Just a reminder that we are now taking online bookings for our Fun and Exciting April Holiday Program at Emerald PS and Mater Christi in Belgrave. A few of the themed days include; Extreme Fun Adventure, Wacky Science, My Kitchen Rules and there will even be an excursion happening to ‘Clip n Climb’.

Also a continuing reminder to please remember to bring your hat to Outside of School hours Care and return your updated 2015 enrolment details.

OSHCare 4 KIDS Head Office: 9758 6744
www.oshcare4kids.com.au