PRINCIPAL’S BLOG

Ferny Creek Primary Launches Amazing Online Survey

Over the past 10 years, the way people communicate with each other has changed dramatically and in recent years, Ferny Creek Primary School has also made several changes to the way we communicate with our parent community. We are very interested to find out your thoughts on these changes and how to further improve school communication to meet your needs.

To this end, the following questions ask you about the reasons why you chose to enrol your child at Ferny Creek Primary School, your experience with the school’s communication, things that you’d like to know more about and how we’re best able to communicate them to you.

The survey is completely anonymous but you can include your name if you wish. We intend to use the results to better design activities and communication channels that best meet the needs of the whole school community.

If you are able, filling this survey out online using a computer or tablet would be preferable as it means we can collate the data without having to re-enter your responses – however we appreciate that not everyone is able to do so and would prefer to have a written response over no response! Hard copies of the survey are available upon request from our office.

Responses from both parents/carers (where there are two) would also be welcomed. To complete the survey click on the following link if you are reading this online or copy the link into the web address bar on your computer or other device.

www.fernycreekps.vic.edu.au/school-survey

What will happen next?
Results will be disseminated by School Council, School Leadership,
staff and other relevant groups, e.g. Promotions Committee. School Council will then inform our community of what we learn.

This feedback will be provided in term 4. From all of this we will:

- **Make any immediate changes** to practice or programs that are in obvious need of some modification.
- **Further develop our programs** that you feel are our strengths and revisit areas you perceive we can build further on.
- **Use the data to plan for 2017** in such areas as Transition, extra curricula programs, etc.
- **Develop information packages** that outline clearly our schools procedures and practices in areas the survey informs us you would like to know more about, e.g. the Performing Arts Program, the Veggie Garden Program.

We would like to close off the survey on Friday 14th October (end of week 2 in term 4) so we have enough time to collate the information and provide feedback to our community.

Making Your Child’s Online Experience Safe:

Occasionally I receive calls from parents worried about their child’s access to, and time on, computers and tablets at home. I always reassure them that non-educational games and chatting are not, and never will be, part of our school curriculum right from Foundation through to Year 6. I have also had time to talk to Susan McLean, a world-renowned exert in cyber safety and all related issues. Her advice is simple, though difficult to enact for many of us as we feel our kids know more than we do when it comes to Internet use.

1. **Set rules. Be Firm. Be consistent.** As a parent we work hard to protect our children. We warn them about stranger danger but keeping them safe is a little more challenging. Each time your computer is connected to the Internet, danger could come flooding into your home. The Internet is now an integral part of life so simply banning it is inappropriate. It is up to us as parents to set rules in place, set limits for time on screen, on the type of programs being used, etc. As parents, we can take some steps to minimise the dangers for your children.

2. **Check that your Internet Service Provider (ISP) is family-friendly and adheres to the Internet Industry Association codes of conduct.** Family-friendly ISP’s can be recognised by the lady bird logo displayed on their website. These ISP’s can offer information and online tools to assist both parents and children to use the Internet in fun, yet safe ways.

Thank you and have a great last week of term 3!

Matthew
Thank you to the wonderful Mums and Grandmas who came in to read to us today for Literacy Day.
eSmart Week
The web is a great place to learn, be creative and stay connected, but with one in seven young Australians found to be suffering from cyber bullying, and the many other challenges young people face online, it’s important that we invest in giving our students the skills they need to be responsible digital citizens.
That’s why we’re participating in the Alannah & Madeline Foundation's National eSmart Week to show our commitment to cyber safety, wellbeing and digital inclusion.
Take a look at some of our cybersafety super heroes designed by our 1/2 students this week! A winner from each grade will be announced at assembly tomorrow.

MINI RANGES BASKETBALL
The Mini Ranges Basketball Program is specifically designed for primary school aged children for both boys and girls from Prep to Grade 6.

Developed to help children of all abilities to learn the fundamental skills of basketball in a fun and supportive atmosphere, this program will prepare children for junior domestic competition with Ranges Basketball Club.

To book a place for Mini Ranges or register (ages 6-22) for the upcoming Summer season commencing on 5th November 2016 please contact:

Carey m) 0417 398 834
e)ct3103@bigpond.com
or Emma m) 0458 663 105

Please note that parents are expected to stay and all participants are expected to behave in an orderly manner.

DATES:
Monday 5th September
Monday 12th September
Monday 19th September
Monday 26th September
Monday 3rd October
Monday 10th October
Monday 17th October
Monday 24th October

TIME:
4.30PM-5.15PM

WHERE:
Monbulk College Sports Stadium

HOW MUCH:
FREE

WHAT TO BRING:
Runners and a basketball (not compulsory)
# STARS OF THE WEEK

**Foundation**

| Jodie/Kristy | Archie G: For showing great Maths skills this week and being able to confidently count and record numbers beyond 20. Great job Arch!  
Evie O: For showing great independence and initiative in getting herself ready to start working. Well done Evie! |
| Rhian | Liam C: For making good choices and concentrating hard during class time. Keep up the good work Liam!  
Aiden R: For his fantastic efforts when completing handwriting tasks. Keep up the good work Aiden! |

| Anna | Bobby D-H: For learning to read analogue and digital time to the minute. Fantastic effort, Bobby!  
Casper G: For his outstanding effort on his Australian animal project about koalas. |
| Brian | Isadora F: For showing great independent working skills in class, while working on her Koala diorama.  
Summer B: For displaying great research and presentation skills to complete her Australian Animals project. |

| Cheryl | Layla G: For her enthusiasm with Spelladrome and appearing on the Hall of Fame. Well done Layla.  
Sammy W: For her enthusiasm with working on Spelladrome and appearing on the Hall of Fame. Well done Sammy. |
| Lynda | Alexis R: For always staying focused on her tasks and working well with her peers.  
Lucy N: For always challenging herself to learn her times tables and being very successful in the 50’s club. |

| Samantha | Ruby C: For doing a fantastic job reading The Fight on the Hill. You did an excellent job answering the questions and drawing the pictures.  
Jared S: For respectfully working with others and managing his time well in order to finish set tasks. Excellent job! |

| Lisa | Kyan D: For the sensational job done on the Carmen Sandiego fact files – the details were amazing!!  
Martha B: For working on improving her time management and organisational skills, and as a result – handing in work before the due date! |
| Coby/Kelly | Gidi T: For the brilliant way he helps others out without seeking recognition or applause from others.  
Saskia H: For her fantastic attitude at the A.F.L. skills activities. Her brilliant approach to the day was noticed by staff, students and parents. |
What’s On Next Week in the Ferny Creek OSHC  

**MAGIC WEEK**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td>ABRA CADABRA</td>
<td>MAGIC CARD TRICKS</td>
<td>FANTASY DODGEBALL</td>
<td>BOOK OF MAGIC</td>
<td>MAGICIANS INK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cast a spell or two when you create your very own magic wand! You can decorate it however you like!</td>
<td>Come and put on a magic show! Impress your friends with some awesome card tricks that you’ll learn today!</td>
<td>It's dragons versus witches and wizards in a magical game of dodgeball!</td>
<td>Join us in creating a unique spell book full of spells made up by you!</td>
<td>How do magicians write letters? They use invisible ink! Come and try it for yourself!</td>
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**KIDS CORNER**

**Junior Leaders**
Ryder for always making everyone laugh!
You were a fantastic Junior Leader!

**Community News**
Remember to bring your hats next term so you can join us in playing outside!!

Attention if anyone has any recycle material they are not using why not give them a second home and Ferny Creek After The Bell

Don’t forget that it can cost you as little as $6.31 per session/child with the Government Rebate.

Don’t forget Vacation Care starts next Monday! Book in to secure your place.

**Joke Of The Week**
Why are elephants wrinkly? Because they take too long to iron!

**VACATION CARE @ MATER CHRISTI**

ENROLMENT AND BOOKINGS
We always welcome new faces to our Before & After School 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 we will be happy to help you out with the process.

CONTACTS US
Booking/Cancelation: enrolment@afterthebell.com.au
(OSHC contact phone: 0428 258 940
Program Leader - Ashliegh)

(VACATION CARE @ MATER CHRISTI)

BOOK NOW!

Vacation Fun
Coming this school holidays
hours of fun and laughter