CALENDAR 2016
Dates to remember...
TERM 1 DATES:
Friday 29 January – Thurs 24 March
SOMERS CAMP:
(Selected students)
Tuesday 16 – Wednesday 24 February
GRIP STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:
Wednesday 17 February
WHOLE SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHT:
Wednesday 17 February, 5.30-6.30pm
DISTRICT SWIMMING:
(Selected Students)
Thursday 18 February
INTERIM REPORTS SENT HOME:
Thursday 25 February
SCHOOL PHOTO DAY:
Tuesday 1 March
‘PLAY IS THE WAY’ INFORMATION NIGHT:
Tuesday 1 March
DIVISIONAL SWIMMING:
(Selected Students)
Wednesday 2 March
STUDENT/PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:
Thursday 3 March 12.00-8.00pm
BASKETBALL CLINICS:
Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 March
FINAL DAY OF TERM 1:
(2.30PM FINISH)
Thursday 24 March
GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY:
Friday 25 March

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER
Open Night Wednesday
This week we are holding our annual Open Night, where we invite all families in to our school and classrooms to meet the teachers and view the classrooms where your children come each day.

We will begin the night at 5.30 in the Ellim Atta Centre (undercover court area) where I will introduce each member of our staff so that you can put a face to a name. Following that, each of Specialist teachers will speak about their program and how it develops across the school.

After these short presentations, our teachers will return to their home classrooms so that your children can take you to see their classroom spaces and you can meet the teachers face to face.

At the Open Night, you will have the opportunity to sign up to an individual Student Parent Teacher Conference time on Thursday March 3rd. Each student in our school has an appointment with their parents and teacher at this time of the year to talk about how they have settled in and what they would like to focus on in the first half of the year. The outcome of these meetings is the Learning Goals that form a part of the Mid-Year Report in July.

Thursday March 3rd has been set aside as the day students and parents meet with our teachers. They only attend school for the scheduled Conference. All students require one of these appointments and so one will be scheduled for you if you are unable to attend and book a time at the Open Night.

GRIP Student Leadership Conference
During the day on Wednesday I will be attending the GRIP Student Leadership Conference at the Convention and Exhibition Centre with our Year 6 student leaders for 2016. We attend this day each year with almost 2000 student leaders from other Primary Schools from around the state and it is an energising and productive day that impacts on our student leaders and their work within our school. I’m sure this year will be the same.

Somers Camp
Every two years, students from our school in Year 5 and 6 have the opportunity to attend the Somers School Camp with other students from local schools. Somers is a Department run school, staffed by full time teaching staff and students attend for a 10 day camp and develop life skills as well as many outdoor education skills and knowledge. Best of luck to our 18 students who are attending (leaving today) and thank you to Marian Collins who is attending as a visiting teacher.

I will be heading down to see them with one of our Year 5/6 staff on Thursday.

..cont/2

Excellence:
High expectations of the whole school community
Respect:
For self and others
Resilience:
Engaging in challenges and learning from mistakes
Integrity:
Choosing a course of action that contributes to the greater good
**District Swimming good luck- Thursday at Belgrave**

Best of luck to our swimming team who will be heading to Belgrave pools on Thursday to compete in the first round of the 2016 swimming competition. Thank you to Lara Atkinson for organising the team and to the parents who are transporting them. I look forward to visiting them before heading to Somers. Results will be published next week.

**School Supervision Times**

Just a reminder that students are supervised by our school staff between the hours of 8.45am and 3.45pm. Students who arrive at school before 8.45am or are at school after 3.45pm should either be enrolled at OSHC with Camp Australia or be under the direct supervision of a parent.

As a reminder to families of this safety concern we will begin sending a note home with students who attend outside of these hours. Camp Australia can be contacted on 1300 105 343 if you have need to use their service.

**School Council Nominations**

It is at this time of the year that we call for nominations of Parent Members on our School Council. School Council is the body that oversees the running of the school and members have an opportunity to look at how schools function from another perspective and to be involved in some aspects of school decision making. If you would like to be involved in School Council and nominate for a two year position please come and see me (Cory) or the office and collect a nomination form. If you are unsure of what it entails as a Parent Member, I can put you in touch with an existing member who can explain a little bit more and answer any questions you may have.

**Student Illness and Accidents (a standard notification piece)**

At this time early in the school year it is a good idea to remind parents about the necessity to keep us up to date with phone numbers and emergency contact details. If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, it is necessary on occasions to contact parents and we often face out of date information that delays this process. Please make sure you notify the Office of any changes to yours or your Emergency Contact details. Obviously in extreme cases we may also deem it necessary to call an Ambulance before consulting parents and you need to be aware of this. Please also keep the Office informed of any change in medical issues faced by your children as this helps us to make the best choices for their welfare.

Parents and guardians should also be aware that they are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any Ambulance transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund. The Department of Education and Training (DET) does not hold accident insurance for school students.

Is other Insurance available? Yes.

There are commercial providers of insurance for students and they can be found online or through your Insurance Broker.

**Students, Parents & Staff Personal Property**

On a similar topic, personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the DET does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

...cont/3.
Assemblies
My preferred place to have Assemblies each week is obviously on the large step amphitheatre at the top of the gully near the (Red) Specialist Building. This location gives us a nicer and more intimate atmosphere and allows parents to sit amongst the trees.
When it is too wet we will move to the undercover of the blue basketball court which gives us a dry location and an audience stadium seating for the parents.
Last Friday’s Assembly was probably too exposed to the sunshine and heat, even for just the twenty minutes of Assembly.
We will now make a decision each week at 2.30, depending on the weather and conditions at the time.
On wet days and days of extreme UV or extreme heat, we will move to the undercover area so that everyone can be as comfortable as possible. Last Friday is an example of when we will from now on, move under cover.

Dance and Performance Academy
A reminder that all interested students in Year 3-6 received information and enrolment forms for the Dance and Performance Academy last week and that these are due back ASAP, so that the program for Term 1 and 2, which involves the Life Ed Gala performance, can begin.

‘Full Day’ Preps
From yesterday our Preps began full days at school. They have settled so well and feel like they’ve been here for ever! Thank you to the parents who have done so well to prepare them for school. Individual appointments will continue for all of Term 1 and so Preps do not attend school on Wednesday, except for their appointments.

Lots of action this week as the year ramps up and we see students involved in many different activities and events.

Cory Pearce and Jo Stevens
Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Week:

**Ending Friday 12 February 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>Cooper E</td>
<td>For actively sharing his knowledge and assisting others during Mathematics sessions this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Jett W</td>
<td>For an incredible effort creating his board game for homework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Phoenix B</td>
<td>For being so engaged in class discussions and challenging himself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Ashley B</td>
<td>For accepting help and pushing himself to produce his personal best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4S</td>
<td>Phoenix B</td>
<td>For being so engaged in class discussions and challenging himself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Jesse M</td>
<td>For trying her personal best during 3/4 sport, particularly her jumping skills. Well done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4O</td>
<td>Ethan H</td>
<td>For being so kind and considerate to others (especially Ms O'Neill!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Hayden P</td>
<td>For his honesty in finding (and handing in) money. GREAT INTEGRITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4C</td>
<td>Luke B</td>
<td>For being brave and being an active participant during class discussions; thanks for your input, Luke!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2M</td>
<td>Hayley V</td>
<td>For writing an interesting and descriptive pie e about her Pop and sharing it with the class!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2K</td>
<td>Cooper S</td>
<td>For his positive attitude to all tasks but particularly for his input during class discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2I</td>
<td>Archie D</td>
<td>For finding spelling patterns in words. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Miah C</td>
<td>For your amazing and creative giraffe in Investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Brody H</td>
<td>For challenging himself during Maths this week. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Sally L and Mia H</td>
<td>For making large numbers during our environmental number hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Mia R</td>
<td>Beautiful work on her Tree of Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.E.</td>
<td>Natalie C</td>
<td>For great effort and focus in P.E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE Options</td>
<td>Molly K</td>
<td>For a great start to the year. Keep up the effort on your brochure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presidents Message

Last week at Assembly we announced the movie to be screened at the upcoming event ‘Picnic & Flick on the Green’. Big Hero 6 was chosen by the students and they seemed very pleased with their choice! Currently GNPA is busy organising this fun-filled family evening and are hoping many families will take the opportunity to join us on March 18th. Tickets go on sale this week with all tickets purchased before March 11th eligible to go into the draw to win a VIP movie experience! Imagine you & your family kicking back on some couches with your free popcorn & drinks served to you by your own personal waiter... Mr Pearce!!! Winners will be announced at assembly on the 18th of March.

There will be fresh popcorn, fairy floss, drinks, assorted healthy choice snacks, lollies and hot drinks available for purchase on the night. Glow sticks will also be on sale.

GNPA President Nat

Thank you

After last week’s assembly announcement that we were looking for a fridge, we had a very kind donation of one straight away; amazing!

Thank you

GNPA Meeting Last Week

On Friday we had our first official GNPA meeting for 2016. Many new faces came along and it was great to see such a large group of parents attend! Thank you for coming and for adding new ideas and opinions to the table. Later this week, a small group will be meeting to order the Mother’s Day stall stock. If this sounds like something you would like to be involved in, meet Tamara this Fri 19th Feb after drop off at the BBQ shelter or the staff room if raining.
Let’s Meet at the Movies!

“Picnic ‘n a Flick on the Green” - A Fundraising event for Playground Shade

Sails at FTG North PS

Bring your own Picnic dinner and come and be part of the school community! Enjoy our first outdoors experience as you picnic on the green. As the sun goes down, a family friendly PG movie will be screened onto a GIANT 9m x 7m screen complete with stereo sound.

WHEN and WHERE:
FRIDAY 18th MARCH from 6.30pm for our picnic and 7.30pm for the movie.
Movie will start at 8pm sharp.
The Elim Atta Centre and Green Turf at Ferntree Gully North PS

WHO:
Open to Ferntree Gully North PS Families ONLY

WHY:
To meet new families and say hello to familiar faces while raising funds for a shade sail.

WHAT to BRING:
Please supply your own dinner, popcorn, soft drinks, bottled water, small lolly bags and a healthy snack alternative will be available for purchase from 7.45pm onwards. Coffees will also be available from our coffee van.
Don’t forget your blankets, beanies and other comfy things you need for the movie.

HOW:
The form below MUST be completed and returned to the school by Friday 11th March for your chance to purchase family tickets and entry to our VIP raffle. Please supply a contact number for your tickets. (Tickets will be distributed the week before the event.)

Family Ticket (4 people) $22, with extra person $2 (only available pre purchase)
Adults - $8  Children $5  Children under 3 are free.

***This is a Family-focused Fundraising event. No pets allowed.

SPECIAL OFFER!
Tickets purchased by Friday 11th March will automatically go in the draw for the VIP Movie Experience Package which includes:

• A couch to sit on in a VIP area in prime viewing position
• Footstools for optimum comfort
• Free popcorn and drink for each person on the winning ticket
• Butler service provided by Mr Cory Pearce

You MUST include a contact number on your order form to be eligible.
Want to IMPACT on your local community? Advertise with us!

Looking for your business to reach local families?
Advertise at the “Gully North Picnic and Flick on the Green” on the GIANT screen!
Ads can be screened for 20 second segments in the 20 minutes prior to the show starting, and again after the completion of the show.

What a way to get known! Your products, services and name directly shown to the school community!

$25 buys you a segment that will be screened at least 3 times over the evening. This is part of the fundraising activity of the evening. All you need to do is supply some good quality photos and information about your business and we’ll arrange a presentation that can be shown on the GIANT screen.

Please indicate your interest at the office or email Katherine at kat5dan@tpg.com.au. Time slots close Friday March 4th 2016. Ads to be screen on Friday 18th March 2016 unless event is postponed.
Ferntree Gully North PS is once again offering participation in ICAS assessments in 2016. This testing can help benchmark, track and monitor learning progress. It can help identify potentially gifted students and allow us to work together to identify areas where your child can work to reach their full potential. Your investment in education is valuable and we want to help your child achieve the best results.

Subject areas to be assessed are: Digital technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English & Mathematics. There are set fees for each assessment. If fewer than 3 entries are made in a subject, an entry fee equivalent to 3 entries must be paid. FTG Nth PS will monitor the numbers for each test and advise closer to the test dates if any extra payment or changes need to be made.

To learn more about ICAS, refer to: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas2016

If you would like to enrol your child into any of the assessments, please collect a parent letter and consent form from the school Office. Please note that all entries must be in at school no later than Friday 11th March and that late entries cannot be accepted.

Jo Stevens
Assistant Principal

CANTEEN NOTICE:

Parents please note the lowest priced item at the over-the-counter Canteen sales on Fridays is 0.50c. If you wish your child to purchase items at the Canteen please send your child with at least 0.50c to purchase item/s.

Also parents please make your children aware of the potential dangers of purchasing items from the Canteen for their friends, or sharing their food with their friends. Due to the many food allergies and anaphylaxis conditions of some children, the sharing of food, even though it seems like a nice idea, could be potentially life threatening to a child with allergies. Please strongly discourage your child from sharing their lunch or purchasing items on behalf of other children at the Canteen.
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

Ferntree Gully North P.S

School Name

4718

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb

State

Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s surname</th>
<th>Child’s first name</th>
<th>Student ID</th>
<th>Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)</th>
<th>Year level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.

*This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.

- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.

- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.

- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools' Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant

Date / /
CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-Government primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
  a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
  c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

© 2016 Department of Education and Training
DON’T LOSE THIS NOTICE
2016
ENROL NOW
KEYBOARD LESSONS AT SCHOOL
IN-SCHOOL TIME

YOUR CHILD DESERVES THIS CHANCE
THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY
Enrol NOW in ............
PIANO ON KEYBOARD LESSONS
$16.50 HALF HOUR lesson
* Convenient – in school time
* Inexpensive
* Learn with Friends
* All equipment provided
* INDIVIDUAL tuition

ONE FREE LESSON
IF YOU ENROL NOW
Phone 9761 9058

Boronia Netball Club is looking for 11-and-under players (8+ years) who would like to start playing netball in 2016.

Netball is a great team sport and our 11-and-under coaches are equipped to provide our players with the best possible learning and playing experience. Players are given the opportunity to play every position which ensures enjoyment and future participation within netball.

Training is on a Wednesday night from 4:15-5:00pm.

If you would like to have a go at playing a great sport with a wonderful club, please contact our Secretary Michelle Ross on 0438 321 919 or email michelle.ross01@optusnet.com.au.
Ferntree Gully North Primary School

Gully View

BMX Saturday Feb 20

Come and Try Day

Kids Session
Rego 3.45pm
Ride 4.15-5.30pm

Adult Session
Rego 5pm
Ride 5.30-6.30pm

Come in a long sleeve shirt, long pants
and covered shoes. Bring you bike and helmet or
we have bikes, helmets and gloves to borrow

Bunjil Way, Knoxfield
www.knowbmx.com.au

Knox Schools Expo 2016

The Knox Schools Expo is an annual information night for parents/guardians of Years 5 & 6 children changing to secondary school in 2017/18, or for those with younger children who like to plan ahead. The evening allows attendees to have conversations with representatives from Knox Secondary Schools and Community Organisations, before formal proceedings start at 7pm. The Q and A panel session will provide the audience with an opportunity to explore considerations when selecting a secondary school, after which there will be another opportunity to visit stalls.

When: Thursday 17 March 2016
Where: Knox Civic Centre 511 Burwood Hwy Wantirna South 3152
Time: 5.45-8.45pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.45-6.35</td>
<td>Expo stallholders available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00-7.45</td>
<td>Formal proceedings including Q&amp;A panel session which will discuss critical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>factors when selecting a school and strategies to assist students with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>transition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.45-8.45</td>
<td>Expo stallholders available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about the Knox Schools Expo contact Knox City Council Youth Services via Angela Thurlow on T: 9298 8511 or a. angela.thurlow@knox.vic.gov.au or Megan Parker on T: 9298 8308 or e. megan.parker@knox.vic.gov.au or visit


Bookings are not required

111 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully 3156. P. 9758 1662 E. Ferntree.gully.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Gully View

Fully qualified carpenters

Specializing in:
- Decks
- Pergolas
- Carports
- Renovations
- Extensions
- Any general carpentry

for a free quote (Former Gully North students)

Guitar and singing lessons at school!

For more info call Daniel James on
0413 336 248 or 9723 4390
www.singnstrum.com