CALENDAR 2016
Dates to remember...

TERM 4 DATES: Monday 03 October - Tuesday 20 December

PREP 2017 TRANSITION: Session 3
Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 9 November

YEAR 3/4 EXPO: Monday 14 November, 2.45pm-3.30pm

YEAR 3 CAMP TO LOG CABIN RANCH
Thursday 17 - Friday 18 November

PREP 2017 TRANSITION: Session 4
Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 November

READING CHALLENGE BBQ LUNCH:
Thursday 24 November, 11.00am-12.00pm

PREP 2017 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT:
Wednesday 30 November, 6.00pm-7.00pm

PARENT HELPER’S MORNING TEA:
Thursday 1 December, 11.40am-12.30pm

YEAR 7 2017 ORIENTATION DAY:
Tuesday 6 December

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PICNIC:
Wednesday 7 December, 5.30pm-7.30pm

PREP – YEAR 4 SWIMMING PROGRAM:
Mon 5 – Thurs 8 and Mon 12 – Thurs 15 December

YEAR 6 GRADUATION:
Thursday 15 December

YEAR 5/6 LIFE SAVING EXCURSION:
Monday 19 December

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

Child Safe Standards

Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people is our highest priority. We know that our school is a safe place for our children and that Ferntree Gully North PS staff, School Council, and our community work hard to protect all students from abuse and neglect. The Department of Education (DET), together with the Victorian Registrations Qualifications Authority (VRQA) published new Child Safe Standards at the start of this year. These standards are the result of recommendations from the final report of the Victorian Parliament’s Betrayal of Trust inquiry. These Standards were introduced through Ministerial Order 870 and build on the existing processes and commitment to student safety in schools.

We have developed a further range of policies to comply with these standards on top of the existing policies. In today’s newsletter you will find our Child Safe Standards Policy and our Student Code of Conduct. Please read and become familiar with these policies. From 2017 our office sign in book will have an additional column for parents to tick acknowledging their understanding of these policies. In addition we would like to remind all parents that for those who wish to come and volunteer in the school you will require a volunteer Working with Children Check and card. You can apply for these at no cost on line at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/

We have a number of policies in the school that support compliance covering the following areas:

- Student Engagement and Inclusion including Bullying and Harassment
- Duty of Care
- Critical incident
- Mandatory reporting
- Working with Children Check
- Volunteers
- Photography and Filming
- eLearning
- Concerns and Complaints
- On site supervision of students
- Camps
- External providers
- Professional Learning
- Privacy
- Communications Procedures and Schedule

Further information regarding the standards can be accessed at http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/childsafe/Pages/default.html

If you have any questions you are welcome to contact myself, or Priscilla Salter.

..cont/2
2017
We are continuing to develop classes, write reports and get ready for 2017. As part of this process we are planning a whole school transition program to support students. This will be in addition to the prep program and year 7 preparation that our senior school students do. We will have three sessions where students will go up to the next level and spend an hour working with other students they may be with next year, getting to know them and meeting other teachers. They will not be in their 2017 classes yet. The three sessions will include a Play is the Way Session, a Q and A session and literacy/numeracy. In the second week of December students will have an additional transition session where they will be in their class for 2017.

Preps
Last week at assembly our preps performed a rap they had made up in the classroom around patterns. It was fantastic but the best moment was when the narrator was a bit scared to start our students spontaneously burst into applause to encourage Prep W. Well done to all for showing such spirit, care and concern for their fellow students. Great stuff!

Prep Transition is also continuing this week and it is fantastic to see our future students having great experiences in their first few contacts with school. If you know of any local preps who haven’t enrolled yet please direct them to the office.

The Internet: For Parents: Bridging the gap between home and school
At school the Internet is mostly used to support teaching and learning. At home, however, it is often used differently. Not only is it a study resource for students, but it is increasingly being used as a social space to meet, play and chat. The Internet can be lots of fun.

If you have the Internet at home, encourage your child to show you what they are doing online. If not, see if you can make a time to visit the school to see their work.

At home we recommend you:
- make some time to sit with your child to find out how they are using the Internet and who else is involved in any online activities
- have the computer with Internet access in a shared place in the house – not your child’s bedroom
- ask questions when your child shows you what they are doing, such as:
  - how does it work and how do you set it up?
  - who is else is sharing this space or game - did you know them before or “meet” them online?
  - why is this so enjoyable – what makes it fun?
  - can you see any risks or dangers in the activity - what would you say to warn/inform a younger child?
  - what are you doing to protect yourself or your friends from these potential dangers?
  - when would you inform an adult about an incident that has happened online that concerns you? Discuss why your child might keep it to themselves.

Statistics show that students will not approach an adult for help because:
- they might get the blame for any incident
- they don’t think adults “get” their online stuff – it is for students only
- they might put at risk their own access to technology by either:
  - admitting to a mistake or
  - highlighting a situation that might lead a parent to ban their access.

For parents seeking further advice to support your child in online environments please refer to the iparent website.

https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent
PRINCIPAL’S CORNER (continued from page 2)

Remembrance Day
On Sunday I attended the Knox Remembrance Day Service at the Arboretum. It was a moving service that helps our young people value the service of others. On Friday our senior school will be attending the schools’ service with the teachers including Donna Krenn. Donna is on the Knox Council organising committee for the event and this has provided our students with the opportunity to participate. I’m sure our students will gain from this experience and thank you to staff for organising the excursion.

Have a great week,
Sue Dean.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE BBQ LUNCH:

The celebration sausage sizzle for the 2016 Reading Challenge is on Thursday, November 24th.

Classes will have an opportunity to formally thank their Challenge Classroom helper in the classroom between 11.15am and 11.40am.

Certificates from the Premier will be handed out to all children who competed the challenge.

A special classroom achievement and encouragement award will be presented.

Classes will be called, one level at a time, after 11.15am, so that Challenge participants can collect their sausage in bread, and then eaten in the classroom.

At the assembly on Friday, November 25th, Challenge Level awards and the Nick Wakeling award, will be presented.

Reading Challenge honour role for participants having completed the Reading Challenge can be viewed at:

Thank You Everyone for your participation and we look forward to the 2017 Reading Challenge.

Mrs Barr.
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Week:
(Ending Friday 04th November 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>Kadyn A</td>
<td>For his enthusiasm and work ethic in Maths this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6O</td>
<td>Madison C</td>
<td>For her persistence in reading her Solar Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Alexia H-S</td>
<td>For her mature and brave approach to learning and life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Reece O</td>
<td>For showing persistence when converting measurements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4S</td>
<td>Clayton M</td>
<td>For being honest when speaking with others in the class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4O</td>
<td>Mitchell S</td>
<td>For sharing his extensive vocabulary and knowledge of words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Aleisha B-S</td>
<td>For her fantastic focus during our writing focus 😊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4C</td>
<td>Sebastyn B</td>
<td>For working well with his group to think outside the box for our ERT Expo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2C</td>
<td>Marcus W-D</td>
<td>For using his Investigations time to work on challenging personal projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2K</td>
<td>Kaiden W</td>
<td>For working hard to improve his knowledge of 10 friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2I</td>
<td>Lucas N</td>
<td>For always pursuing his personal best and having a positive attitude towards learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Jarryd M</td>
<td>For your enthusiasm in Investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Ava X</td>
<td>For being such a kind and caring friend to all in 1/2B. You’re a gem!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Grace J-P</td>
<td>For making the preps very welcome during Grade 1 Investigations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP W</td>
<td>Hamish B-S</td>
<td>For doing such a great job of helping our class understand the difference between digraphs and blends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP L</td>
<td>Asher M</td>
<td>For persisting with his handwriting and writing to make sure he always does his best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREP F</td>
<td>Lily J</td>
<td>For excellent work on listening for words with the ‘r’ blend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Billy T</td>
<td>For outstanding enthusiasm and a positive attitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.E.</td>
<td>All the students in the EMR softball team</td>
<td>For being great sports and trying their best at Regional softball yesterday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volunteer request

We would like to ask as many parents with their Working with Children Card to help with the traditional Premier’s Reading Challenge BBQ. If you are able to help run the BBQ on Thursday 24th November from 10am, please let the office or a member of GNPA know.

GNPA Suggestion Box

There is now a feedback box in the office so you can leave us your fundraising ideas & feedback: we really appreciated everyone’s ideas and we know not everyone can come to meetings. If you have an idea and would like help organising your idea please leave your contact details and suggestion in the box. We are currently planning for next year’s fundraisers so any new, inspired and creative suggestions would be most welcome!

Hogsbreath Knox

Is currently closed for renovations but reopening at the start of December. Don’t forget to ask for the Hogs cash and the school will also benefit.

Passive Fundraisers

Entertainment book

www.entbook.com.au/1b88310

Rebel sport Knox

‘FERNTREE GULLY NORTH PS’:
These are the words we would love you and your family and friends to use when next shopping at Rebel sport: this company donates goods to our school.
2016
15th Annual
Ferntree Gully Community Christmas Day Lunch

You are invited to a FREE Christmas Day Lunch

Sunday December 25, from 12.00 noon

Food, drinks, entertainment, presents from the Christmas Angel, transport can be arranged

@ St John the Baptist Parish Hall, 19 Forest Rd Ferntree Gully

To register for your free ticket phone: 8711 8677
Email: stephen@foothillscare.org.au

Hosted by Foothills Community Care in partnership with local Ferntree Gully friends

www.foothillscare.org.au
Ferntree Gully CFA

Fire Calls 000

Open Day.

(Ferntree Gully Fun Day)
Saturday 26th November, 2016, 10.00 am to 2.00pm

- Discuss your home fire and bushfire safety plans.
- Talk to our experienced volunteer firefighters.
- SES demonstration of removing trapped persons from a motor vehicle 10.30 am and 12.00 noon.
- Childrens CFA helicopter, free Balloons
- Ferntree Gully Library stall on the front lawn.
- Coasters and drink holders for the mums and dads.

Proudly supporting our local community
Boronia 9762 6666

Barry Plant

1800 633 998
photosigns.com.au

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

LEARNING MUSIC IMPROVES CONCENTRATION

YOUR CHILD DESERVES THIS CHANCE

Enrol NOW in .............
PIANO ON KEYBOARD LESSONS
$17.00 per half hour lesson

* Convenient – in school time
* Inexpensive
* Learn with Friends (max 3 per group)
* All equipment provided
* INDIVIDUAL tuition

ONE FREE LESSON
IF YOU ENROL NOW
Phone 9761 9058
Ferntree Gully North Primary School

Child Safety Policy

Purpose: The child safe policy sets out the school’s approach to creating a child safe organisation where children and young people are safe and feel safe and provides the policy framework for the school’s approach to the Child Safe Standards.

Scope: All staff, volunteers, contractors, whether they work in direct contact with children or young people are covered by this policy across a range of school forums eg camps/online, both inside and outside of school hours.

Statement of Commitment and Principles:

Ferntree Gully North Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making.

Ferntree Gully North Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Ferntree Gully North Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

Every person involved in Ferntree Gully North Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role they play individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

In its planning, decision-making and operations Ferntree Gully North Primary School will:

1. Take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety
2. Value and empower children to participate in decisions which affect their lives
3. Foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
4. Respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount
5. Engage suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development
6. Ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise such issues
7. Report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities
8. Share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk
9. Value the input of and communicate regularly with families and carers
Policy and Procedures:

Policies and procedures outlining Ferntree Gully North’s approach to the Child Safe Standards are outlined below.

- The school’s culture encourages staff to raise, discuss and scrutinise concerns making it difficult for abuse to occur and remain hidden.
- School leaders and managers will ensure that each person understands their role, responsibilities and behaviour expected in protecting children and young people from abuse and neglect. Staff, volunteers, contractors and other members of the school community involved with school related work will comply with the school’s Code of Conduct. The school’s Code of Conduct sets out clear awareness of the difference between appropriate and inappropriate behaviour.
- The school applies best practice standards in the recruitment and screening of staff and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that it engages the most suitable and appropriate people to work with children. We will ensure staff induction, education and training programs are a vital part of our commitment to safeguarding children and young people from abuse and neglect.
- All relevant staff and volunteers are required to maintain a valid Working with Children Check.
- All teaching staff are required to maintain their VIT (Victorian Institute of Teaching) registration, which includes a National Police History Check.
- The school has clear expectations for staff and volunteers in making a report about a child or young person who may be in need of protection.

To report an incident you may:

1. Phone 000 if you believe a child is at immediate risk of abuse.
2. Contact the school Principal or Assistant Principal.
3. Complete a Child Safe Incident Report Form available from the school office and submit it to the school Principal or Assistant Principal.

- The School believes the wellbeing of children and young people is paramount, and is vigilant in ensuring proper risk management processes. The school recognises there are potential risks to children and young people and will take a risk management approach by undertaking preventative measures.
- The school has developed a safe, inclusive and supportive environment that involves and communicates with children, young people and their parents/carers. We encourage child and parent/carer involvement and engagement that informs safe school operations and builds the capability of children and parents/carers to understand their rights and their responsibilities.
- When the school is gathering information in relation to a complaint about alleged misconduct with, or abuse of, a child, the school will listen to the complainant’s account of things and take them seriously, check understanding and keep the child (or their parents/carers) informed about progress.
- This school collects, uses and discloses information about particular children and their families in accordance with Victorian privacy law.

For more information, speak to the Principal, Sue Dean
To ensure ongoing relevance and continuous improvement, this policy will be reviewed in the context of school self-evaluation undertaken as part of the school accountability framework. The review will include input from students, parents/carers and the school community.

This policy and the Child Safe Code of Conduct, will be made available on the school website.

### Definitions

Ministerial Order 870 provides definitions, including:

**Child abuse** includes—
- any act committed against a child involving:
  - a sexual offence or
  - an offence under section 49B(2) of the Crimes Act 1958 (grooming)
- the infliction, on a child, of:
  - physical violence or
  - serious emotional or psychological harm
  - serious neglect of a child.

**Child-connected work** means work authorised by the school governing authority and performed by an adult in a school environment while children are present or reasonably expected to be present.

**Child safety** encompasses matters related to protecting all children from child abuse, managing the risk of child abuse, providing support to a child at risk of child abuse, and responding to incidents or allegations of child abuse.

**School environment** means any physical or virtual place made available or authorised by the school governing authority for use by a child during or outside school hours, including:
- a campus of the school
- online school environments (including email and intranet systems)
- other locations provided by the school for a child’s use (including, without limitation, locations used for school camps, sporting events, excursions, competitions, and other events).

**School staff being:** an individual working in a school environment who is:
- directly engaged or employed by a school governing authority;
- a volunteer or a contracted service provider (whether or not a body corporate or any other person is an intermediary); or
- a minister of religion.

### Related policies and documents

- DET Child Wellbeing and Safety Framework
- School Privacy Policy

The policy was last ratified by School Council in October 2016.
Ferntree Gully North Primary School

Child Safety Code of Conduct

Ferntree Gully North Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Our school community recognises the importance of, and a responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment which respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children and young people, and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

The Child Safe Standards require organisations that provide services for children to have a code of conduct that establishes clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children. It is intended to complement child protection legislation, Department policy, school policies and procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to staff and other personnel.

The Principal and school leaders of Ferntree Gully North Primary School will support implementation and monitoring of the Code of Conduct, and will plan, implement and monitor arrangements to provide inclusive, safe and orderly schools and other learning environments.

All staff, contractors, volunteers and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work are required to comply with the Code of Conduct by observing expectations for appropriate behaviour below. The Code of Conduct applies in all school situations, including school camps and in the use of digital technology and social media.

Acceptable Behaviours
As staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child-related work individually, we are responsible for supporting and promoting the safety of children by:

- upholding the school's statement of commitment to child safety at all times and adhering to the school's Child Safe Policy
- treating students and families in the school community with respect both within the school environment and outside the school environment as part of normal social and community activities.
- listening and responding to the views and concerns of students, particularly if they are telling you that they or another child has been abused or that they are worried about their safety/the safety of another child
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- promoting the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of students with culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds
- promoting the safety, participation and empowerment of students with a disability
- ensuring as far as practicable that adults are not left alone with a child
- reporting any allegations of child abuse or other child safety concerns to the school’s leadership
- understanding and complying with all reporting or disclosure obligations (including mandatory reporting) as they relate to protecting children from harm or abuse.
- if child abuse is suspected, ensuring as quickly as possible that the student(s) are safe and protected from harm.
Unacceptable Behaviours

As staff, volunteers, contractors, and any other member of the school community involved in child related work we must not:

- ignore or disregard any concerns, suspicions or disclosures of child abuse
- develop a relationship with any student that could be seen as favouritism or amount to ‘grooming’ behaviour (for example, offering gifts)
- exhibit behaviours with children that may be construed as overly physical
- do things of a personal nature that a child can do for themselves such as toileting or changing clothes
- exhibit behaviours or engage in activities with students which may be interpreted as abusive and not justified by the educational, therapeutic, or service delivery context
- ignore behaviours by other adults towards students when they appear to be overly familiar or inappropriate
- discuss content of an intimate or sexual nature with students, except where it occurs relevantly in the context of parental guidance, delivering the education curriculum or in a therapeutic setting
- engage in open discussions of a mature or adult nature or use inappropriate language in the presence of children
- treat a child unfavourably because of their disability, age, gender, race, culture, vulnerability, sexuality or ethnicity
- communicate directly with a student through personal or private contact channels (including by social media, email, instant messaging, texting etc) except where that communication is reasonable in all the circumstances, related to school work or extra-curricular activities or where there is a safety concern or other urgent matter
- photograph or video a child in a school environment except in accordance with school policy or where required for duty of care purposes
- in the school environment or at other school events where students are present, consume alcohol or take illicit drugs under any circumstances.

Employees must not:

- have contact with a child or family outside of school related activities without the Principal’s knowledge and consent (for example, babysitting)

By observing these standards, you acknowledge your responsibility to immediately report any breach of this code to the school principal.

This Code of Conduct was endorsed by the Ferntree Gully North School Council for review if legislative or other changes require in the interim or no later than December 2018.
Ferntree Gully North Primary School

Gully View

**HUGE Children’s BOOK SALE**

50–90% OFF

Keystone Hall
Civic Square, Croydon

Thursday 17 November 9am–5pm

Hundreds of picture and chapter books, nonfiction and activity items.

Payment methods: EFTPOS, cash, credit card and school account.

No trade resellers.

scholastic.com.au

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**Ferntree Gully Cemetery Tour**

Friday 25 November, 2016

Who moved his wife? and other stories, told under cover of darkness

7.30 meet at The Hut Gallery, Underwood Rd for sherry, canapés and to view the current Immerse Exhibition ‘Wundesammer’ with Jeremy Swan, Jordan Devlin and Deb Casey.

8.20 depart for the cemetery 8.30 tour begins 9.30 tour concludes

BYO torch. Cost $15. Proceeds to be donated to Knox Historical Society.

Bookings at www.fernteenews.com.au or call 9708 7969. Parking at station

25 NOV 2016

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**Ferntree Gully Eagles Juniors**

**REGISTRATION 2017**

**OPTION ONE**

SUNDAY 20TH NOV 2017
WALLY TEW RESERVE
*10am – 11am Under 8’s
*Under 12’s
*11am – 12pm Under 13’s
*Under 17’s & Girls Teams

**OPTION TWO**

Via the Club Website
www.ftgeaglesfc.com.au
Registrations Open NOW

**FEE STRUCTURE FOR 2017**

1 Child – $220 + $15 EFL Insurance
2 Children – $350 + $30 EFL Insurance
3 Children – $425 + $45 EFL Insurance

New Addition for 2017 - Every membership comes with a FREE season 2017 Club Hoodie!
Gully View

Fully qualified carpenters

Specializing in:
Decks
Pergolas
Car ports
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.singonstrum.com

Organic pizza and ice cream,
handmade in Belgrave.
Pizza like you’ve never tasted before,
with options available for vegan
and gluten free diets.
savvyorganic.com.au