PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

Updated Information about Stuart Edwards from School Council President Meagan Baker:

Last night, School Council had our last meeting for the year and were fortunate to have Mr Stuart Edwards attend. As many of you are aware, Stuart was our school Principal for 6 years and for the previous 2 years has acted in a Senior Advisor role for the Department.

As a result of this meeting last night, it can be confirmed that Stuart has successfully been appointed as a permanent Senior Advisor in the Eastern Region with the Department.

I would like to thank Stuart for his contributions, dedication and time as Principal of our school. Congratulations to Stuart on his official appointment as a Senior Advisor and we wish him all the best in his role.

So what happens now?

Over the holidays, a panel of 2 School Council Members and a nominated Staff member from our school will be in contact with the Department in relation to the process for appointing a permanent Principal for our school. It is a rather lengthy process but the aim is to have a Principal appointed in preparation for a Term 2 commencement. I will keep the community informed of any updates and progress over the coming months.

Thank you to our school community for their patience and understanding over the past two years. I would also like to thank Cory Pearce, Justine Briggs and Jo Stevens who have acted in their roles in Stuarts’ absence.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

Meagan Baker
School Council President

...cont/2
PRINCIPAL’S CORNER (continued from page 1)

Rotary Congratulations
Last Wednesday night the Year 6 staff with the support of the local Rotary Club held a ceremony to celebrate the achievements of students who had participated in and completed the Junior Rotary Community Initiative Program. This is a really valuable program for young people to be involved in which connects them to their community and requires them to develop independence and leadership skills. The completion of the program requires support and time dedication from their family. Thank you to the families who assisted their children to achieve this award and recognition. Children who participated were:


This program is part of the long list of things that our Year 5/6 teaching staff do to help mould our young people before we send them off to the next stage of their life. Between camps, normal hiccups of pre-adolescent behaviour and development, a full scale major production, transition in to secondary school and graduation (just to name a few things) they have well and truly earned our thanks but also a few weeks off to spend with their families and recover.

On top of all these logistical tasks that they complete, they also manage the day to day teaching and learning that is expected of all of our students and the individualised relationships and programs that are essential to make the most of time spent at school.

Thank you on behalf of our school and community.

Thank you Prue and Kimberly
I would like to thank both Prue and Kimberly for their work in the Art room this year which culminated in the outstanding Art Show a few weeks back. Thank you for continuing to inspire and foster creativity in our students and for teaching them the specific skills needed to make the most of their thinking.

2016 Captains Announced
Last Friday we celebrated the announcement and badge presentation of our 2016 School Captains, Vice Captains and House Captains. The quality of speeches that the students gave in self-nominating for their positions was remarkable and they showed insight in to what leadership means and represents and also were able to articulate why they felt they would be a suitable candidate.

Thank you to all of the students who volunteered themselves for these positions, we had speeches from as far away as a returning student from Canada! Congratulations to the following students who will help lead our school in an official capacity next year.

We have our smallest cohort in the school entering Year 6 next year and so this has meant that in some cases there was a limitation to the number of suitable applicants.

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2016 School Leaders
School Captains
Julia C
Blake E

School Vice Captains
Emma S
Nathan VV

Blue House Captains
Courtney W
Kira M

Gold House Captains
Amy H
Byron M

Red House Captains
Sam F
Emma L

Green House Captains
Jade K
Rory H

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...cont/3.
New Class Visit Wednesday
Last Friday end of year reports, student portfolios and class placements for next year were sent home with students. Students will spend time in their new classrooms, with their new teachers and with their new classmates on Wednesday afternoon to try and allow students to go away to the holidays knowing what to do on the first day of next year, who they will be seeing in their room and where to go.
We have a number of new students coming to our school who will join us on this day to meet their classmates.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to Lincoln in Year 3 who competed in the State Relay Championships at Lakeside Park in South Melbourne on the weekend. His team did a great job amongst a very competitive field from around the state. They are ranked 14th in the state for the under 9 boys 800m medley relay (100m, 100m, 200m and 400m). Well done Lincoln. A nice souvenir top to keep for the future to remember the experience.

Friday School Finish Reminder (reprint from last week)

A final reminder of the different time for the end of year this Friday, with Assembly at 1pm and dismissal at 1.30pm.

Please note that we request you meet your kids in the school grounds if they need to cross Forest Rd as the reduced speeds do not begin until 2.30pm. The safest route to cross will be via the Pedestrian lights and school staff will man the Crossing points. It is a busy road and we ask you to be extra vigilant in ensuring everyone gets off to a safe holiday.

Work Over the Holidays

We have worked hard to try and coordinate work in the grounds to be done over the holidays so that our students are not impacted after two years of builders constructing our fantastic new school.
Work will include the construction of almost 100m2 of decking linking all four Year 3/4 classrooms, the top of the Gully surrounding the water tanks will be synthetically grassed for aesthetic and practical reasons, increased external storage will be installed and the Computer Mini Lab will be established in the end of the BER building adjoining the square synthetic pitch.
One small section of wall that still contained confirmed asbestos was located in a Department Audit earlier this year and so we have negotiated that being removed over the holidays so that all the asbestos warning stickers can be taken down and we will be considered a known asbestos-free school!

This asbestos removal is scheduled for Saturday December 19th (this weekend coming) so you are advised to stay away during this time.
Chicken Pox in the community

Just a note to say that we are aware of cases of chicken pox in the school community. Please keep an eye out for any signs in your child and consult your doctor if you are unsure.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea

Yesterday our staff held a morning tea to thank the community helpers who have volunteered their time to help in the classroom or with some of the endless list of jobs that add to the experience of school for our students. A sincere thank you to those parents and grandparents who could, and also those who could not, make it to share in the morning tea for your help throughout the year. Schools become much deeper places of learning when they are seen as a hub of the community and that is enhanced by having families working closely with teachers so that children can see all the adults in their lives working together. Thank you again for your support and assistance.

Safe and Happy holidays

This year has very quickly come to an end and I wish all families a safe and happy holiday period. Thank you to everyone for their support of our school, staff and students again this year. Although we have officially finished building there are still a number of little things that will occur during the holiday period to make our school and even better place to come in 2016.

Families and the wellbeing and learning of children presents many challenging and demanding tasks for parents and we are happy to continue our partnership with the community to make the most of every opportunity that presents itself and to create an environment where these opportunities will flourish.

Thank you to all our fabulous teaching staff who go above and beyond to promote participation and achievement and we will see every one again in 2016.

Cory Pearce and Jo Stevens

CURRENT AND PAST STUDENTS’ ACHIEVEMENTS:

We are always happy to hear about the progress and achievements of current and our past students, and congratulations go to the following students for their efforts this year:

- Congratulations to Charlie L and Cameron S for achieving Performing Arts Scholarships at Ringwood SC for 2016
- Congratulations to past student Annie P for receiving Dux of Year 7 2015 at Fairhills HS.

THANK YOU:

Thank you to all the Gully North families who have shopped at Rebel Sport and allocated their membership points to the school. We have been able to purchase a class set of frisbees, some vortex howler throwers, tennis racquets and balls.

Ms Atkinson
Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Week: (Ending Friday 11 December 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Josh L</td>
<td>For being an awesome helper this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Davies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Emma S</td>
<td>For being very supportive to her classmates in a busy week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Fellows</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6H</td>
<td>Laith H</td>
<td>Thanks for your efforts to be a good role model this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Hutchinson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4A</td>
<td>Ashley C</td>
<td>For reflecting on his behaviour and writing some heartfelt apologies to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Sutherland</td>
<td></td>
<td>his peers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4K</td>
<td>Phillip S</td>
<td>For always listening and doing the right thing!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Krenn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4O</td>
<td>Jemima L</td>
<td>For working independently with perseverance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms O’Neill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4Z</td>
<td>Liam W</td>
<td>For going out of his way to extend himself and help others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Zebisch</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Airley S and Zoe H</td>
<td>For writing an amazing Mandala poem encompassing all of our Play is the Way Life Rafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Alenson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2B</td>
<td>Branden D</td>
<td>Congratulations for a fantastic 3 years at Ferntree Gully North. Good luck at your new school. You will be greatly missed. Love from all of 1/2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2C</td>
<td>Joel S</td>
<td>For being a friendly and supportive classmate, always striving to do his best no matter who he works with</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cichowicz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2M</td>
<td>Zoe E</td>
<td>For creating an amazing Mandala about her year at school. Well done!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Casey</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2L</td>
<td>Lucas N</td>
<td>For his fantastic attitude towards learning! Keep it up!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Maxwell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2S</td>
<td>Aleisha B-S</td>
<td>For her creative thinking across all areas of learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Sutherland</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep D</td>
<td>Cameron W</td>
<td>For being responsible and having a great attitude at swimming the last 2 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Donker</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep F</td>
<td>Cooper C</td>
<td>For his positive attitude to learning and for always striving to do his best</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Flanagan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>Ebony-Rose D-P</td>
<td>For having the courage to give everything a go at swimming even when she was scared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Sharne P</td>
<td>For her excellent effort and determination when completing the bauble still life activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Campbell</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE Options</td>
<td>Chloe D</td>
<td>For your hard work online this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Stevens</td>
<td>Will H</td>
<td>For being a very mature and sensible helper. Thank you Will</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
Announcements

🎉 Christmas Raffle
Thank you to the community for all the generous donations! As a result we raffled many hampers this year - congratulations to all the winners; we hope you enjoy your Christmas goodies!

🎉 Passive fundraisers
Over the holidays don’t forget, FERNTREE GULLY NORTH PS: These are the words we would love you and your family and friend to use when next shopping at one of our schools linked Fundraiser Company’s. The Good Guys in Bayswater.

Rebel Sports Knox.
Identity Direct (34310)

🎉 GNPA MEETING
At our meeting last week we discussed lots of upcoming events for next Year. We hope to see you there at our next meeting where we will be deciding lots of things for the movie night, and may even pick the movie to be shown. Please come along - we really love new faces and are happy for anyone with children to also attend. The kids have a great time playing together, so come along if you can and share your ideas and opinions on decisions to be made!

Events calendar

🎉 School banking
No school banking this week

🎉 Save The Date
Friday 18th March 2016

🎉 Movie Night Fundraiser
Family Night with a picnic and a movie. Come along early with dinner, find a perfect spot on the green, enjoy a meal and see a family film starting at 7.40pm. Tickets will be available Term 1: please look out for further information. Ticket price will be $22 per family, Inc. 2 adults and 2 children and additional tickets will be available at a low price.

🎉 Thank you
We would like to thank all the volunteers and helpers throughout the year: without your support GNPA would not be able to continue organising and managing events that help raise funds for the school or provide much needed items for the school community.
Identity direct has everything you need not only for school, but also for Christmas!! If you haven't had a look at what they have on offer, there is a catalogue at the office, or you can simply look online www.identitydirect.com.au
If you purchase online through identity direct and enter this

**unique code: 34310**

our school will also receive 20% commission!!

Order before 15th December for pre Christmas delivery!

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**identity direct**
**YOUR PERSONALISED STORE**

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**All Sorts OPPORTUNITY SHOP**

- Clothing
- Furniture
- Brick-a-Brack
- Books
- Electrical

Donations Received in Store

All Sorts Opportunity Shop - 208 Dorset Rd Boronia
Two Hands International - Bringing hope in India
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
2015
14th Annual
Ferntree Gully Community Christmas Day Lunch

You are invited to a FREE Christmas day lunch

Friday 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
Free-Dental-Care-is-not-just-for-Children-of-Health-Care-Card-Holders.

Children and youth who attend public dental clinics will NOT incur out-of-pocket expenses with the Child Dental Benefit Schedule.

NO FEES ~ YOU WILL BE BULK-BILLED!

On January 1st 2016, the government introduced the new Child Dental Benefits Schedule. Families who receive Family Tax Benefit Part A or a relevant Australian Government payment will receive a letter outlining their eligibility.

It entitles all eligible children aged 0-17 years old to general dental care up to the value of $1000 over 2 years.

Our oral health care continues to operate for both 18-21 year old children and eligible 18-17 year old youth (must be a holder or dependent of a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card holder, in out-of-home care provided by Department of Human Services or in Custodial Care).

Following their treatment, your child will be placed on our patient recall system and receive a reminder letter when their next appointment is due.

Please do not hesitate to phone the reception staff on 9757 6200 at Knox Social and Community Health if you require any further information about our dental services.

Thank you for your assistance.

The Oral Health Team, Knox Social and Community Health
1063 Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully, 3155, Phone 9757 6200

Guitar and singing lessons for 2016!
For more info call Daniel James on 0413 336 248 or 9723 4390
www.singnstrum.com

COME & TRY
Aussie T-Ball

MARIKA BOOTH

PHONE 0409 798 609

EMAIL secretary@upweyferntreecricketclub.com

WHEN 22/1/2016 - 26/2/2016

UPPER FERNTREE GULLY BASEBALL CLUB
KINGS PARK, WILLOW ROAD
UPPER FERNTREE GULLY

www.BASEBALL.com.au
Understanding your bushfire risk.

Community meetings.

Sunday January 10
9.30 am, Birdwood Avenue FTG.
11.30 am, Cnr. Phillipa Avenue and Hansen Rd Boronia

Sunday January 17
9.30 am Koolunga Reserve, FTG.(entry off Daffodil Rd.)
  • The meetings will be interactive and informative.
  • Please bring a chair

  • FREE Freshly Brewed coffee available!
  • Why not come and join us on one of these occasions.

Enquiries: Graham, mob. 0420 060944

The meetings will be cancelled on days of total fire ban in the Central Fire District.
$10 Holiday Sessions

JumpDeck

$10 Any session, any day these Christmas Holidays!
$3 for any additional hour!
Book online to secure your session.
Online booking code: XMAS15

JumpDeck grip sock is additional. Not in conjunction with any other offer, conditions apply. Valid 19/12/15 until 27/01/16.

Lollipops

FREE Child Entry
Purchase one full price child and receive another up to equal value free
Not valid with any other offer. Valid until 30/06/2016.

2 FREE Party Kids
Book any party for 10 kids or more and receive 2 FREE additional kids.
Not valid with any other offer.

Unit 1A, 37 Lusher Road, Croydon
Ph: 8525 0788
croydonvic.lollipopsplayland.com.au
Fully qualified carpenters

Specializing in:
- Decks
- Pergolas
- Car ports
- Renovations
- Extensions
- Any general carpentry


for a free quote (Former Gully North students)