



FALLS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

## TALKABOUT

Phone: 4447 8243 Fax: 4447 8023

E-mail: [fallscreek-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fallscreek-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) Web: [fallscreek-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://fallscreek-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**Term 4 - Week 2**

**Wednesday 14 October, 2015**

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Yesterday we were told that Falls Creek were the winners of the "John Morris Trophy" for the Shoalhaven District PSSA Athletics Percentage Point Score. Congratulations to all students who participated in the District Athletics Carnival – your efforts helped us to win this trophy. This is the first time we have won the trophy.

Jye Picker also received the Senior Boys Athletics Champion at the same carnival. Well done Jye. We are all very proud of you!

**School App:** We now have a school app. This will allow us to send reminders, alerts and messages to parents and families that subscribe. We hope to use this as the main form of communication in the future. To download the app to your phone or device, please follow the instructions attached to this edition of Talkabout.

You will be able to set up your notifications page to receive all notes or only those for your child's grade.

There are already absentee notes and change of address forms available under the eforms section of the app. Please feel free to start using these.

Talkabout will also be available on the app.

Alerts about the operational status of the school will also be sent out using the app if there is a catastrophic fire rating declared.

**Bushfire Season:** Please read the attached flyer about the bushfire season and the procedures we must follow. Information has also been added to the school's website and the link to this is here:

<http://www.fallscreek-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/rules-policies/bushfire-safety-information>

If you would like further information please contact the school.

**Berry Sport and Rec Camp:** Medical information need to be finalised online by today. If you have not already done so could you please complete this as soon as possible.

**Tell Them From Me surveys:** A note was sent home to parents last term in regards to completing the parent survey.

The parent survey will provide the school with parents' perspective on their school as well as learning at home. Communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour all help build an accurate and timely picture that schools can use for practical improvements.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. I can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. However, I ask that you participate so that your opinions and views can be heard and used to help make our school better. Please type the following link into your web browser to access the link: [https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/j\\_acegi\\_security\\_check?j\\_username=parent17920&j\\_password=Fa1901](https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/j_acegi_security_check?j_username=parent17920&j_password=Fa1901)

You must type in the link exactly as it is for it to work correctly.

If you do not have computer access at home then you are able to complete the survey at school before school starts each day. The survey window has been extended to 23 October.

*If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see me.*

*Nicole*

## **K/1/2 NEWS**

This week in Maths we are learning about money (Kinder) and rounding numbers to the nearest 10 or 100 and estimation (Years 1 and 2). In Spelling we are learning about words containing 'ea'. Kinder are doing a great job with their writing and are beginning to write longer pieces of text. Well done!

We have not been focused this week and have had trouble completing all work, especially in Years 1 and 2. I have been talking to students about this and some have received behaviour slips because they have continued to disrupt others and not complete their work. There will be a big push over the next few weeks.

Ms Cullen and I are planning an excursion for the class this term and we will send out information as soon as details are finalised.

*If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see me.*

*Nicole*

## **3/4 NEWS**

We were pleased to welcome two new pupils this week. Kizac Bowling is joining Year 3 and his sister Kiana is in Year 4.

The stars of our first Spelling Test for the term were - Sam, Luke, Bailey, Kiho and Kaleb. Dictation was blitzed by – Sealisha, Emily, Bailey, Kiho, Evie, Kaleb and Akasha.

Half the class were off to a great start returning their homework last Friday.

Library is tomorrow and several children received overdue book notices so please have a hunt around and return these books.

We are continuing to work on rounding up or down with numbers up to 10 000 this week in Maths with many children keen to work with higher numbers. In English we are looking at some of the plays in the school magazines.

*Keep in touch,*

*Lyn*

## **5/6 NEWS**

This week in 5/6 we have been continuing with our literacy appreciation. In addition to our Indigenous Dreaming stories we have also started to read 'Danny the Champion of the World'. In Health we have created some health diaries for students to record their dietary intake and physical activities. In Maths we have been revising data and operations for our ongoing assessments this term.

*Dion*

## **MS CULLEN**

This week we are all starting to learn new musical items to perform at Presentation Night. During HSIE, 3/4 and 5/6 and are continuing to study geographical features of Antarctica and beginning to research the different facets on human involvement. K/1/2 is investigating how transport can affect the environment and the services that it provides.

## **SPORT NEWS**

Good luck to the students competing at the T20 Blast Cricket Gala Day today at Lyrebird Park.

Breaking News!!! Falls Creek Public School won the District Athletics. Congratulations to all our competitors and a BIG congratulations must go to Jye Picker who is the Senior Boys Champion.

Well done!!

*Dion*



**CHAMPIONS!!**



## KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2016

If you have a child eligible to start Kindergarten in 2016, would you please contact the school as soon as possible. Also, if you know of any families living in our area who do not have a child currently attending Falls Creek Public School, but are wishing to enrol their child in 2016, would you please ask them to contact the school.

Our Kindergarten Orientation will commence on Tuesday 10 November from 1.30 - 2.40pm. This will be followed by two afternoon sessions for our new students on Tuesday 17 November and Tuesday 24 November. We look forward to seeing our new students at these sessions.



# WHAT'S ON THIS TERM

## TERM 4 WEEK 2

☺Thursday 15 October

Assembly 2.15pm

P&C Meeting 6.15pm

## COMING EVENTS

☺Friday 30 October

Bandanna Day

☺Wednesday 4 November -

Friday 6 November

Berry Sport & Recreation Camp (Years 4 - 6)

☺Tuesday 10 November

Kinder Orientation

## BOOKCLUB

Issue 7 has been handed out to the children today and is due back at school by



Thursday 22 October 2015

## CANTEEN NEWS

Don't forget that the canteen days are now Tuesday and Friday.



## CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 16 October

Jacqui Finch & Leah Ryan

Tuesday 20 October

Suzanne Lightowlers

## Library Links

*Welcome back, I hope you all had a relaxing break and are ready for a busy term ahead.*

### **Book Covering**

*Thank you to everyone who has assisted in the covering of classroom reading resource and library resources, there are still a few in need of covering, so if you are able to assist, please let Karen in the office know. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.*

### **Library Borrowing**

*Just a reminder that Library borrowing is on each Thursday. This will be a short term for borrowing as the annual stocktake will need to be completed by the end of Term 4.*

### **Shoalhaven Library Activities**

*Shoalhaven Library has some wonderful events coming up in October to celebrate 'Children's Week'. Some of these include Lego, Halloween and 'Booktober' events. Don't miss out! Please see details elsewhere in 'Talkabout'.*



Shoalhaven Libraries Nowra

Children's Week 2015  
Shoalhaven Libraries



# BUILD EVENT!

Let your imagination run wild at our free Lego build event! Construct an empire, or create a work of art! All Lego is provided. Bookings essential. Please call 4429 3705 or email [library@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au) to book your place!

**Tuesday 27th October 4pm**  
**Thursday 29th October 4pm**  
**Nowra Library**



**ALL AGES WELCOME**

# BOOKTOBER

THURSDAY 15TH & FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER  
**NOWRA SCHOOL OF ARTS**

EPIC BOOK SALE  
STORYTIME  
TECHNOLOGY CLASSES  
POP UP BOOK CLUB  
LEGO MANIA  
GENEALOGY AND  
LOCAL HERITAGE TALKS  
AND SO MUCH MORE

[WWW.SHOALHAVENLIBRARIES.COM.AU](http://WWW.SHOALHAVENLIBRARIES.COM.AU)  
OR CALL 4429 3705 FOR MORE DETAILS

Shoalhaven Libraries

# HALLOWREAD

AT NOWRA LIBRARY

POP IN TO NOWRA LIBRARY ON FRIDAY THE 30TH OF OCTOBER  
DRESSED AS YOUR FAVORITE **SCARY** CHARACTER AND WIN A PRIZE!  
TAKE A PHOTO IN OUR GHOULISH PHOTO BOOTH AND SCARE UP A GOOD READ!



Forever Forward

SANCTUARY POINT  
PUBLIC SCHOOL

SATURDAY STARTS AT 10AM  
**17TH OF OCTOBER**

# SCHOOL FAIR MUSIC FESTIVAL

LIVE MUSIC / MARKETS / LOLLY SHOP  
FACE PAINTING / FIRE ENGINE DISPLAY  
JUMPING CASTLE / CRAFT STALLS  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

If you wish to have a stall  
- please contact Charlie on 0421515921




## Skateboard and Scooter COMPETITION

OVER **\$2000** IN PRIZES!

## quilt and craft show

10am - 2pm Saturday & Sunday

for more information call:  
**444 305 46**

# TERARA COUNTRY FAIR

TERARA PUBLIC SCHOOL  
SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2015  
8AM - 3PM

OVER 40 STALLS

- GAMES & PRIZES
- PLANTS & PRODUCE
- HIGH TEA & PRESERVES
- BOOKS & NIC-NACS
- CLOTHING & JEWELLERY
- TOYS & SHOWBAGS
- GIANT AUCTION



MILLBANK ROAD, TERARA

# COMMUNITY NEWS



**Is your child starting school next year?  
Would \$500 assist you with education costs?**

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

**Contact Lindi Jamieson-Brown, your local  
Saver Plus Worker: (02) 4254 4505 / 0427 439 234  
or [lindi.jamieson-brown@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:lindi.jamieson-brown@thesmithfamily.com.au)**

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Illawarra and Wollongong by The Smith Family.  
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

## Canteen National Bandanna Day

National Bandanna Day is on Friday 30 October, 2015. Once again we will be supporting Canteen by selling Bandannas for \$4 each. These are now available from the office.



**Shoalhaven Football** (soccer) – Term 4 Academies are being held at the following venue South Nowra Soccer Field Friday 16 October for ages 5 – 13 years – 6 week program cost is \$70.

The Academies are suited for players of all abilities with the following skills being implemented - 1) Running with the ball, 2) 1st Touch, 3) Striking the ball & 4) 1 v 1 games.

All enquiries please email [mjonno1@bigpond.com.au](mailto:mjonno1@bigpond.com.au) or phone 0488 034 500.



**Shoalhaven Basketball** along with Shoalhaven Council is supporting a Basketball theme called 4Slam and as such will be hosting a junior skills clinic this Friday 16 October commencing at 5.00pm followed by a Children's Cancer Charity fundraiser game between Shoalhaven State League Men and Illawarra Hawks State League Men.

Those student aged 8-12 who wish to participate the entry is \$7 or free to existing Shoalhaven Basketball members. There will be prizes to be won.





## FALLS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

*26 Vidler Street,*

**FALLS CREEK 2540**

**Phone: 02 44478243 Fax: 02 44478023**

**Email: [fallscreek-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fallscreek-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)**

**Principal: Miss Nicole Humphreys**

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### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2015-2016 BUSH FIRE SEASON**

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to let you know about arrangements for our school for the current bush fire season.

Our school has been identified as a school at increased risk if a bush fire were to break out on a day when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is issued for our area.

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the NSW Department of Education has determined that on days when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is issued for our area, the school will temporarily cease operations for the day(s) the rating is current and alternative learning arrangements will be put in place. This is based on information obtained through a bush fire assessment of our school arranged by the Department.

A Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is likely to occur on a very small number of days during the bush fire season, if at all. To ensure that we continue to support student learning on these days, I have put the following arrangements in place:

**The school will cease operations for the day which means that the school will be non-operational on the relevant days that a catastrophic fire danger rating is declared. Parents will be required to make alternate supervision arrangements for their children.**

The school will only receive notification of a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating after school hours the day before the forecast is issued. To assist me in contacting all parents please ensure that you have provided the school with up-to-date home or after hours contact details.

Information for parents and carers provided by the Department about these arrangements is attached. Up to date bush fire information will also be available to you on the Department's bush fire safety website. The link for this site is as follows: NSW Public Schools Safety website:

<http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/about-us/news-at-det/bushfire-safety>

Please contact the school on 4447 8243 if you would like any further information about this matter.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Humphreys

Principal



# Arrangements for the bush fire season

THIS INFORMATION IS ONLY FOR SCHOOLS THAT ARE ON THE BUSH FIRE REGISTER

Information for parents and carers

Updated September 2015

This brochure provides information for parents and carers about arrangements for the bush fire season. This information is only relevant for schools that are on the bush fire register.

## Introduction

The NSW Department of Education has conducted bush fire assessments for NSW government schools in bush fire prone areas. These results have been validated by an independent external expert and have been reviewed in consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service.

A small number of schools have been identified as a school at increased risk if a fire were to break out on a day when a catastrophic fire danger rating is issued for the area that the school is located in. **This includes the school your child attends.**

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the Department has determined that on days when a catastrophic fire danger rating is issued for the area the school is in, the school will temporarily cease operations for the day(s) the rating is current and alternative learning arrangements will be put in place.

## What is a Fire Danger Rating?

A fire danger rating is the expected fire danger on a particular day and is determined by considering a combination of factors including air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought. The ratings range from Low – Moderate through High, Very High, Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic.

## What is a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating?

A catastrophic rating means that if fires broke out they would be uncontrollable, unpredictable and very fast moving with very aggressive flames extending high above tree tops and buildings.

## When will I know if my child's school won't be operating the next day?

The State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) notifies the Department at approximately 4:30pm each day when there are catastrophic fire danger ratings predicted for the following day. This means that the school will only receive notification of a catastrophic fire danger rating after school hours the day before the forecast is issued.

Your school will notify you as soon as possible. You will be notified by telephone or other communication, depending on when the school is advised that the catastrophic fire danger rating has been issued. The school will not receive this information until after school has finished on the day before the rating takes effect. The school will contact all parents and carers and, where appropriate, issue advice through local media.

Please provide your current home or after hours contact to your school. Parents and carers should also watch or listen for local media as information may be provided through these outlets.

## What educational arrangements will be in place if the school isn't operating?

Talk to your school about the arrangements that will be put in place in the event of the school temporarily ceasing operations due to a catastrophic fire danger rating being issued. Schools will be undertaking advanced planning to ensure that, if schools do need to cease operations on some days, they will have

alternative educational arrangements in place such as re-locating to another school, where practicable, or providing take home work for students.

## Will my child's school be affected by severe or extreme fire danger ratings?

During the bush fire season, including days of severe or extreme fire danger rating, schools will continue to operate as normal unless advised otherwise by emergency services. During the bush fire season schools will be vigilant and monitor local conditions, particularly on days when severe or extreme fire danger ratings are issued.

## Plan and prepare

The NSW Rural Fire Service has resources for all residents to plan and prepare for the bush fire season. It is important that you consider the safety of your own home from bushfire. Please find more information and resources at: <http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare>. See also the [My Fire Plan](#) website for resource.

## Further information

We appreciate your cooperation during the bush fire season. For further information about fire danger ratings and the bush fire season, please refer to the NSW Rural Fire Service website at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

The Department's [School Safety website](#) has also been established to provide up to date information during bush fires and other situations such as floods or storms.



## How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

### For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



### For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.



### For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 81 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 81/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.





## Intention to apply for Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2017

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Dear Parent/Carer

Selective high schools cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level.

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 10 March 2016

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2017, you need to do so soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 13 October 2015 in a printed application information booklet and at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement). The application website opens on 13 October 2015 and closes on 16 November 2015. No late applications will be accepted.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance after 13 October 2015.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

Yours sincerely

Principal

Out along the dotted line and return the completed slip below to this school by next Friday.

**Note: THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL.** This is a notice to your primary school only that you **intend** to apply.

TO APPLY YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER AND THEN APPLY THROUGH THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS APPLICATION WEBSITE.

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## Intention to apply for Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2017

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Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in applying for selective high school entry in 2017

Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes EITHER

I have internet access and will be applying online

☐

OR

I do not have internet access

☐

Signature of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL.** This is a notice to your primary school only that you **intend** to apply.

TO APPLY YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER AND THEN APPLY THROUGH THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS APPLICATION WEBSITE.