



FALLS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

TALKABOUT

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Term 3 - Week 9

Wednesday 13 September 2017

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This is our last newsletter for the term. Thank you to all of our wonderful staff for their ongoing commitment and dedication to student learning and school improvement. Next term, staff will be completing their TEN training (targeting efficient numeracy) and working together to develop our next three-year School Plan. We would love your input into guiding the future directions of our school and will be inviting all families to be part of the consultation process (more information early in term 4).

Also, a very big THANK YOU to our P&C for their invaluable help across the school (canteen, gardening and Father's Day Stall), and for their generous support of school projects. Thanks to our P&C, our students have all participated in Life Education and Robotics so far this year, and next term the P&C is providing the funding for all students Y2-Y6 to participate in the School Swim Scheme totally free of charge (permission notes will come home in Week 1). Students unable to confidently swim more than 25m without stopping are encouraged to attend.

A reminder that our Canberra Excursion for Y4, Y5, Y6 is from 8-10 November. Please see me if you are experiencing any difficulty in finalising your payment for this trip. It is a valuable experience for our students to enhance their classroom learning, socialise with their friends and experience the history and culture of our nation's capital. We do hope that EVERY student Y4-Y6 is able to participate.

This week, Y3 and Y5 students will preview NAPLAN online through short practice tests. The tests allow us to try out the new system, to analyse our school capability to deliver the assessments and to evaluate the process. No grades or results will be given from the actual test. For more information: <http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment>

If you have not already done so, please complete the Nit Buster permission note and return to school ASAP. The notes will stay on file and in the case of an outbreak, trained volunteers from

the P&C will check and treat your child's hair at school (this is free and no harsh chemicals are used).

Next week's assembly will start at 1:40 and will be followed by the P&C Spring Working Bee & BBQ.

“Imagine with all your mind, believe with all your heart and achieve with all your might.”

ATTENDANCE



We are currently in the process of reviewing our School Attendance Policy.

Compulsory school attendance is mandatory for all children six years and over. Parents and Carers must inform the school and provide a justifiable excuse if their child or children are absent from school. A note explaining student absences must be provided within 7 days. Applications for leave (eg holidays) during the term must be made in writing to the principal at least two weeks prior to the time of leave. The school must keep accurate records of school attendance, including days absent, late arrival and early departure. If a student is absent for three or more days, parents/carers will be contacted by phone and a medical certificate may be required. The principal must ensure that the policy is implemented and that poor attendance is addressed quickly and appropriately.

Kindy Orientation is coming soon!!!

Enrol now to receive important information about starting school in 2018 and claim your child's place in our transition to school sessions.



SPORT NEWS

Tomorrow, 14 September we will be attending the Erowal Bay Tennis Courts for our final tennis lesson with Coach Kevin. Any parents who wish to attend our final session are more than welcome to bring a racquet and join in the fun. The bus leaves at approximately 9:10am and arrives back at school at approximately 11:30am.

Dion Lalor

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Reminder to K/1/2 students that Bunnings excursion is in week 10 on Tuesday 19th September. Make sure to return your permission note to the office.

Gardening activities include:

- Re design and re paint art work on totem poles with senior students and Lane
- Complete mulching indigenous garden
- Weeding asparagus fern on verge
- Needed - large pieces of cardboard for gardens please

The vegetables out of our garden have been used in the canteen this term, can't get any fresher.

Susan Porteous

CANTEEN ROSTER

Wednesday 20th September

Home Baking - Volunteer needed

Aldi Shopping - Jo O'Dowd

Canteen - Jo O'Dowd and Micha James



Fruit & Veg Month 2017

Our school has registered for the fun of Fruit & Veg Month. Fruit & Veg Month 2017 runs for the last 4 weeks of Term 3, Monday 28 August to Friday 22 September. As part of Fruit & Veg Month, students will be involved in various classroom and school based activities which encourage them to eat more fruit and vegetables.

Fruit and Veg Tasting Plates - Next Wednesday each class will be getting loud for fruit and veg month with a fun taste testing of a colourful, and delicious, array of fruits and vegetables!

P&C NEWS

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday 20th September - Spring Working Bee

We need your help!! The P&C are calling on all families to join us for a Spring Clean Up and Free Sausage Sizzle. Join us after assembly (2:15pm). Tasks include cooking the BBQ, mulching, weeding, clearing leaf litter, completing the chook pen etc.

- Friday 27 October - Family Fun Disco

NITBUSTERS Parent Consent Form

I, _____ being the legal parent/guardian of _____ (child's name) give my consent to their participation in the Nitbusters School Head Lice Project.

- I acknowledge that I have received and read the Parent Information Sheet, which explains the aims and procedures involved in this project. I understand that my child's participation in this project is entirely voluntary and that they can withdraw at any stage.
- I also understand that I can withdraw my consent at any time for my child's participation.
- I also understand that the information relating to my child's participation in the project is strictly confidential. I agree that the results of the project may be published, provided that my child cannot be identified.

I hereby give my consent to my child _____ in class _____ participating in the project.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent / Guardian

SPORTS SHIRTS:

The P&C will be placing an order for school sports shirts to wear to school on sports days and special sports events. The cost of each shirt is \$40 and the P&C will subsidise this first order by paying \$20 per shirt. Payment is strictly CASH ONLY and may be paid to the canteen on Wednesday mornings. All orders must be made by Wed 20 Sep. Please note that the next order WILL NOT be until 2018 and shirts will be FULL COST.

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FAMILY NAME: _____

Total number of shirts: _____ @ \$20 each (future shirts will be \$40)

Student: _____ Size: _____

Student: _____ Size: _____

Student: _____ Size: _____

Student: _____ Size: _____



IMPORTANT

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

For the safety of our students the staff car park is NOT to be used for dropping off/ picking up students from school or parent parking in general. It is for staff parking only.

Children getting on and off the bus need to walk through the car park and it makes it very dangerous if there are cars driving in and out. We appreciate your support in this matter with keeping our students safe at all times.



Central Shoalhaven Mobile
Preschool

ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR 2018

The Central Shoalhaven Mobile Preschool is a community owned, not for profit organisation. University and TAFE trained staff provide an educational program for children aged between 3 and 5 years, in a motivating setting to enhance each child's preparation for school. Proudly servicing the Shoalhaven area for over 40 years.

We visit Callala Beach, Cambewarra, Falls Creek and Huskisson weekly

We offer before school care commencing at 8.00am and finishing at 9.00am.

Preschool hours are from 9am - 3pm

Come along and give your child the opportunity to make new friends within the local area.

Subsidies are available.

All enquiries welcome

Phone 44230571 / 0412928095 / 0432274244

www.shoalhavenmobilepreschool.com.au

We are a registered Preschool not a Long Day Care facility



COMMUNITY NEWS



Nowra-Culburra
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC

LEARN NEW SKILLS GAIN CONFIDENCE HAVE FUN JOIN NIPPERS TODAY!

Teach your children essential beach survival skills while having fun at the same time.

Nowra Culburra Surf Life Saving Club 2017 Nippers season starts 15th of October 9:15am.

You must register online & pass a proficiency test before the season starts.

Proficiency dates;

Bomaderry Indoor Pool: 30th September 10:30am – 12pm

Bay & Basin Leisure Centre: 7th October 10:30am – 12pm

For more information please visit

<https://nowraculburraslsc.asn.au/nippers/>

Don't forget to stay up to date by liking our Facebook page!

Nippers is a great Sunday morning activity for the whole family to enjoy!

16–24 September 2017

Cycling events around Shoalhaven

Shoalhaven City Council

Dolphin Point Mountain Bike Ride
Saturday 16 September 2017
Easy paced mountain bike ride through the National Park. Enjoy a BBQ on return.
Meet at 2.00pm at Lions Club Park, Dolphin Point. Mountain bikes are advisable. Suitable for beginners

Huskisson to Vincentia Bike Ride Return
Sunday 17 September 2017
The ride is 12km from White Sands Park Huskisson to Plantation Point and return at an easy pace using shared pathways.
Meet at White Sands Park next to Huskisson Pub Huskisson for a start at 9.00am.

www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit transport.nsw.gov.au/bikeweek

Aboriginal Go4Fun

10 week healthy lifestyle program for Aboriginal children and their families

Sanctuary Point Public School | Wednesdays | 3:30 - 5:30pm

Call 1800 780 900 or visit www.go4fun.com.au

Discovery Walks, Talks and Tours

Spring Holiday Program 2017

South Coast Region

What is Discovery?
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service's environmental education program is called Discovery. The aim of our walks, talks and tours is to ensure that our state's natural and cultural heritage is valued by the people of NSW and can be treasured for generations to come.

Note to participants:
Bookings are required to ensure places in the activities. Printed finishing times are approximate and activities may be cancelled or altered due to unforeseen circumstances. Children must be accompanied by a supervising adult (the child rate is for children aged 5-16 years; children under 5 years attend free). Family rates are for 2 adults and up to 3 children. When attending activities, please bring drinking water, appropriate clothing (particularly footwear), sun protection and a snack. Vehicle entry fees apply in some parks.

To book phone 02 4887 7270

For further details or more Discovery activities across NSW visit:
www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

For National Parks and Wildlife Service general information phone: 1300 361 967

Date	Activity	Location
Saturday 23th	Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre, Morton NP	Morton NP
Monday 25th	Beach Rd, Seven Mile Beach NP	Seven Mile Beach NP
Wednesday 27th	Darkees Forest Rd, Dharawal NP	Dharawal NP
Friday 29th	Depot Beach, Murrumbidgee NP	Murrumbidgee NP
Saturday 30th	Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre, Morton NP	Morton NP
Tuesday 3rd	Gerrua Headland, Seven Mile Beach NP	Seven Mile Beach NP
Wednesday 4th	Minnamurra Rainforest Centre, Budderoo NP	Budderoo NP
Thursday 5th	Greenfield Beach, Jervis Bay NP	Jervis Bay NP
Friday 6th	Depot Beach, Murrumbidgee NP	Murrumbidgee NP
Saturday 7th	Jervis Bay Maritime Museum, Huskisson	Huskisson
Sunday 8th	Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre, Morton NP	Morton NP

Spring Program 2017

Discovery Walks, Talks and Tours

To book please phone 02 4887 7270

Discovery Spring Holiday Program 23th September to 8 October 2017
From rare rocks and plants to unique animals and cultural sites, national parks are places you'll experience wonders unlike anywhere else in the world. Discover the wonders of each of these special places on a ranger-guided tour.

<p>Saturday 23 and 30 September Fitzroy Falls Morton National Park</p> <p>WILDERQUEST - RAD (WOODLAND) Wilderness Ranger Activity Days provide 6-12 year-olds with a hands-on one-hour session to try out some of the skills and equipment required to be a Ranger. This great opportunity offers young people a unique chance to see how Rangers who work in woodland environments look after national parks, plants and animals. Time: 1-hour sessions Meet: Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre Grade: Easy Cost: Child \$10, Accompanying adults free</p>	<p>Tuesday 3 October Seven Mile Beach National Park</p> <p>WILDERQUEST - ROCKPOOL TREASURES Come on a coastal WilderQuest adventure exploring rockpools for their treasures. Will you be able to spot sea creatures who hide among the rockpools and sip like colorful seaweed? Time: 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm Meet: Pargoll, Burke Pde, Gerrua Grade: Easy Cost: Child \$10, Accompanying adults free</p>	<p>Saturday 7 October Wanda the Caravan Huskisson</p> <p>MEET THE RANGER - HUSKISSON Discover the wonders of nature as you wander through the Caravan and visit the Maritime Museum Twilight Markets. Meet the Discovery Ranger, explore the market and enjoy the nearby meadow wonderland. Time: 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm Place: Dent St, Huskisson Grade: Easy Cost: By donation</p>
<p>Monday 25 September Seven Mile Beach National Park</p> <p>WILDERQUEST - FOREST FLYERS Build your own kite at the place where the forest meets the sea. Hear stories about kites, gliders and other forest fliers then fly your creation along the shore. Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm Meet: Beach Rd Picnic Area Grade: Easy Cost: Child \$10, Accompanying adults free</p>	<p>Wednesday 4 October Minnamurra Rainforest Centre</p> <p>WILDERQUEST - WILD AT ART Experience the magic of Minnamurra Rainforest on the art-making adventure with a local artist. Kids will take a journey into their senses, exploring the forest and discovering its art. Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm Grade: Easy Cost: \$10 per child, Accompanying adults free</p>	<p>Sunday 8 October Fitzroy Falls Morton National Park</p> <p>Celebrating 50 Years This year, the National Parks and Wildlife Service celebrates our 50th anniversary. Since 1967 we've been proudly protecting and preserving the natural landscapes, wildlife, culture and heritage of New South Wales. As part of the festivities, you're invited to a fun and memorable day at Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre, Morton National Park, to celebrate 50 years of looking after the natural and cultural heritage of the South Coast and Southern Highlands. Following a free morning tea at the Visitor Centre, there will be a range of great activities for the whole family running throughout the day. Activities will include: Aboriginal cultural talks about traditional tools and artefacts, guided bushwalks, guided nature walks, kite activities, as well as a sausage sizzle barbecue lunch. This milestone is a great excuse to get into a national park near you, so make sure you visit the beautiful Morton National Park on this special day, and help celebrate this landmark occasion. Time: 9:30 am to 3:00 pm Meet: Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre Grade: Easy Cost: Free Find out more about 50 years of NPWS by visiting: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/celebrating-50-years</p>
<p>Wednesday 27 September Dharawal National Park</p> <p>WILDERQUEST - BUG DETECTIVES Explore the world of bugs and microbes to find out what they look like, where they live & how they live. Equipment supplied. Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 noon Meet: Maddens Falls Carpark, Darkees Forest Rd Grade: Easy Cost: \$10 per child, Accompanying adults free</p>	<p>Thursday 5 October Greenfield Beach Jervis Bay NP</p> <p>BUSHTUCKER AT THE BEACH Enjoy the sights and sounds of Greenfield Beach on the fun cultural outing with hands-on demonstrations of Koori bushbucker and bush medicine. Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm Meet: Greenfield Beach Picnic Area Bring: protection, water, snack Grade: Easy Cost: Child \$5, Adult \$10, Family \$25</p>	<p>Saturday 16 September to Sunday 8 October</p> <p>BIOME ART Exhibition Biome is an art exhibit by local artists and artisans who have come together to celebrate 50 years of the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The exhibit highlights the beauty and diversity of our environment, showcasing national parks in the Shoalhaven region from the white beaches of Jervis Bay, to the rugged wilderness of the Budderoo Ranges. Exhibition grand opening is being held on Saturday 16 September from 8:00pm to 10:00pm. Open daily 10th September to 8th October Time: 10:00am to 4:00pm Location: Huskisson Gallery & Picture Framing Shop 3 (opposite), 70 Owen St, Huskisson Cost: Free For further details contact the gallery: 4441 5300</p>
<p>Friday 29 September & Friday 6 October Depot Beach Murrumbidgee NP</p> <p>FORESTS ALIVE AT NIGHT When the sun goes down the Australian bush comes to life, as nocturnal animals start their day. Join the Discovery Rangers at Depot Beach campground in Murrumbidgee National Park for a chance to glimpse some of these amazing nocturnal creatures at home in the wild - and to experience the forests alive at night. Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm Friday 29 September Time: 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm Meet: Depot Beach Campground Office Grade: Easy Cost: \$10 per participant</p>	<p>Why not get a group together and book your own Discovery?</p> <p>TRADITIONAL WEAVING WORKSHOP An exciting new opportunity to learn an ancient art. Enjoy this exclusive traditional weaving workshop with a respected Aboriginal artist. Materials supplied. Time: Two hours Meet: Various locations Cost: \$80 per person (5 people minimum)</p> <p>AUSTRALIAN LANDSCAPES TOUR - MORTON NP Follow the Discovery Ranger in your own car on the exploration of Morton's magnificent lookouts and discover stories folded into this ancient landscape. Time: Three hours Meet: Sussex Inlet Rd (Cor Prince Hwy) Grade: Medium (200+ elevations) Cost: \$40 per vehicle (5 vehicles) For details on these tours phone 0429 680 811 or email discovery.scr@environment.nsw.gov.au</p>	<p>WHAT IS WILDERQUEST? WilderQuest is an innovative, fun, children's program which combines digital and real-life adventures that encourage children to engage with nature. WilderQuest includes the WilderQuest website, iPad app, Discovery activities and teacher resources. WilderQuest has been developed by the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service to provide opportunities for kids to explore and experience the wonders of the natural world. To find out more visit: www.wilderquest.nsw.gov.au</p>

For general National Parks and Wildlife Service information phone: 1300 361 967
www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2017-18 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:

CATASTROPHIC DAYS

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.

Falls Creek Public School will temporarily cease operations during periods when there is a 'catastrophic fire danger rating' issued for the area in which the school is located.

Schools will:

- Activate local notification requirements, such as school website updates and local SMS notifications, to ensure parents carers are aware that the school is temporarily ceasing operations for the start of the next school day and advise of the temporary arrangements for the school;
- Confirm details of the school's relocation or closure by emailing bushfire@det.nsw.edu.au or by calling the WHS Directorate on (02) 9707 6404 or (02) 9707 6227; The WHS Directorate will notify the SEOC of the schools that will not be operating the following day and ensure the publication of this information on the Department's [School Safety website](#);
- Advise their Director, Public Schools NSW of these actions; and
- Be prepared to receive further advice after 4:30pm the following day. Principals on the bush fire register will be contacted on

a daily basis if the school needs to temporarily cease operations due to Catastrophic Fire Danger Ratings being issued. Unless there are further announcements that a school will remain closed, then it is expected that the school will operate as normal on the following day.

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:

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

Please contact the school on 44478243 if you would like any further information about this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqui Cavill

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Presented at assembly Wednesday 6 September 2017

MERIT AWARDS

Kindy Blue - Elyssa Haskins and Cliff Williams.

1-2 Red - Keira Forster and Dejan Sankovic.

3-6 Purple - Chrystel Buckley, Angus Findlay and George Williams.

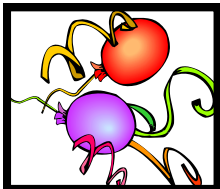
STAR AWARDS - Simba Dickson, Isabella Barker, Thomas Russell and Mason McNab.

PLAYGROUND STAR AWARDS

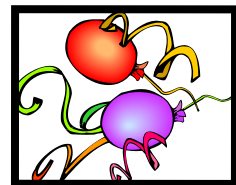
Dejan Sankovic, Lani Attard, Elyssa Haskins, Vimbai Dickson, Elke James and Mason McNab.

PRINCIPALS AWARD

Isabella Barker, Jai Henkel, Jackson Xuereb, Keira Forster, Sealisha Buckley and Kaleb Flear.



Happy Birthday!



**Happy Birthday to the following students who
celebrated their birthday in September**

9 September - Cliff Williams
13 September - Kiana Bowling
16 September - Sealisha Buckley
27 September - Blake McDonald &
George Williams