COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01.03.13</td>
<td>SRC Induction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.03.13</td>
<td>Years 7 &amp; 9 Boys— Vaccinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.03.13</td>
<td>DER Information Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06.03.13</td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07.03.12</td>
<td>Northern Zone Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.03.13</td>
<td>South Coast Futsal Championships</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Principal’s Report**

It has been an exciting start to Term 1. Year 7 students have settled in well and we have a very active Student Representative Council. Our 2012 Year 12 students have excelled. I have been informed by the Universities Admissions Centre that 49 students were offered placements in a variety of courses, such as, Bachelor of; Physical and Health Education, Business, Engineering, Arts, Science, Commerce, Mathematics, Health Science and Indigenous Health, Nursing, Medical, Communication and Media Studies, Education, Information Technology, Environmental Science, Public Health Nutrition, International Studies, Creative Arts and Speech and Hearing Sciences.

Congratulations to our Figtree High School ex-student Jake Kellner who was awarded the prestigious University of Sydney Academic Merit Prize and the Dean’s List of Excellence in Bachelor of Engineering.

Ivana Zaric was a successful winner of the district Lions Club Youth of the Year Competition. Ivana will now compete in the Regional finals in March. Well done Ivana and thank you to Margaret Parr and Katherine Corbett for their assistance.

Congratulations to Peter Faulks, Dylan Rower, Brad Simon and Mitchell Davis who were successful in gaining a position on the South Coast team to compete at the Combined High Schools championships. We wish you the best of luck.

The Parents and Citizens Association will be meeting on Wednesday 27 February in the library at 7.30pm. All school community members are welcome to attend.

The Year 6 into 7 Expo Evening will take place on Wednesday 27 February at 6pm in the auditorium at Figtree High School. The parents and students will participate in a short information session and experience a variety of exciting mini demonstration lessons.

The swimming carnival was very successful and the students and staff had a productive and enjoyable day.

Below is an email that I received commending our students:

“I just wanted to send you a quick email to commend the behaviour of your students Georgia Simonovski and Brittney Angus at last week’s National Apology anniversary event. They were polite, co-operative and a pleasure to have. They were also great leaders helping out – especially with the younger ones. Their artwork looks great! We hope that they enjoyed themselves also.

We are in the process of organising the artworks to be mounted on a larger canvas which we would then like to present to your school. We will be in touch once this has been done.

Once again, thank you for your school’s attendance on the day and please pass our thanks on to your students and their parents if possible.

Kind Regards,

Shiralee Hartnett
ICL Team Leader
Aunty Mary Davis Outreach Centre

Regards

Carol Marshman
Principal

**Road Safety Reminder**

Figtree High School is very fortunate to have traffic lights to ensure student safety for road crossings. Gibsons road is very busy with buses, cars and pedestrians at the end of the school day. Students who have to cross Gibsons road need to use the traffic lights at the front of the school. This ensures their own safety and the safety of other members of the school community. Parents are asked to remind their children about using this crossing and the risks involved in crossing the road by stepping out between parked cars and buses.
News from the Deputy Principal

It has been a very busy, but exciting start to the new school year for me. I have taken over the role previously held by Mrs Jennifer French, following her appointment as a Principal. As such, I will be working closely with the students in Years 8, 10 and 12 and their parents/careers. I have been impressed by how quickly and efficiently students have settled into the routine of a new timetable, classes and teachers. To ensure that students maintain this high level of organisation and maximise their learning opportunities and achievement, it is important for students to use a diary for school (hard copy or electronic) to ensure that homework, assessment tasks and class requirements are met.

There are a range of free applications for iPhones/iPods and android devices that enable students to store their timetable electronically and manage their assessment and homework requirements. Students can also put their timetable onto their DEC Student Portal.

It has been great to see the excellent support from students and their parents/careers to ensure that students attend school each day on time and in full school uniform. The introduction of the school uniform navy shorts for girls have been very popular and look very smart, as an option to the skirt. The approved school uniform shorts are available from Poppets Direct - Montague St, Fairy Meadow. Students are reminded that the school uniform includes ALL black fully enclosed leather/suede/leatherette shoes. If a student is unable to wear full school uniform, they are required to bring a note signed by their parent/carer. After school detentions are issued to students if they are out of uniform without a note on three occasions. The only day of the week that Sports Uniform can be worn to school is Wednesday - Sport day. If students have PE/PASS/SLR lessons, they need to bring their PE/Sport uniform in their bag and change at the start and end of the lesson.

Students need to be aware that aerosol sprays are BANNED at school. This is due to the health issues that they cause for students and staff who have asthma, allergies or other respiratory concerns. Students are encouraged to bring roll-on or stick type deodorants to use on a Sport/PE day. This ensures the safety of all staff and students in our school.

One of Figtree High School's core values is Respect. I have spent some time over my first few weeks discussing this core value with students, with a particular focus on peer relationships, and the need for all students to speak and act respectfully with each other, both in person and through social media. I would ask that parents/careers reinforce this message with our students at home. Building positive relationships with peers and teachers are essential for effective learning and for students to feel safe and secure at school. It is important that students take appropriate action and report any incidents where a peer is not treating them with respect, especially if it continues over a period of time. This report can be made to the class teacher, teacher on playground duty, year adviser or the deputy principal. Reports can also be made by parents/careers if necessary.

The school swimming carnival was a fantastic day for the school community and it was great to see so many students enter events throughout the day, to compete, to cool off or to have fun with friends. It was also great to see a number of parents/carers attend the carnival throughout the day to support students. The Zone Swimming Carnival on 26th February provided the opportunity for our best swimmers to compete against students from other Northern Wollongong schools. I was able to attend the Zone carnival for a short time and saw our students in action in the pool, representing our school with great performances. A number of students are progressing onto the Area carnival on 6th March. I wish these students the best of luck next week.

Our next big community event will be the Figtree High School Expo Night on Wednesday 27th February at 6pm. This is an opportunity to showcase the excellent opportunities available for students at Figtree High, and encourage Year 6 students and their families to choose Figtree High as their secondary school. Having attended this night last year, as a parent, I know that prospective students and parents will be impressed by our teachers and students who will be presenting as part of the Expo. I look forward to meeting current and future students and parents on this night.

Ellie Donovan
Deputy Principal

Youth of the Year Competition

On Tuesday 19th February, Ivana Zaric (Year 12) represented Figtree High School in the second round of the Lions Club Youth of the Year competition. Ivana was successful late last year in winning the first round for the Figtree Lions Club. The format of the competition required Ivana and the other competitors to present a 5 minute speech on a topic of their own choice and answer two impromptu questions for 2 minutes each. She was also interviewed prior to the event by a judging panel where she was required to answer an additional 3 questions based on current events. It was a strong competition and we are happy to announce that Ivana was successful in winning both categories on the evening – Best Public Speaker and Overall Winner. She will now move on to the third round which will be held in Merimbula next month. We congratulate Ivana and wish her the best of luck!
HPV vaccinations have been offered to female students in Year 7 since 2007. In 2011, 81% of Year 7 girls received at least one dose of the three-dose course of HPV vaccine.

HPV is the name given to a group of viruses that affect both females and males. The vaccine is highly effective in preventing the main types of HPV infection and is most effective when it is given to people before they are exposed to the virus. As well as protecting males from HPV infections, immunising young men will also help protect women from infection. The vaccine is registered for use from 10 years of age and is only provided free for male students who commence the course in Year 7 or Year 9.

**Parent Information Kits** were sent home to parents in early 2013. To consent to vaccination, parents are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to their child’s school.

Students in Year 7 will also be offered vaccination against other diseases, including diphtheria-tetanus whooping cough (dTpa), hepatitis B and varicella (chicken pox).

K. Borst (Supervisor of Girls)

**Gold Awards**

Congratulations to Lauren Smileski (Year 10) and Jodie Feld (Year 12) who qualified for the Gold award at the end of last year. To be eligible for a Gold award a student must present 150 merits These merits show that the student has been working to the best of their ability across a range of subjects and that they have been prepared to be involved in a range of extra-curricular activities such as sport, the school production and academic competitions. Both girls have been awarded Principal’s Awards and Year Adviser’s Awards, another demonstration of their consistent work ethic. They have clearly demonstrated a commitment to following the school values of Respect, Safety and Learning through earning PBS merits, 100% attendance merits and offering their services to the school.

**Vaccination**

Vaccination consent forms have been given to all Year 7 students and Year 9 Boys with an accompanying note. If you wish for your child to be vaccinated, please complete the form(s) & have your child return the signed form(s) back to school.

K. Borst (Co-ordinator)

**Homework Centre.**

Once again Figtree High will be operating a homework centre in the Library on Monday afternoons after school from 3pm until 4pm. This began on Monday 11th February.

The centre will be open for approximately 1 hour every Monday, students will be given a light afternoon tea and rostered teachers will be there to assist students.

If your daughter/son needs help getting organised, researching appropriate information, interpreting tasks or catching up with homework and/or class work, this will be a great opportunity for them.

Please encourage your child to attend if you think they would benefit from this extra assistance. Any questions please contact me at the school on 42712787.

Lynn Wood, H.T. Teaching & Learning.

**HPV Vaccination for boys to commence in NSW**

Boys in NSW high schools will be offered human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccinations from 2013 to provide protection against developing infections that can lead to cancer.

In 2013, the 3-dose course of vaccine will be offered to:
- Year 7 girls and boys as part of the routine school based vaccination program
- Year 9 boys as part of the national ‘catch up’ program in 2013 and 2014 only.

**100% Attendance**

Congratulations to the following students who achieved 100% attendance for the entire school year in 2012. That is an amazing 188 days!

**Lachlan Nardone** (Year 7), **Erin Costello** (Year 8)

**Brandon McBey** (Year 9), **Rachel Watson** (Year 9)

**David Jolliffe** (Year 9)

The following students had 100% attendance in Semester 2 of 2012.

**Year 7 - Shannon Ward**

Year 8 – **Mikaela Frame, Lachlan Nardone, Erin Costello, Kieren Brodnik, Alexander Spirosvki, Malia Fatai, Linh Le Nguyen, Melinda Vay, Azalea Nassau, Qiana Nassau**

Year 9 – **David Jolliffe, Brandon McBey, Elise Oakman, Rachel Watson, Rebecca McLean, Nabeela Kassas**

Well done to all of these students and we look forward to having more students achieve 100% attendance this year.

Mrs Lawson (HT Welfare)

**100% Attendance**

Congratulations to the following students who achieved 100% attendance for the entire school year in 2012. That is an amazing 188 days!

**Lachlan Nardone** (Year 7), **Erin Costello** (Year 8)

**Brandon McBey** (Year 9), **Rachel Watson** (Year 9)

**David Jolliffe** (Year 9)

The following students had 100% attendance in Semester 2 of 2012.

**Year 7 - Shannon Ward**

Year 8 – **Mikaela Frame, Lachlan Nardone, Erin Costello, Kieren Brodnik, Alexander Spirosvki, Malia Fatai, Linh Le Nguyen, Melinda Vay, Azalea Nassau, Qiana Nassau**

Year 9 – **David Jolliffe, Brandon McBey, Elise Oakman, Rachel Watson, Rebecca McLean, Nabeela Kassas**

Well done to all of these students and we look forward to having more students achieve 100% attendance this year.

Mrs Lawson (HT Welfare)
What makes this achievement even more exceptional is that Lauren was only in Year 9 when she became eligible for her Gold certificate and this is the second time Jodie has qualified for Gold! These students are excellent role models and most deserving recipients of this prestigious award. Well done!

**Showcase**

Figtree High School’s inaugural Exhibition in December showcased the talents of our students from Year 7 to Year 12. The event was a successful night for all of those involved and was officially opened by the Mayor of Wollongong, Gordon Bradbery. The exhibition included outstanding works in painting, design, drawing, printmaking, sculpture; mixed media wet photography and digital photography, woodwork, textiles and set design. Support from the Entertainment students was instrumental in providing excellent event management and production, and the Hospitality students once again showed their expertise in catering for the event. Many students received Special Awards for their artwork; however special mention must be made to these students, Dijana Milisic, Callum Ryrie, Chloe Jovanovska and Jayke Wilson. Congratulations to all students for your fantastic contribution and support to the Figtree High School Exhibition.

**Easter Show Merit Reward Day**

A day at the Royal Easter Show is being organised for Thursday 28th March. All Silver and Gold students will be eligible to attend plus any students with current Bronze Certificates (awarded in 2012 or 2013). Travel will be by coach and total cost will be $32. This year, any student who purchases a “school ticket” is entitled to another complimentary ticket which they may use to go to the Easter Show with their family or friends at another time. **Permission notes will be handed out during Week 5.**

Students who would like to participate in this excursion should check that their Bronze Certificate is up to date. If they need to renew their Bronze they should do so early as this is a very popular excursion. Merit application forms are available from Year Advisors or Ms Dive in the Languages staffroom.

P. Dive, Merit Scheme Coordinator.

**Swimming Carnival 2013**

Our swimming carnival which was held on 14th Feb was a great success. All students that were present were well behaved and competed with great sportsmanship. The winning house for the day was RED. The age champions were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12years</td>
<td>Cameron Lodge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13years</td>
<td>Connor McMullen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14years</td>
<td>Ben Hubert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15years</td>
<td>Alex Costello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16years</td>
<td>Wes Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17years+</td>
<td>Michael Trajevski</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We also had some records broken on the day

- Caitlin Smith broke the 50m Freestyle with a time of 29.16 and the 200m Freestyle with 2.20.21
- Wes Roberts broke the 100m freestyle with 59.38, 50m butterfly with 29.17, 50m Backstroke with 33.43 and 200m freestyle with 2.11.88. Congratulations.

The Zone swimming carnival was on the 26th February and the Regional Carnival is on the 6th March. Good Luck to all our swimmers who compete at this level.

**CHS Tennis**

Congratulations to the following players who were selected into the CHS Tennis team to compete in Parramatta from the 5th- 8th March 2013.

- Jayden Smileski
- Blayne Sawyer
- Hayden Hunt
- Lauren Smileski
- Jason Bloomfield

**Boys Baseball State Championships:**

Congratulations to the following students who were selected into the Regional Baseball team. They will compete at the NSW State Championships at Berkeley from 18-21st March. Peter Faulks, Dylan Rower, Brad Simon and Mitchell Davis.
PBS Prize Draw

Congratulations to Daniel Kuschert (Year 12) and Payton Williams (Year 7) who each received a $5 canteen voucher because they had their RSL ticket drawn out on assembly. RSL tickets are given to students who are seen to be practising the school's values of Respect, Safety and Learning. Students are encouraged to drop their RSL tickets into the box in the administration block so that they can be included in the weekly prize draw. These RSL tickets are then tallied for each student and can be used towards earning merits for Bronze and Silver certificates.

Little Figgies Playgroup

When: Every Tuesday 10.45am until 12.15pm
Where: Figtree High School, Engineering Science room, near the Auditorium, at the far end of staff car park.
Cost: 1 small sized piece of fruit and own drink, morning tea provided for parents and carers.
Activities: Craft, painting, games, toys, cooking, bikes etc.

The Great Ocean Pool Crawl

The Great Ocean Pool Crawl urges Illawarra students to give hope for a cancer-free future.

Great Ocean Pool Crawl – Sunday, 21st April 2013
You may not be able to walk in the shoes of a cancer patient, but you can swim for one on Sunday, April 21st.
The Great Ocean Pool Crawl is an opportunity for students, friends, and families to swim, snorkel or paddle their way through 2 laps in 7 beautiful ocean pools to raise funds for Cancer Council NSW.

Beginning with a 9:00am registration at the Corrimal Hotel, a free bus will transport our Pool Crawlers to each ocean pool from Coalcliff to Towradgi.

Get your classmates, teachers, and family to sponsor your crawl and reach your fundraising target!

Fantastic prizes for best dressed, highest fundraiser and lucky door are on offer!

All funds will go towards cancer research, prevention, information and support services such as the Illawarra Volunteer General and Practical Support Service which assists people undergoing cancer treatment, and their carers with a bit extra help during a very difficult time.

For more information visit: www.poolcrawl.com.au
Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/poolcrawl
To register online visit: http://www.trybooking.com/cauy