**COMING EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 10 (B)</th>
<th>Beginning Monday 9th December</th>
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<tr>
<td>12.12.13</td>
<td>SRC Christmas Mufti Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.12.13</td>
<td>Year 10 Drama class Performance “Our Town” 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.12.13</td>
<td>Year 10 students complete the Book and Fees Clearance</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 11 (A)</th>
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<tr>
<td>16.12.13</td>
<td>Years 7-10 Merit Assemblies and Reports issued to students</td>
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<td>17.12.13</td>
<td>Year 10 Peer Support Training Day</td>
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<td>17.12.13</td>
<td>Merit Excursion to Jamberoo Recreation Park</td>
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<td>18.12.13</td>
<td>Final Day for students</td>
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<td>19.12.13</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>19.12.13</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 1 (A)</th>
<th>Beginning Monday 27th January 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>28.1.14</td>
<td>Staff return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>29.1.14</td>
<td>Years 7, 11 and 12 students to return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>30.1.14</td>
<td>Years 8, 9 and 10 students to return to school</td>
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<th>Week 2 (B)</th>
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<td>7.2.14</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3 (A)</th>
<th>Beginning Monday 10th February 2014</th>
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<td>10.12.14</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

2013 has been an outstanding year for Figtree High School and I would like to thank our school community for their ongoing support. Our recent presentation evening was a wonderful celebration of the achievements of our students and I would like to extend a special thank you to our special guests; Raechel McCarthy Principal Illawarra Sports High, Paul Brightwell Principal Figtree Public School, Carolyn White Relieving Principal Unanderra Public School, Ann McQueen, Sharyn Low P&C President, Duncan Rutherford Wollongong South Rotary and our guest speaker Jason Ryles NRL player and ex-student. I would like to also extend my appreciation to the Figtree High School Head Teachers, teachers and support staff, parents, community friends and students. Thank you to the presentation evening organisers and in particular Mr Adam Sargent-Wilson.

It was wonderful to see so many members of our community at the presentation evening to celebrate and recognise the achievements of our most talented students. The Presentation Ceremony is the recognition of excellence. It is a celebration of the work achieved throughout the year both at the individual and whole school level. It is most important to pay tribute to and give due recognition to the incredibly dedicated school community who genuinely offer every available resource to enable all students at Figtree High School to have an equal opportunity to participate fully in their education.

The Teacher Professional Learning in 2013 has concentrated on the implementation of the Australian Curriculum. This has been the focus for Staff Development Days, executive development and staff meetings. In addition, the application of the ALARM (a learning and responding matrix) has equipped teachers with an effective strategy to teach students how to learn and how to use that learning to respond. We firmly believe that further development in this area will continue to positively impact upon our student’s educational outcomes.

As we approach 2014, our school is engaging with students, parents, teachers and members of the wider school community to develop the strategic directions that will set the direction and priorities for Figtree High School.

**PBS VALUES**

Week 10: **RESPECT**
Put rubbish in the bins

Week 11: **SAFETY**
When entering & leaving the school, move directly to your destination
School. We would like to thank all who have contributed to this process and encourage all members of the school community to continue their participation and input to ensure our school meets the needs of its most valuable asset; our students.

It is an absolute privilege to be the Relieving Principal of Figtree High School. I would like to sincerely thank the school community and the extended community for their support of my leadership.

On behalf of Figtree High School, I wish you a safe and prosperous 2014.

David C Deitz
Relieving Principal

Figtree High School – Core Values:
Respect, Safety and Learning

Respect
This year has provided students with lots of opportunities to develop and practice respectful behaviour in our school environment and our community. One of the aspects of Figtree High School that sets our students apart from others is the manner in which our students speak and interact with their teachers and their peers. I frequently hear the words “Excuse me”, “Please”, “Thanks” and “Good morning”, as I speak with students, walk through the playground, or enter classrooms or corridors of our school.

We have had a number of phone calls and conversations with members of our community throughout this year, who have been equally impressed with how respectful our students are. I have also seen our students demonstrate respect through their behaviours; using the new garbage bins in the school, keeping our school graffiti free, supporting peers who may be in need, being proactive if they see a problem and also through the care I see our students provide for their primary school aged siblings before and after school. We value respect because it is essential for harmonious and successful relationships in all facets of life: school, home, friendships and work. We trust that your children will continue to demonstrate the value of respect with you over the holiday period.

Safety
We want our students to be safe both while they are at school and when they are in our community. With the school holiday period approaching, it is timely to reinforce some key messages about safety in our local community. Students are strongly encouraged to make the following choices, when appropriate, during their holiday period;

Water environments
- swim/surf with friends or family members
- swim/surf at patrolled beaches
- swim between the red and yellow flags
- check any danger or hazard signs at the beach and obey them
- follow the guidelines for protecting your skin: wear a hat, apply and reapply 30+ or 50+ sunscreen, wear sunglasses, slap on a shirt and seek shade.

Road use
- wear a seat belt every time you are in the car
- use pedestrian crossings or traffic lights when available
- wear a helmet every time you ride your bike
- wear a helmet when using other wheeled devices: skateboards, scooters, rollerblades
- drive to the signed speed limit, without touching your mobile phone.

Online
- only use social networking sites/apps where you can control who you interact with, and who can interact with you
- communicate in the same manner as you would if you were face to face with the other person
- think before you click: remembering that after you send a picture or message, you lose control over what can happen to it on the internet
- keep private information about yourself private (eg. address, phone number)
- check out http://cybersmart.gov.au/ before you start using a new social networking site/app so that you are well informed about how to use the site safely, if at all.

Learning
Next Monday 16th December, students in Years 7-10 will be presented with their Semester 2 Reports. These reports will be presented to students through their year assemblies, where a number of students will also be acknowledged with Principal and Year Advisor Awards for their achievement and commitment that they have shown in Semester 2. We encourage students to read these reports critically, with a focus on identifying their strengths and the areas to help them continue to improve their academic achievement in 2014.

While we don’t want to wish the upcoming 5 week holiday period away, every January provides the opportunity to attend “Back to School” sales to ensure student have all the required resources for a successful year at school.

Every year at school students will need exercise books;
- Student diary
- A mix of A4 196 page, A4 128 page and A4 96page
- Mathematics Grid exercise book
Congratulations to the following students who have reached Silver or Bronze level in the school’s merit system during Term 4.

They will be presented with their certificates at the end of term merit assemblies.

**Silver**
- Sophie Fripp, Paige Thompson (Year 10)
- Lachey Thompson, Taylor Turner (Year 9)
- Melanie Vay, Amelia Jones (Year 8)
- Callum Dodds, Chloe Naumovski, Lance Tarrant, David Watson (Year 7)

**Bronze**
- Jayden Benn, Chloe Winch – (Year 9)
- Tlena Benn, Ceara McEwan, Courtney Job – (Year 8)
- Hannah Bentley, Hayley Brown, Stephanie Bruckner, Owen Howard, Shaun Scerri, Jayden Smileski, Taylor-Jade Theobold, Ellee-May Wilson, Georgia Wilson, Hugh Brophy, Chris Kiotis, Cameron Lodge, Ethan McAnally, Marko Miscevic, Lillian Parsons, Daniel Armstrong, Connor Clarke, Felicity Hutton, Jamie Kuzman, Kayla Marras, Nariman Sultan, Lance Tarrant, Sara Clark, Kaitlin Hearne, Chloe Naumovski, Dylan Parker, Brittney Teuma, Megg Tomczynski, Madison Rauscher, Stefan Visnic (Year 7)

Students also require essential equipment for learning, for example:
- Black, blue and red pens
- Ruler, eraser and sharpener
- Lead pencils
- Coloured pencils and textas
- Highlighters
- Mathematics set – eg. compass, protractor
- Calculator
- A4 Display books – for assignment work

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### RSL Prize Draw

Congratulations to Andrew Bailey, Matti Sutinen (Year 11), Caitlin Carson (Year 10), Alex Costello, Trent Potter (Year 9), Chris Rutter (Year 8) Nicola Douet, Jacob Taele, Erin Stafford, Jarrod Loija and Maddison Delaney (Year 7), who each won either an iTunes voucher, a $5 canteen voucher or an 8 gigabyte thumb drive because they had their RSL tickets 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 tickets are also tallied for each student and count towards earning merits for Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards.

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### Term 4 Merit Report

The school’s merit system continues to be enthusiastically embraced by students. During 2013 18 students were awarded Gold Medallions, 11 students were awarded Gold Certificates, 27 achieved their Silver Certificate and 63 students received their Bronze Certificate.

There are 65 students participating in the Term 4 merit excursion to Jamberoo on Tuesday 17th December. Those students should attend roll call and then go to the front of the school where they will board the bus. Parents are reminded that students will return to school by 3.30pm. Students have been encouraged to wear a hat and protect themselves against sunburn by wearing appropriate clothing and sunscreen.
Australian School Knockout Competition

After months of waiting, training, planning and preparation, Monday December 9, the date we had all placed in our diaries after being crowned state champions, finally arrived. Most of us had been in Townsville for the day’s preceding the National Schools Knockout Final enjoying the sites of Townsville and the performances at the Australian All Schools Athletic Championships. The boys were jumping out of their skins after observing many fast times recorded on the track, and big distances obtained in the field. This was further enhanced by watching Jarrod Twigg claim a National title in the U16 Boys 100m Hurdles and Teghan Barklay making the final of the U16 Girls Long Jump, battling injury to claim a 7th position. We kept the same team that claimed the state title and maintained the events they competed in. This being;

- 100m – Jarrod Twigg & Momolu Sirleaf
- 800m – Joshua Head & Sam Oyston
- 100m Hurdles – Jarrod Twigg
- Long Jump – Momolu Sirleaf
- Shot Put – Joshua Byrne
- Javelin – Matthew Hobbs
- 4x200m Relay – Momolu Sirleaf, Sam Oyston, Joshua Head and Jarrod Twigg

The boys were competing in the Junior Boys (U15) division. The national final was conducted under the IAAF rules of match racing. In this competition, with a maximum of 16 teams competing in each age division, this meant 32pts for first place all the way down to 1 pt for last. In the Junior Boys there were 7 teams participating; Knox Grammar (NSW), Nudgee College (Qld), Maribyrnong Secondary College (Vic), St Peters College (SA), The Hutchins School (TAS), Kormilda College (NT), and of course, Figtree High School (NSW).

The first event on the program was the 100m Hurdles. This certainly worked in our favour with Jarrod being the U16 Australian All Schools Champion. As a consequence, we were confident of a good start. I asked Jarrod to put in a dominant performance to show the competition that we were strong and to try and achieve a mental advantage. He didn’t let us down, absolutely annihilating the field to win by more than 2 flights. The point score read; Figtree 32, Nudgee 31, St Peters 30, Hutchins 29, Maribyrnong 28, Kormilda 27 & Knox 26.

The next event was the Shot Put. Nudgee had a competitor from out of the land of the giants and he didn’t disappoint throwing well out over 13m. Josh put out a great warm up throw, sending the Figtree component of the crowd into rapture, but he found it difficult to emulate this initial throw. Heading into the last round we were sitting in 4th position. With a little coaching from Captain Twigg & Coach Smart, Josh was able to put in an almighty last throw of 12.83(a massive PB) to move into 3rd position, narrowly missing 2nd by 3cm. In this event Nudgee picked up maximum points (32) with Knox second (31) and Figtree 3rd (30). This now meant we were in 2nd position with the points reading; Nudgee 63, Figtree 62, Maribyrnong 28, Kormilda 27 & Knox 26.

The next event was the 800m. With 14 competitors and points up for grabs from 32 to 19 this was going to be the first “big shake up” of the competition. Sam Oyston was drawn in the first heat. He held his own behind a dominant winner in 2:05, running a 2:17 (again a massive PB from 2:24 in the state final) to finish in 6th position. All importantly he beat home the Nudgee competitor. Heat 2 saw Joshua Head in action. The plan was to go hard from the gun, with a vision to running a PB, and a possible 2:03. Josh did not disappoint.
He took control of the race right from the gun with a blistering first 200 in 27 sec. He wasn’t headed from there lapping in 60 sec to win the race and claim the 1st position (as the 2 heats were timed finals) in a new PB of 2:04:42. The good news was that Sam finished 9th overall with both Nudgee competitors finishing behind Sam. The shakeup I anticipated occurred with the points now reading; Figtree 118, Hutchins 115, Knox 111, St Peters 110, Maribyrnong and Nudgee 108 with Kormilda 74.

Onto the Javelin and crowd favourite Matthew Hobbs! He is the junior member of the team competing up a year. Knox has an unbelievable Javelin thrower and he did to this competition what Jarrod did in the hurdles, throwing a massive 58.71m. The dominance of this competitor was made evident with 2nd (Maribyrnong) throwing 39.27m. Matthew knew he was always going to be up against it in this competition. The training plan was centred on Matthew trying to throw over 30m in the National Final. Once again the Figtree spirit came through with Matthew throwing a massive PB of 30.68m to claim 6th position and earn us 27 points. The competition again narrowed with Figtree and Hutchins now on 145, Knox 143, Maribyrnong 139, St Peters 138, Nudgee 137 and Kormilda 100.

The 100m was up next. Like the 800 this was the last chance to get “big” points differentials. Jarrod once again dominated the first heat to win in 11:39. This would prove to be good enough to claim 1st position overall in this event. Momolu in the second heat ran a great race to place 3rd in this heat with a time of 11:97. This eventually placed him 6th across the 2 heats. As a consequence we picked up 59 pts in this event with Nudgee gaining 57, Maribyrnong and Knox 56, Hutchins 45 and St Peters 43. This event placed us in the box seat with 2 events remaining and with the points table now reading Figtree 204, Knox 199, Marinbyrnon 195, Nudgee 194 and Hutchins 182. St Peters and Kormilda were now out of contention.

Our Successful Team:

Sam Oyston, Joshua Byrne, Momolu Sirleaf, Jarrod Twigg, Matthew Hobbs and Joshua Head
It was now Momolu’s turn in the Long Jump, the last individual event. If points went our way we could all but have the National Title in the bag. After the first round of jumps, it was apparent the conditions were going to be difficult for the jumpers with a cross head wind. At this point in the competition the situation for us was growing stronger with Momolu sitting in midfield and the Knox competitor fouling. The tallest, strongest athlete in the field from Nudgee proved to be able to handle the conditions the best, with a 2nd round jump out near 6m, and he took control of the competition. Momolu was up next. We all put up an almighty cheer when he jumped out past the 6m mark only to have our jubilation stupefied as Momolu’s hand trailed knocking 50cm of his jump. I have no doubt the conditions caused this. The Knox jumper fouled again. Momolu was now 3rd. In the last round the Nudgee competitor extended his lead with a jump of 5.97m. The 3rd round was a repeat of the 2nd round for Momolu. A jump this time well out over the 6m mark but another trailing hand cutting big distance off his jump. This time, however, he was able to post 5.67m and move into 2nd position and claim 31 pts. It now came down to the final jump and the Knox competitor. We were all holding our breath as this could mean we could start to really think about Figtree as National Champions. We poised as he prepared for his run, held our breath as he ran in, and all went into polite jubilation as he was only able to get out 5.20m, a 5th position and 28pts. This now meant we were clearly leading going into the relay with the points table reading Figtree 235, Knox 227, Nudgee 226 and Marinbyrnong 225. Hutchins was now out of contention for a medal.

In the final event, the 4x200m relay, all we had to do was get the baton around, not get disqualified and we would be National Champions. The race plan was to be conservative on the baton changes and make sure we did not false start! All our hearts skipped a beat with a technical fault start on the first attempt to get the race away. Second attempt, we all held our breath, the race started cleanly. Momolu set off and gave the baton to Sam in midfield. Sam held onto his position and handed the baton to Joshua Head. Josh immediately made up ground and moved us into 2nd position behind Knox, we were well and truly on our way. Josh handed over to Jarrod with Knox holding a 10m lead over Jarrod and 3rd another 10m behind Jarrod. Jarrod confidently held our position claiming 2nd position in the relay. The National Title was ours.

The medal ceremony was a very special occasion for all involved, with everyone around the country in the world of athletics well and truly now knowing who Figtree High School is, and where we come from. Matthew Hobbs got a special cheer from the Tasmanian connection (The Hutchins School) we had befriended from our accommodation. It was great to hear a great cheer from the grandstand for “Go Hobbsy!” The boys proudly wore their gold medals around their necks all evening and carried our trophy everywhere we went. It was a great talking point all evening as the majority of teams moved down to “The Strand” to relax, swim and have dinner. There were plenty of calls “Go Figgy!” and “Champions” on Monday night!

Finally, I would like to thank the following people, who all had an influence in bringing a National Title back to Figtree HS;

- The parents of all the boys in the team for their great support and help in organising a trip of this magnitude. Without their help the opportunity to compete for a national title would not have occurred.
- The Figtree High School P&C, Mainteck, DGB Lawyers, South Eastern Workplace Safety and Sam Oyston’s grandad for the generous donations, and all of you who donated a gold coin and/or bought a sausage sizzle/can of drink. Your support has been unbelievable!
- And, last but not least, the boys in the team. They were great ambassadors for Figtree High School, and more broadly, public education. You thoroughly deserve to be National Champions! Your achievement will always be remembered!

Mr Smart
HT PDHPE/ Schools Athletics Knockout Convenor

11/12/13
Languages

During Term 4 all elective language students (including those Year 8 students who have elected to study either German or French next year) participated in an excursion to Sydney to have lunch. The German students had a fantastic, authentic buffet lunch at the Löwenbräu Keller at the Rocks and the French students were able to sample escargots and other French specialities at The Little Snail restaurant in Pyrmont. These excursions were a great opportunity for our language students to celebrate what has been a very busy and productive year.

In 2014 each language student at Figtree High will have access to the Language Perfect website. This is a wonderful online resource that allows students to practise relevant vocabulary and structures. Teachers will be able to monitor students’ progress and set homework using this website. Access to Language Perfect is now available as an app, so students will be able to use their mobile phones or iPads to practise anywhere, anytime!

We are impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm displayed by the vast majority of our language students. Those who achieved particularly well in Term 4 were:

French

7M Chris Kiotis, Jamie Kuzman, Peri Milner
7T Owen Howard, Kayla Marras, Ethan McAnally
7K Payton Williams, Aaron Nicholls, Jayden Smileski
7E Tiffanie Doan, Meghan Fox, Jaya Letich
7I Madison Gruevska, Ryan Mutahi, Abby Churchin
7R Chloe Naumovski, Rebecca Prstec, Nariman Sultan
7A Gabrielle Livingston, Kiara Nedic, Olivia Jacobs

German

8.1 Xoese Attipoe, Lauren Pinfold, Connor O’Neill, Ebony Tasker
8.2 Sheri Ghodrati, Kimia Rahmannia, Samara Miotto
8.3 Benjamin Hub, Lauryn Neto, Nova Tucker, Melinda Vay, Andrew Watson
8.4 Malia Fatai, Shannon Newman, Serena Sorrentino

French

8.5 Joshua Jones, Amelia Jones, Treza Booth, Saumya Sharma
8.6 Jasmine Lee, Taranom Rahmani Lasjerdi, Mikayla Markham

Year 9 German Taylah Jensen, Taylah McNamara, Melissa Wilson
Year 10 French Jake Austin, Brandon McBey, Elise Oakman
Year 10 German Chanel Stone, Kiara Bourne, Millie Wistow Martin
Year 11 German Savannah Reali, Alyssa Wright
P.Dive
P. Simmonds

Have you moved? Changed phone numbers or email address?

It is important that the school has the correct contact details for parents/carers of our students, this includes Emergency Contacts. If you have changed your address, phone number or email address, or your Emergency Contacts details please let us know. You will find a “Change of Personal Details” form on the last page of this newsletter. Please complete this form if any of your details have changed, and either have your child return it to the office, or email this form to the school email address:

figtree-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Year 10 Drama Evening

This semester Year 10 Elective Drama studied the American play 'Our Town' by Thornton Wilder. On Thursday 12th December they performed their own version of the play. It was both entertaining and professional.

There were a number of students who performed on the night, Bridee Arrighi and Angela Cullen as the stage manager, Sydney Milner and Cleopatra Baker as Emily, Karlee McNamara as George, April Stephens as Dr Gibbs, Olivia Gettman as Mrs Gibbs, Kellie Parkes as Rebecca Gibbs, Alexandra jovanoski as Mrs Webb, Renee Andrade as Mr Webb, Soha Mehrkhavari as Wally Webb, Caitlin Carson as Joe Crowell, Mecenzi Howard as Howie Newson and Shaye Wilkinson as Constable Warren. Callum Blackmore was fantastic as our lighting and sound technician. A special mention to Catherine Roppa who also had a small role in the play and was our artistic director.

Everyone in the class put together a professional show with costume designs on display, a lovely program and an artistic promotional poster. I would like to thank everyone who came along on the night. It really was a great evening and we were able to raise over $270 for The Drama Department.

Miss Clark
(Proud Drama Teacher)
After a year of hard sweat and toil several projects from the Technology Timber course were entered into the prestigious University of Wollongong- Faculty of Engineering: NSW Technology Awards.

There were a vast number of categories to apply for. However, this year all Figtree High School entries were in the timber section of the competition.

The entries were:-

**Year 12**

Matt DeJong side table

Huseyin Huseyin decorative table

Both these projects received creditable mention.

Another Year 12 entrant was Amanda Peace who was awarded winner of the Year 12 Timber Technology Applications section and for this she was awarded a cash prize.

These projects culminated a year of hard work and diligent effort and, with a good portfolio it shows that dedication and hard work does pay off.
Year 11

Continuing the tradition three students from Year 11 received major awards in the Year 11 NSW Industrial Technology Competition and all picked up handsome cheques for their efforts. They were:-

**Blake Spencer**  Timber Products and Furniture Award Winning Student

**Brandon Pallas** Runner up Timber Products and Furniture Award

**William Searle** Industrial Technology Overall (All categories) Winning Student

To culminate a successful evening for Figtree High School, **Mr Poppett** was awarded the **Industrial Technology Teacher Award**, sponsored by the Institute of Industrial Arts.
In the Year 9/10 NSW Industrial Technology Competition, we entered three Year 9 and one Year 10 timber student. All receiving major awards.

Mathew MacGregor, Industrial Technology Overall (All categories) Winning Student

Brittany Hadfield, Women in Industrial Technology Runner up

Reid Spencer, Industrial Technology Overall (All categories) Runner up

Year 10 Jordan Mele, Industrial Technology Overall (All categories) Runner up
In another Technology strand the *F1 in Schools* launch on Friday was represented by some Figtree High School students: Year 8 – Tanin Rahmani Lasjerdi, Cadman Edwards and Andrew Watson, Year 9 Kyle CLARKE, Reid SPENCER and Year 11 Lucas WEGNER, Satvik Sharma, William SEARLE.

This program involves a team of students to design, build, promote and race a model formula one racing car. The level of competition starts with local school competitions and can progress to a world competition and this year Engadine High were the champions and it was held in Texas, USA. The Engadine team were at the launch on Friday at Warrawong High to give all of us a presentation of their Texas experience.

This program may lead to some of our students entering the university as engineers or their related field when they finish their schooling at Figtree High School.

**School Sport**

At Figtree High School this term the students have been engaged in a number of recreational sports. Students have had a variety of choices such as Personal Training, Zumba, Beach Activities, Surfing, Touch, Soccer, to name just a few.

Students have already chosen their sports for 2014. These sports will commence on the 5th February 2014. Could all permission notes for these sports please be handed in to the PE staffroom before the end of term 4.

I would like to remind parents and students that Wednesday afternoon sport is **compulsory**. If an appointment is unavoidable on a Wednesday afternoon please follow the regular school pass out processes. Due to the logistics of organising school sport and the cost of buses, if a student has 2 pass outs or absences on a Wednesday they may be required to select a school based activity.

**Important Dates for Next year**

5th February – Year 7 Swim Test

14th February – School Swimming Carnival

21st February – Zone Swimming Carnival

27th March – School Cross Country

23rd May – School Athletics

More specific information will be in the first bulletin next year.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues here at Figtree High School. As this was my first year as Sports Organiser, their cooperation and enthusiasm towards sport has made my job so much easier. To the PDHPE faculty your guidance and support has been very appreciated and I thank each and every one of you.

Students should also be proud of their efforts on the sporting field. Not only have we had a host of students excel at an elite level but students have engaged effectively in sport afternoons. I congratulate all students on their effort at sport this year and look forward to next year.

Have a Safe and Merry Xmas

Mrs Markham

Taking her swimming talent into the Ocean!

Congratulations to Caitlin Smith (Year 9) for her fantastic effort in the recent Bondi to Bronte Ocean Swim on Sunday 1st December. While Caitlin has proven herself to be a very talented pool swimmer, with her achievements at Zone, Area and CHS swimming this year, she decided to take on the challenge of ocean swimming. This was Caitlin’s first Open Water Ocean Swim, in a very competitive field with trained surf swimmers. The swim was 2.2km and Caitlin finished in 28:14mins placing her 1st in the Women’s U16 Division and 10th out of 469 female swimmers and 44th out of 1618 finishers. This is a fantastic achievement for Caitlin. We wish her the very best for the summer swimming season, whether it be in the pool, or her new found talent – the ocean.

We look forward to seeing her talent in the pool at the Figtree High School Swimming Carnival on 14th February next year.

REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS/CARES

The staff carpark is not to be used as a “drop off zone” for parents/carers during school hours.

This is a safety issue for all staff and students.

Please do not park in the Emergency Access Area as this must be used only by emergency vehicles.

We would appreciate your cooperation in this matter.
Dear Parents and Students

As this year is drawing to a close, it is time to plan for the arrival of our Korean Homestay visitors in February 2014. 13 students (aged between 13-15 years) from Je Ju National University Middle School will arrive on Monday, 10 February 2014 at 3.00pm and depart on Thursday, 20 February 2014 at 9.30 am. We have just returned from a highly successful visit in September holidays and look forward to meeting these students again in 2014.

Parent Consent:

My family and I are interested in participating in the program.

* Please circle the relevant response.
  * We would be able to accept one / two / three billets.
  * It would be best if the billet(s) was a male / female / gender is not an issue.

Parent name/s: …………………………… Signature: ……………………………

The following information will assist us with preparation of necessary documents to be passed onto the organisers of the visit for the Korean parents and students. Please complete and return to school via your student no later than Friday 6 December 2013.

Student Name __________________________________________

Roll Call ____________ DOB __________________________

Parent name/s __________________________________________

Address __________________________________________

________________________________________

Phone Number Home __________________________________

Mobile __________________________________

Email address __________________________________

Further information will be passed on to you as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need further information. Thank you for your participation and interest in this valuable experience.

Cathy Smith David Deitz
Homestay Co-ordinator Rel. Principal
HT TAS

42712787 0403596333 catherine.j.smith@det.nsw.edu.au
60 Princes Highway Unanderra 2526

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* MINI EXCAVATORS * BOBCAT’S
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