



school council

Parents

David Brant
(President)
Education Convenor
dbrant.sel@gmail.com
(mob)0402 540 383

Virginia Swanton
(Vice President)
Communications Convenor
(mob) 0408 031 531
virginia_swanton@transport.vic.gov.au

AnTony McPhee
(Treasurer)
Finance Convenor
(mob)0425 781 405
mail@antonymcphee.com

Tim Dolan
Buildings and Grounds Convenor
Canteen Convenor

Jacqui Van Vugt

Staff

Fran Mullins 9488 1900
Sandra Dickins 9488 1900
John Hinman 9488 1900
James Jackson 9488 1900

FITZROY HIGH SCHOOL

29th July 2011 volume 8 edition 15 Newsletter

PO Box 1068 Fitzroy North 3068 Telephone 94881900 info@fitzroyhs.vic.edu.au

Student Attendance

It is important for all students to be at school every day. With winter upon us, there will be many students who experience coughs, colds and other minor illnesses. When deciding whether to keep your child home from school, please consider the following:

A child should be at school unless;

- The child is too sick to leave the house. Generally, if a child is not sick enough to need to see a doctor, then the child should be at school.
- The child has an infectious disease like measles, chicken pox or mumps.
- The child has an injury preventing movement around school.
- The child is going on a family holiday that cannot be arranged during school holidays. This must be arranged with the principal in advance.
- The team leader is provided with any genuine and acceptable reason preventing the child's attendance.
- A medical or dental appointment could not be made out of school hours (wherever possible, appointments should be made out of school hours)

If your child is unable to attend school please call the school on 9488 1900. There is a dedicated absence line.

On your child's return, a note must be supplied to explain the days missed. You should also contact the school in advance if you know your child will be away. If your child has seen a medical practitioner (eg doctor or dentist) a certificate or appointment card will help explain the absence.

Remember

- If students miss the basic skills in the early years of schooling they often experience learning difficulties later on.
- There is a direct link between attendance and achievement.
- It has been shown that poor patterns of attendance in the early years can lead to poor patterns of attendance throughout the school years.
- Poor attendance makes it difficult for students to form positive friendships with their peers.

Robogals Science Challenge

The Robogals Science Challenge is a new competition that will encourage science projects to be produced by girls together with a parent (or other mentor) across Australia. Videos of these projects will be submitted online. The competition will span across two months, culminating in an awards ceremony where the best 12 pairs will be invited and the winners announced.

Visit "<http://www.sciencechallenge.com.au/about/overview.html>" for more details.

School grounds patrolled from 8:30am every morning

Due to traffic safety concerns, students are required to enter the school grounds when they arrive, and not wait in Falconer Street.

mark your calendar

Year 8 Parent Information Night - Camp

when	Wednesday 3 Aug 18:30-19:30
where	FHS
who	James Jackson

3 Way conferences Yr 11-12

when	Tues 9 Aug 1:30pm — 20.30pm
where	Collingwood College
who	Matt Nieuwenhuizen

3 Way conferences Yr 11-12

when	Thurs 11 Aug 1:30 — 8:30pm
where	FHS
who	Matt Nieuwenhuizen

Fitzroy High working with local primary schools

This year we are focusing on enhancing our community connections and have been working closely with our local primary schools with the aim of supporting the transition process for grade 6 students moving into year 7.

The opportunity to hear from a year 7 student about their experiences has proven to be worthwhile and some of our year 7 students have returned to their primary schools to visit and answer the myriad of questions that the grade 6 students have. Thank you to the following students for their willingness to share their experiences;

- Nick S participated in a presentation at Spensley Street Primary.
- Mo T and Tom S presented their view of high school life at Merri Creek Primary.
- Anabella L and Joel C gave some really interesting and worthwhile insight into high school life to students at North Fitzroy Primary.

We have also commenced a program inviting primary school students into the school. To date the following programs have run, with more to come;

- A group of students from North Fitzroy Primary attended a five week Science program at Fitzroy that was jointly run by Jenny Fulford, science teacher, and their primary teacher. Through this program students were introduced to many practical aspects of science.
- Grade 5 students from Spensley Street Primary participated in a Food Technology class with Rocco. While learning about the health and safety requirements of the kitchen students also made delicious chocolate chip cookies.

We see great benefits in such programs and will be continuing to develop this program with many more primary visits planned for this term.

Fran Mullins

Principal's Report

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended the 3 Way Conferences for Years 7, 8 and 10 this week and thank you in anticipation to those families who will attend Conferences for year 9 and VCE in the next two weeks. We believe this contact with your child's Advisor/teachers is particularly important. Please contact the school if you have any feedback regarding the 3 Way Conferences.

The role of parents and carers in their child's education cannot be underestimated. According to educational research by Robert Marzano 'What Works in Schools' 2003, the home environment is composed of three basic elements: communication about school, supervision and parental expectations and parenting styles.

Communication about school refers to parents' and carers' interest in and communication about their child's school work. This includes parents and carers having frequent discussions with their child regarding school work, encouraging their child about their school work and providing resources to help their child do school work.

Although not as strongly linked, supervision is important and refers to the extent to which parents and carers monitor and control their child's behaviour to optimize academic achievement. Such monitoring might include time doing homework, after school activities and the extent to which children watch television.

Parental expectations and parenting style is considered to be the most important element. In the simplest terms, high expectations communicated to students are linked with enhanced achievement – in fact student perception of parental expectations may be more important than the actual expectations themselves.

In future editions of the newsletter we will be including reports relating to teams, the curriculum, school council, sports, and careers as well as school policy documents. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see in the newsletter, please contact the school and let us know.



Eugene Ionesco's

RI L L N O O E R O S

September
14th & 15th @ 7pm

Thornbury Theatre
859 High St Thornbury

Book your tickets at
www.trybooking.com/@JK

Student
\$20
Adult
\$25

A Fitzroy High School
Production

Translated: Derek Prowse
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