

Ferny Creek PS Connections



Together we make a difference

Friday 24th October 2025

Hi everyone,

Upcoming events

We have a busy term 4 with lots of exciting learning opportunities for all of our students. Please continue to check the Compass calendar and look out for any event notifications requiring consent and/payment.

Some events have already had information sent home and may require an immediate action.

Production rehearsal

All students will be travelling to Rowville Secondary College on Tuesday 28th October for our final rehearsal. Please ensure that you have given consent for this on Compass.

Dental Van

The Dental Van arrives on the **10th of November**.

Students have brought forms home this week. Please be mindful to sign the consent section on the left and Medicare section on the right of the form.



Foodbank Food Fight Fundraiser (November 19th)

This is a fun activity day for our students where prizes can be won, and we raise money for Foodbank who support our wonderful Breakfast Club program. Forms have been sent home this week, please follow the directions to create a profile for each student.

Whole school excursion to CERES Environmental Education Centre (November 7th)

This is a wonderful opportunity to consolidate the learning about sustainability and caring for the environment. An event notification will be sent out next week which will require payment and consent. Each student will need to bring an old t-shirt on the day, please see the note below.

Foundation Transition Sessions

It's a very exciting time as we begin our transition sessions for 2026 Foundation students! We are thrilled to welcome our new students and families to our school community, and we know many of our future Foundation students are already counting down the days (some even have their uniforms ready to go!).

Our new students will take part in four transition sessions, held on Tuesday mornings from 9:00am – 10:45am, starting November 18th and running for four weeks. We encourage all families to attend each session, as every session will be different and designed to build on the previous experience.

During these sessions, students will:

- Experience learning in their new classroom space
- Enjoy activities in different areas of the school to build familiarity
- Learn the names of new and old friends
- Begin to feel comfortable with some of our school routines and expectations

These sessions are a wonderful opportunity for children to enjoy short experiences away from their parents, helping them to build confidence and excitement about starting school.

Parents are also warmly invited to take part, with two sessions offering coffee and a casual chat, and two information sessions designed to share important details about school life, including uniforms, communication processes, community events, and meeting key staff and teachers.

Please meet Susan at the school office on arrival for each session.

Whole School Transition and Pathways Program

At our school, we recognise the importance of supporting every child as they move into their new classroom and year level. Change can bring both excitement and uncertainty, so our whole-school transition and pathways program is designed to ensure that all students feel confident, connected and ready to learn from day one.

Throughout Term 4, all students will participate in a series of transition sessions where they will get to know their new teachers and peers, explore their new learning spaces, and become familiar with routines such as where to line up and how mornings begin. These sessions help students build positive relationships, feel comfortable in their new environment, and make new friends before the new year begins.

As a school, we have invested significant time this year into developing consistent learning approaches and optimal learning conditions across all classrooms. This means that wherever students are in the school, they experience the same shared expectations, language, and structures which will support smooth and successful transitions at every level.

Our transition program will conclude with a whole-school picnic and activity day, where students will spend time with their new class groups in a relaxed, community-focused celebration of the year ahead.

2026 Class Placement Requests

As we begin planning for 2026 class placements, we welcome parent input that supports the learning and wellbeing needs of your child.

When considering requests, please note that we are unable to take requests for specific teachers or friendship groups. Our staff dedicate significant time and care to developing balanced classes across the school to ensure the best possible mix of learning styles and social dynamics to create the right “*ready to learn*” conditions for everyone.

All students will also have the opportunity to nominate some preferred friends that they learn best with, and every effort will be made to ensure these connections are reflected in class placements.

If you would like to make a request relating to your child's learning or wellbeing needs, please email me directly by Friday 31st October. We thank you for your understanding and trust in our process. Our goal is always to create the most positive and engaging learning environment for all of our students.

Reporting absences

Thank you to all the families who ensure that all attendance and absence information is communicated via Compass. We send a notification out each morning related to any student who is absent without explanation. Should you receive one of these messages, it is very important that you contact the school immediately to let us know the reason for the absence as accurate attendance data is a Department of Education requirement. If Compass is ever being 'tricky', just give the office a call and we'll sort it out.

Health Alert: Thunderstorm Asthma

There is an increased risk of seasonal asthma, hay fever and thunderstorm asthma during seasons with increased grass pollen levels. In Victoria, this is typically from October to December. Thunderstorm asthma is triggered by a combination of higher grass pollen levels and a certain type of thunderstorm. Under these conditions, people with a history of asthma, or whose asthma or hay fever is poorly treated, are at higher risk of a sudden and serious asthma attack.

Thunderstorm asthma can occur even in people who have never had asthma before. If anyone has wheezing, shortness of breath or chest tightness, apply asthma first aid and get emergency help. The best way to reduce and prevent symptoms of asthma or hay fever and reduce absences from school is to follow an up-to-date asthma action plan or hay fever treatment plan, provided by a GP or specialist.

For more information, refer to:

Asthma Australia for a free online learning course about asthma first aid
Better Health Channel for more about epidemic thunderstorm asthma

Public Holiday reminder

Tuesday 4th November is Melbourne Cup Public Holiday. Please let the office know if you plan to take advantage of the opportunity for an extra-long weekend.

Have a great week,

Susan

Susan Vissenjoux – A/Principal





Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child will shortly be participating in a CERES Education Program with a major focus on *Towards Zero Waste!*

For this activity your child is required to bring an **old t-shirt** which they will repurpose into a new item.

This t-shirt should be old, stained, discoloured or slightly damaged and that have lived its full life as clothing and cannot be reused or donated. This t-shirt **should not be bought brand new** for this activity as it will be cut up.

Please refer to the images below of the correct t-shirt required for the activity:



Your child will be making it into something useful that they will bring home!

Warm regards,

CERES Student Programs

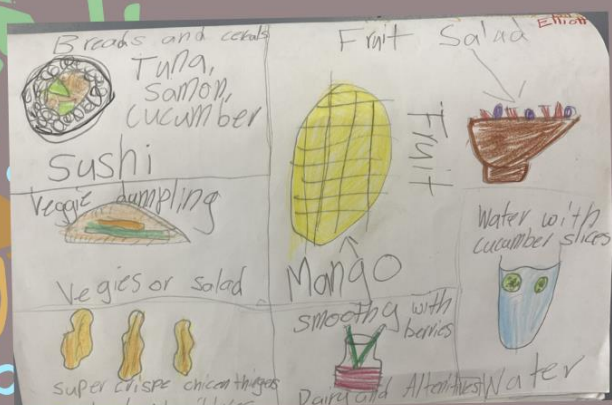
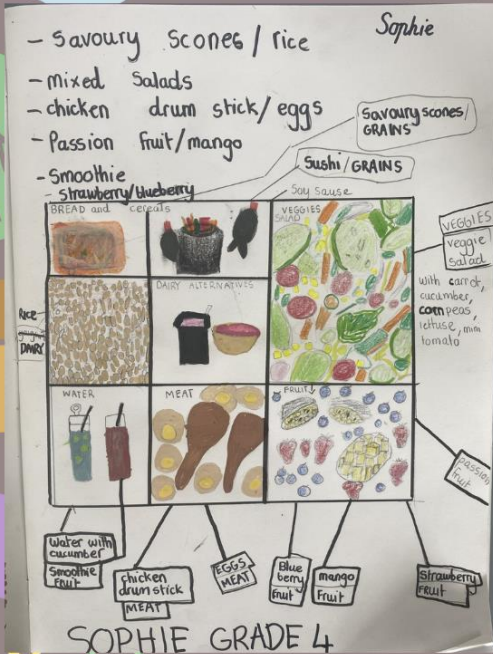


Healthy Lunch Box Ideas

by Grade 3/4

By 3/E

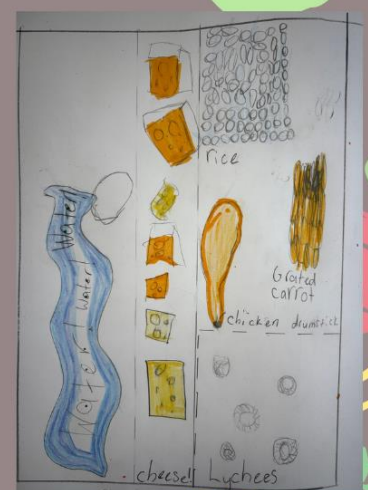
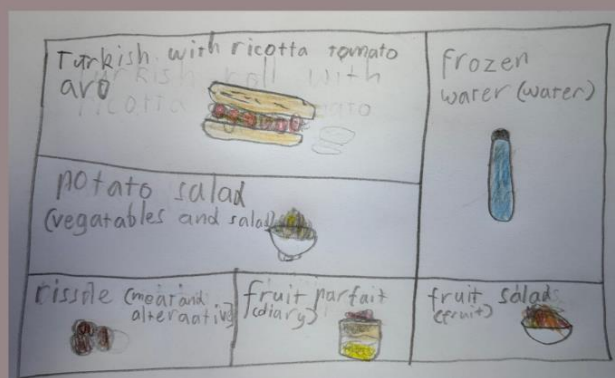
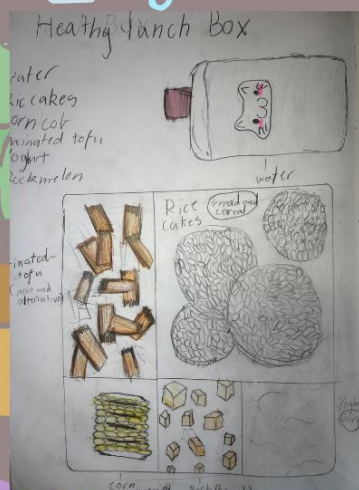
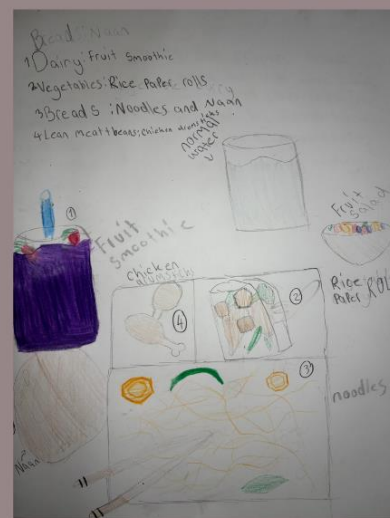
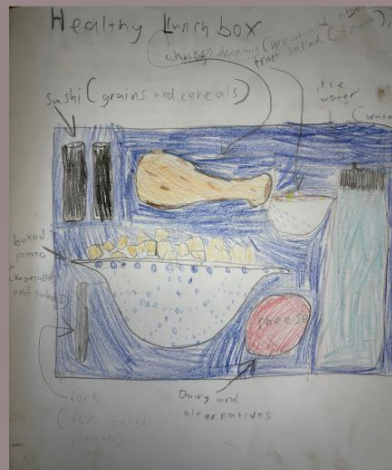
As part of our *Health* unit this term, we have been researching healthy balanced lunches we could eat covering each of the food groups



Healthy Lunch Box Ideas

by Grade 3/4

By 3/4K



LOUD SHIRT DAY

Thank you to our amazing FCPS families for raising \$148.55 to support kids with hearing loss.



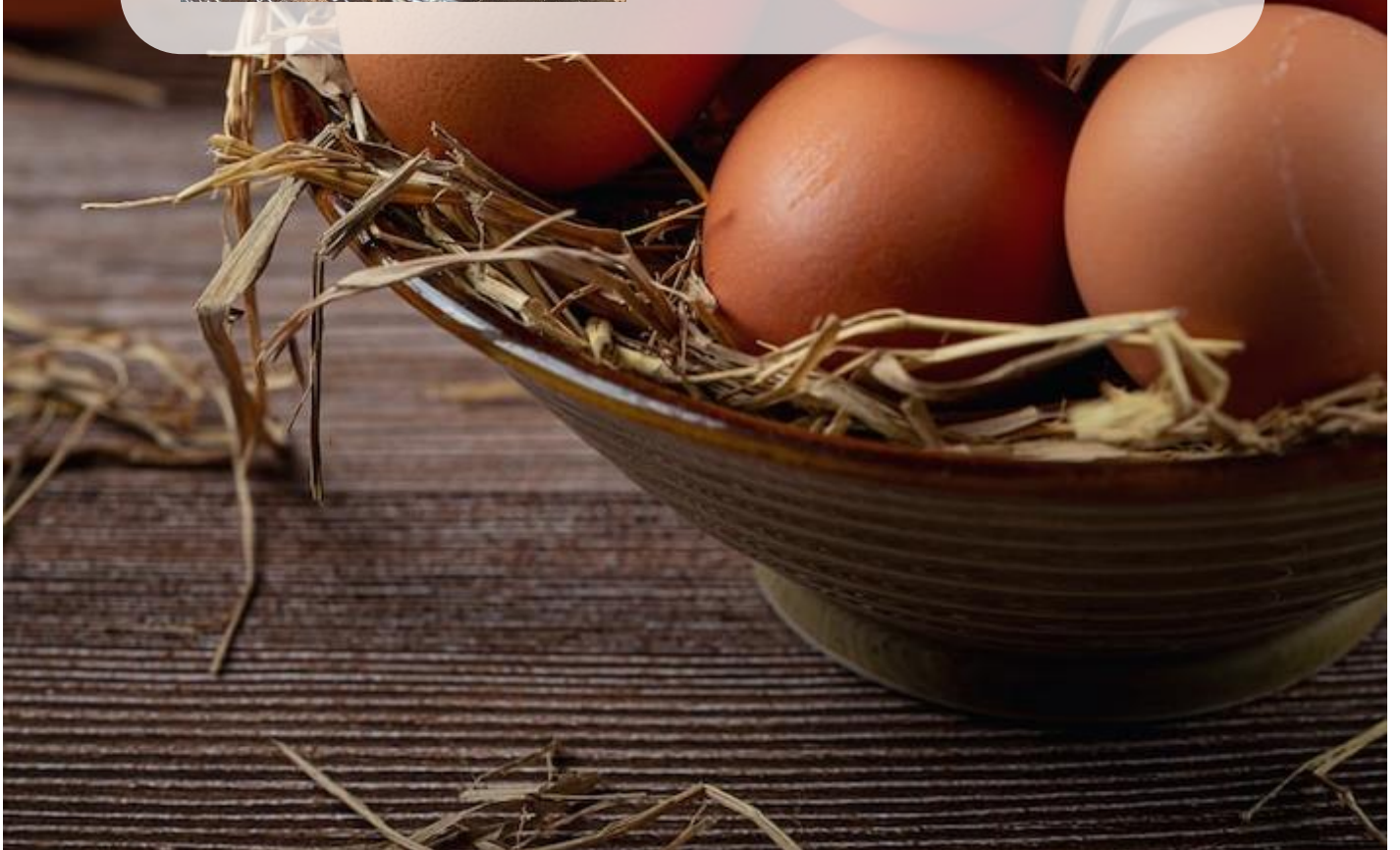
Fresh EGGS



Fresh eggs for sale every Thursday at the front gate.

Our happy, healthy and lovely chickens have been very busy.

\$8 a dozen



Nature Play

One of the great privileges of being a staff member at FCPS is being able to watch and observe our students becoming their own masters in the art of play.

This year students at our school have been fortunate enough to expand and explore further what possibilities they can unlock with more freedom and flexible play.

These are just a couple of the many snaps of the wonderful and most creative play-based creations your children have produced amongst our beautiful natural play settings - often in teams and with much negotiation, trial and error, problem solving and creativity along the way.



The pond is a habitat for bugs and other wildlife. It can hopefully be a home for frogs and have plants and creatures in it. It was super fun digging it and the little stream with my friends.

Everett H



Nature Play



I really like the cubbyhouse because its fun to make it and its fun to play in it too, and sometimes we have arguments, but we figure it out.

Penny A



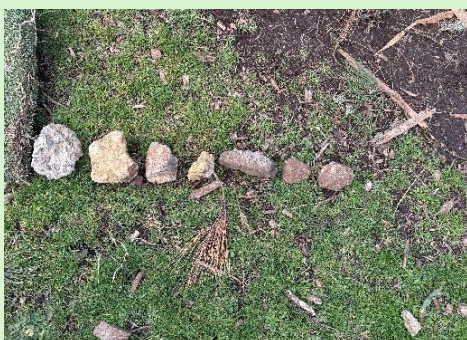
Many people have ruined it but even if they hide the sticks we need, we always figure it out and rebuild it better. It is really fun finally being allowed to use sticks and build cubbies.

Penny D



Our cubbyhouse has a name and that name is Jericous Toine (pronounced Jerikus Tooen). It took a while to agree to that name but eventually we agreed. It is really fun making the cubbyhouse but sometimes people come and break it up on the weekend and we come back to school and its completely ruined, but its ok.

Frankie T



Our cubbyhouse has gone through lots of different stages because we change it all the time and we change it depending on the seasons.

Ana C



Friendship Ninja



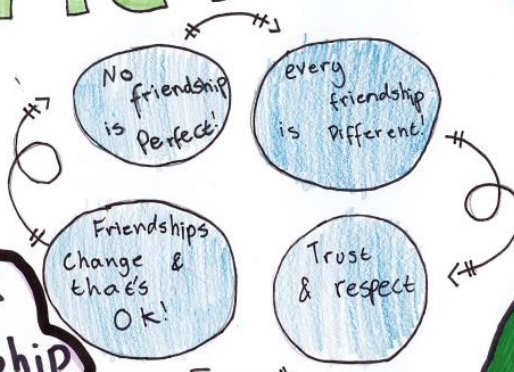
Friendship

Friendology

UB Strong



Dont get stuck in a friendship Sandwich.



Four Friendship Facts



Friend-o-meter

Mean-on-purpose

Niamh

FRIENDSHIP FIRES



Mean-on-purpose



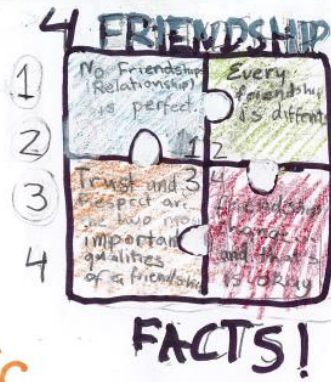
THAT'S HURTFUL



FRIENDOLOGY



TRICKY SITUATIONS



FACTS!

friend-o-meter



Mahalia



FOUNDATION 2026

Welcome to Ferny Creek Primary School.

A place where every child is known, valued and nurtured.



Transition

Tuesdays 9.15-10.45am

18th November

25th November

2nd December

9th December

Parent information sessions will be run
concurrently with transition sessions on:
25th November
9th December



Ferny Creek Primary School
34 School Road, Ferny Creek



**FERNY
CREEK**
primaryschool



9755 1522

fernycreek.ps@education.vic.gov.au

ROTARY

Rotary
Club of Emerald & District

KIDS FUN RUN

with **PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY**

30th November 2025 at Puffing Billy Station Gembrook

Children 3-12 years running to benefit other children.

Proudly supporting

**Eastern Health
Foundation**

**THANKS TO OUR
FANTASTIC SPONSORS**



**Trophies
to 1st Girl
& Boy, in
each run!**

**Train rides
on the day**

**Show bags &
certificates
for runners**

Enter online:

<https://www.kidsfunrunwithpuffingbilly.org.au>



Find us on:
facebook®

Kids Fun Run with Puffing Billy

ADVERTISEMENT

Dear Friends of Ferny Creek,

Friends of Ferny Creek are a not-for-profit group who undertake weed removal and replanting within the Ferny Creek and have previously participated in a joint working bee with Ferny Creek Primary School in maintaining our grounds.

This form is for anyone interested in signing up for the group, the more members, the more chance they have at local weed removal funding grants.

Membership for 2025-26 is now open - \$5 for individuals or \$10 for households. The more financial members we have, the easier it is for us to attract grants and influence issues. Every membership helps.

If you would like to pay membership fees via direct payment, our Bendigo Bank account number is - BSB 633-000 Account no. 122574205. Please put your name in the appropriate spot so we know who it's from. If you're a new member and we don't have your address, please send it to this email address. No need to worry about the membership form. If you've been a member before, we have your details, so no need to send anything.

Alternatively, you can print the membership form attached and send it with money to PO Box 7037, Upper Ferntree Gully 3156, or email it to this address and pay the subscription into the bank account.

If you have any questions about membership or anything else, please let us know.

Friends of Ferny Creek Committee

FRIENDS OF FERNY CREEK INC.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

2025 – 2026

Please tick:

Household membership (\$10) ☐

or

Individual membership (\$5) ☐

Name/s _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Email address/es _____

Notices and information will be sent via email to those with email addresses, unless the box below is ticked. If you have no email address or the box below is ticked, notices will be posted.

Please do not send notices via email ☐

I am / We are committed to the purposes of Friends of Ferny Creek Inc. and agree to abide by the rules of the Association.

Signed _____

Date _____

Please post the form and money to Friends of Ferny Creek Inc, P.O. Box 7037, Upper Ferntree Gully Vic 3156. Alternatively email the form to jadam@netspace.net.au and transfer money to Friends of Ferny Creek Bendigo Bank account: BSB 633-000 Acc 122574205. Use your surname as reference. Thank you.

Incorporation no: A0045871E



Foundation/Grade 1

Evelyn C: For being a kind, considerate member of our class who includes others and is always RESPECTFUL.

Bridie H: For doing a wonderful job during reading rotations, showing RESPONSIBILITY when using class games, by sharing and packing up well.

Grade 2S

Luciana E: For challenging herself when writing about investigations. Fantastic work!

Cassie R: For being a wonderful presenter and audience member during the sharing of our oral presentations. Well done!

Grade 3/4E

Katy D, Bella H, Sophie Y and Holly P: For being responsible chicken monitors by working around the 'cluck'! Keep up the great work!

Grade 3/4K

Callum P: For always putting his best foot forward during our maths sessions. Well done, Callum.

Sepp S: For making great choices in the classroom and listening well during sessions. Keep it up Sepp.

Grade 5/6A

Maverick E: For the compassion and inclusivity you demonstrate towards your peers. You are a delight to have in the classroom Mav, and a friend to all!

Asher E: For your outstanding efforts in making it through to Eastern Metropolitan Region in High Jump. It is an insanely high level of competition, and you should be proud of your achievement!

Freya M: For your outstanding efforts in making it through to Eastern Metropolitan Region in Hurdles. It is an insanely high level of competition, and you should be proud of your achievement!

Grade 5/6B

Michael O: For doing a great job of his role of School Captain and becoming increasingly more confident at public speaking.

Will L: For continuing to put in 100% effort into his learning as demonstrated by another perfect score in Think Mentals last week.

IMPORTANT DETAILS

CURRICULUM DAYS

The last day of Term 4 is
19th December with an early
finish time of 1.30pm



COMMUNICATION

Ferny Creek Primary School recognises the importance of the partnership between schools and families to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing.

Your child's teacher will offer you a range of opportunities to communicate with them including:

- ✓ Compass
- ✓ Email
- ✓ Formal meetings
- ✓ Before/After school chats

If you do not have Compass, please contact our school Office and find out how you can obtain the app. Compass will be used several times each week, so we want everyone to have access.

FACEBOOK

Please like our Facebook page. This will be used by the school to inform families and the public of events and updates at the school. Feedback and discussion with parents/carers are welcome, but the school will not use Facebook for this purpose.

Please contact the school directly if you wish to discuss matters, as per our communication process. Only this Facebook page is endorsed by the Principal. Any other Facebook pages are not officially authorised representatives of the school.

CONTACT DETAILS

It is very important the school has your most current emergency contact telephone details, home and e-mail address.

If you change telephone details or home e-mail address at any point, we ask that you update the school with your accurate contact details as soon as possible.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Please note that our school grounds are supervised by school staff at the following times:

- ✓ Before school from 8.45am
- ✓ Throughout recess and lunch
- ✓ After school from 3.30pm to 3.45pm

The school grounds are not supervised outside the above times.

While some families use the front playground as a meeting place, please know children must be supervised by an adult outside of these times.



MORE IMPORTANT DETAILS

OUT OF HOURS CARE



TheirCare provides adventurous and stimulating Before & After School Care Programs in a safe environment for all children. During sessions children develop life skills, friendships, confidence and creativity through play.

Ferny Creek Primary School has partnered with TheirCare to provide this service to our school which includes quality care, booking flexibility, amazing programming for your children and commitment to deliver on our promise to our school community.

Operation Times:

Before School	7am-8.45am
After School	3.30pm-6.00pm

Service Phone Number:
0419 958 268

How to Enrol:
Visit TheirCare website
www.theircare.com.au

And click 'Book Now' in the top right-hand corner to register your child's details.

All families are strongly encouraged to register their child/ren for TheirCare as it is free to enrol, and while you are under no obligation to use this service, it does provide support for you in the event of an emergency. Plus, our students love attending this service! For further information about this program please contact TheirCare directly.

LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders are available each Wednesday. There is an ordering system via the QKR app and orders must be placed by 8pm each Tuesday for Wednesdays lunch.

Late orders cannot be accepted.



STUDENT SUPERVISION

All bike and scooter riders are required to wear a bike helmet in Victoria.

Approved helmets have the Australian Standards Mark TM (AS/NZS) 2063) and will be marked as suitable for cycling.

Children under the age of 12 may ride on footpaths as can a supervising adult. They are required to give way to pedestrians and to wheel their bicycles over pedestrian and children's crossings.

Bikes/scooters can be stored in our bike shed during school hours.

Also, by law everyone must wear a seat belt when travelling in a car in Australia.

SUNSMART

For Term 1 and Term 4 we wear our named broadbrimmed hat at all times when outside.



Term 4 2025



Keep this handy calendar on your fridge for upcoming events at school.
Check Compass, visit our website <http://www.fernycreekps.vic.edu.au/> or follow our Facebook page as this calendar is subject to changes.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
October	06 First Day of Term 4	07	08	09	10 Grade 5/6 Excursion 
	13	14 School Council meeting	15	16 Parents Club meeting	17 Assembly Loud Shirt Day
	20	21	22	23	24
	27	28 School Production	29 Responsible Pet Ownership F-2	30	31 Assembly
	03	04  Melbourne Cup Public Holiday	05	06	07  CERES Whole School Excursion
November	10 Dental Van 	11 School Council Meeting	12	13	14
	17	18 Foundation 2026 Transition	19 Food Bank Fundraiser - Food Fight	20	21
	24	25 Whole School & Foundation 2026 Transition	26	27	28
	01 Swimming 	02 Swimming Foundation 2026 Transition	03 Swimming	04 Swimming Parents Club AGM	05 Swimming
December	08	09 School Council meeting Whole School & Foundation 2026 Transition	10	11 Grade 6 Graduation	12 Grade 6 Big Day Out 'Stepping Up' Day at Wilson Botanical Gardens Working Bee  Sunday 14th
	15	16 Christmas Concert 	17	18	19 Last Day of Term 1.30pm finish



9755 1522

fernycreekps@education.vic.gov.au