

Ferny Creek PS Connections



Together we make a difference

Monday 4th May 2026

Hi everyone,

Social and Emotional Learning

We continue to place a strong focus on student wellbeing through the implementation of the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program across the school. This program supports students to develop the knowledge, skills and dispositions needed to build positive relationships, manage emotions, and show respect for themselves and others, and compliments the UR strong-Friendology program as part of our social and emotional learning.



This term, all teachers have participated in a professional learning session to strengthen our shared understanding of the program and ensure a consistent approach across the school. Staff will continue to engage in ongoing professional learning as we embed Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships into our everyday teaching and interactions with students.

URStrong-Friendology is an integral component of our social and emotional curriculum.

URStrong's whole-school friendship strategy has improved the social climate in schools around the world, connecting over a million kids, parents/carers and teachers with a common language of friendship. We are proud to be a URStrong School and we are committed to empowering your children with friendship skills.

Our teacher and student-led clubs continue to be a valuable part of our whole-school approach to social and emotional learning. These sessions provide students with opportunities to engage in learning through their interests, fostering a strong sense of motivation, connection, and belonging. Working in multi-age groupings allows students to build relationships across year levels, develop empathy, and learn from one another in meaningful ways.

Clubs also create authentic opportunities for our senior students to take on leadership roles, guiding activities, supporting younger peers, and developing confidence, responsibility, and communication skills. In these supportive and less formal settings, students are encouraged to explore ideas, take risks, and engage in problem-solving, all while building resilience and independence.



Through this work, we are helping to create a safe, inclusive and respectful school environment for all.

Cross country

We are looking forward to our upcoming Cross Country event this week, a whole-school activity that brings our community together for a morning of fun and school spirit. This event is for all students, whether it's about having a go, enjoying a stroll with friends, or for some, a chance to shine and compete, with the possibility of progressing to represent our school.

We encourage all students to wear a touch of their house colours along with their school uniform, and we will be reminding everyone of their house teams in the lead up to the event. Adding to the excitement, our newly elected House Captains will be leading the cheering and helping to build a strong sense of team spirit across the school.

A big thank you to the parents who have already volunteered to support the day, we really appreciate your time and involvement. There is always room for more helpers, so please let us know if you are available.

Please also note that the weather forecast is not looking ideal at this stage. If required, we may need to reschedule to Friday, and we will keep families updated with any changes.

This was a much-enjoyed event last year and we look forward to another great day together!

Child Safety

Ferny Creek Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework explains how we support and maintain child safety and wellbeing at Ferny Creek Primary School. It includes our:

- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Child abuse (including grooming) – identification and response, and
- Child Safety Code of Conduct, which outlines acceptable and unacceptable behaviours for all staff and volunteers at our school.

Our students and families are important partners in providing a child safe environment. These regular newsletter reminders are one of the ways we ensure our school community is aware of:

- our commitment to child safety, and
- how to provide feedback or raise child safety concerns.

If you have any concerns about child safety at any time, please contact Susan Vissenjoux on 9755 1522. Any child safety complaints or concerns are treated seriously. For more information about our school's complaints process, see our Complaints Policy

We also welcome your ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing. If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact a member of leadership on 9755 1522 or at fernycreek.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Enrolments

If you have a child who will be starting in Foundation in 2027, please visit or call the Office to collect an information pack which includes details about the enrolment process.



If you know of a family who is wanting to join the Ferny Creek community in 2027, please encourage them to contact the Office to organise a school tour.

Have a great week,

Susan

Susan Vissenjoux – Principal



Financial Contributions

I would also like to acknowledge the incredible support of our FCPS families through your financial contributions, as part of your annual payments. We are very lucky that the government funds lots of great things for our kids but know that your contributions enable us to run this school to its fullest capacity, including your support to resource our Library, beautiful grounds and playgrounds, Literacy and Numeracy Resources and our technology, which helps to engage our students. Our friendly office staff are available to assist you if you have not yet accessed the payment portal on Compass, alternatively, we are also happy to assist you with a payment plan if this is more convenient.



PUPIL Free Day

Thursday 28th May





April 25

ANZAC Day

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM





Post Box Walk



Our junior adventurers had a wonderful outing on Thursday morning, walking to the local post box to send off a very special letter! Along the way, the children turned into little detectives, carefully spotting and reading letterbox numbers and noticing patterns, especially which numbers were odd, and which were even.

Autumn added an extra sprinkle of magic to our walk, with colourful leaves scattered everywhere. We couldn't resist collecting some of the most beautiful ones to bring back to class. These treasures will soon become part of our learning as we sort, count, and even measure them.

It was a joyful mix of curiosity, fresh air, and hands-on learning, proving that even a simple walk can turn into a big adventure!



Our F-2s had a wonderful time baking banana muffins!

My Favourite RECIPE



HOW TO MAKE IT



INGREDIENTS





EVERY DAY COUNTS

SAME-DAY NOTIFICATION OF UNEXPLAINED STUDENT ABSENCES

FACT SHEET FOR SCHOOLS

Protecting the safety and wellbeing of children through reporting and monitoring of absenteeism is the responsibility of both parents/carers and schools.

Parents and carers have an obligation to notify the school of their child's absence as soon as possible **on the day of absence** using the school's preferred method, including use of an online IT or app, by telephone or by email.

[Factsheet for school for same-day notification of unexplained student absences](#)

New School Attendance Guidelines

From the end of Term 2 2018, all Victorian government schools must contact parents/carers as soon as practicable on the same-day of an unexplained student absence.

The same-day notification requirement supports the safety and wellbeing of all students. Schools need to know when and why a child is absent and parents/carers need to know if their child is not at school. Prompt communication also promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child's education. Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives.

Many schools are already implementing a same-day notification system. The Department of Education and Training (the Department) is supporting schools to meet this new requirement using available online solutions where practicable and ensuring parents and carers are aware of their responsibility to notify schools of a child's absence through promotional material including the Parent/carer Factsheet.

For further information on attendance, including the new School Attendance Guidelines, see the [School Policy Advisory Guide](#).

Schools and parents working together to support student attendance

Building positive and collaborative relationships through clear communications with parents and carers is critical to the successful implementation of the same-day notification requirement.

The responsibility needs to be underpinned by shared understandings and expectations about the procedures for monitoring, recording and follow-up of student attendance as outlined in the school's *Attendance Policy*. Distributing the school's *Attendance Policy* to parents and carers will help ensure they are aware of their obligation to notify the school of their child's absence and minimise the follow-up required by schools.

For support to update your school's Attendance Policy, see: [Policy template portal](#)



EVERY DAY COUNTS

What is the school's responsibility?

- **Notify parents/carers:** The school must notify parents and carers as soon as practicable on the same day of an unexplained absence. This should occur in the morning allowing time for the parent or carer to respond. Schools can choose how they advise parent and carers based on their local context e.g. by email, push notification via downloaded app, SMS or phone call.
- **Follow-up (where required):** At times the parent or carer may not be able to be reached because the school does not have their correct contact details (i.e. changed phone number, SMS/email failure notification received etc.). In this instance, the school should attempt to make contact with any emergency contact/s nominated on the child's file held by the school, where possible, on the same day of the unexplained absence.
- **Record student absences data:** Under the [School Attendance Guidelines](#) schools are required to record or transpose absence data in CASES21, eCASES or a third party software which is compatible with CASES21. Schools using third party software are required to import attendance data into CASES21 on a monthly basis.

Online solutions to same-day notifications

The Department is committed to supporting schools to meet their attendance requirements through an automated IT platform where practicable. Schools can decide which IT platform to use and current options include:

- eCases (a departmentally provided adjunct to CASES21) to generate SMS alerts
- third party software to alert parents of their child's absence via SMS or push notification

Parent/carer's responsibility

Parents/carers are required to ensure their child attends school every day and have an obligation to contact the school to notify the school of their child's absence. Parents/carers should inform the school in advance of known upcoming absences, or on the day of absence as soon as practicable. In addition, in order to implement this requirement, it is essential that parent/carers provide schools with their most up-to-date contact details.

FERNY CREEK PRIMARY'S


BOOK FAIR



IS NEARLY
HERE!

11-15 MAY



 SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIR – HELP NEEDED

We're looking for parent helpers for just 30 minutes before or after school.

If you're able to lend a hand, we'd love your support!

Scan the QR code or sign up here: signup.com/go/YTDAEJZ





Dear Mums
and special people
Come and Join us for
FERNY CREEK PRIMARY'S

mother's day celebration

FRIDAY 8 MAY
STARTS 1.30PM | IN THE LIBRARY
\$10 PER PERSON
(with a portion going to charity)

Light lunch
provided
After lunch,
you'll be welcomed
into the classrooms

See Compass
for more details

RSVP
6 MAY

PARENTS IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR TICKETS
FOR A NIGHT OF EPIC TUNES AND SOME
SERIOUS COMPETITION

SUPPORT FERNY CREEK PRIMARY'S VERY OWN PARENTS BAND

permission slipped

BATTLE IT OUT AGAINST OTHER LOCAL SCHOOLS

All funds raised from ticket sales go straight
back to supporting performing arts and music
programs at the participating schools.



tickets.oztix.com.au

DON'T MISS OUT (SOLD OUT LAST YEAR)
BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!
AND LET'S SHOW SOME LOVE FOR
"PERMISSION SLIPPED"





ALL 18+ WELCOME - BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

When booking, be sure to select
Ferny Creek Primary - permission_slipped
to make your support count!



FOLLOW US:
@PERMISSION.SLIPPED
@PARENTS_BATTLE_OF_THE_BANDS

WHAT ZONE ARE YOU IN?

BLUE	GREEN	YELLOW	RED
			
I FEEL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Tired ♥ Slow ♥ Bored ♥ Sad ♥ Sick 	I FEEL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Focused ♥ Ready to learn ♥ Calm ♥ Happy 	I FEEL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Frustrated ♥ Worried ♥ Excited ♥ Silly ♥ Not in control 	I FEEL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Elated ♥ Mad/Angry ♥ Terrified ♥ Out of control ♥ Yelling/Hitting
I CAN TRY... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Getting a drink ♥ Walking ♥ Talking to a friend ♥ Reading a happy story 	I CAN TRY... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Helping others ♥ Remembering goals ♥ Finishing work ♥ Expected behaviours 	I CAN TRY... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Walking ♥ Counting to 10 ♥ Drawing the problem ♥ Talking to a teacher or trusted adult 	I CAN TRY... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Deep breaths ♥ Finding a safe space ♥ Exercise ♥ Talking to teacher

FCPS Expected Behaviours Matrix



We are Respectful
We treat people, places, and things with kindness, care, and fairness

- I will use kind and positive language
- I will keep my hands and feet to myself
- I will follow the directions of all adults
- I will always display excellent manners
- I will be kind and helpful
- I will respect others privacy in the toilets




We are Responsible
We make good choices, take care of our things, and do what needs to be done without being reminded.

- I will look after all of my own belongings
- I will look after all school equipment
- I will put all my rubbish into the bin
- I will always tell the truth
- I will keep the school clean and tidy
- I will report any problems to an adult
- I will hand in my personal devices to the office



We are Resilient
We have a go, keep going when it's hard, and bounce back from challenges.

- I will choose the best strategy to help me be 'ready to learn' or 'ready to play'.
- I will always put in my best effort
- I will try even when it is hard
- I will be happy for other people's successes
- I will accept my mistakes and the mistakes of others
- I will acknowledge a genuine apology when it is offered

	In all settings	In Learning Spaces	In outside spaces	Moving between spaces
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will use kind and positive language • I will keep my hands and feet to myself • I will follow the directions of all adults • I will always display excellent manners • I will be kind and helpful • I will respect others privacy in the toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will display whole body listening • I will respect everyone's right to learn • I will wait for my turn to speak • I will ask permission to leave the learning space • I will be kind and respectful in online environments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will look after the school environment • I will include others • I will share equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will walk with quiet voices and quiet feet • I will stay on the paths and avoid walking on the gardens
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will look after all of my own belongings • I will look after all school equipment • I will put all my rubbish into the bin • I will always tell the truth • I will keep the school clean and tidy • I will report any problems to an adult • I will hand in my personal devices to the office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will be prepared, organised and ready to learn • I will be on time • I will use all learning resources appropriately to help me learn • I will follow all class routines • I will keep all learning spaces tidy • I will reset learning spaces at the end of a session • I will sit on the floor or chairs safely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will move to class when the music plays • I will remain outside unless I have permission to be inside • I will follow the direction of any adult on play support • I will return any borrowed equipment • I will play in the designated areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will line up quickly and quietly • I will walk safely in and around spaces • I will go straight to the office or toilet and straight back again
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will choose the best strategy to help me be 'ready to learn' or 'ready to play'. • I will always put in my best effort • I will try even when it is hard • I will be happy for other people's successes • I will accept my mistakes and the mistakes of others • I will acknowledge a genuine apology when it is offered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will try my best with all my learning tasks • I will 'have a go' before asking for help • I will ask for help if I need it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will agree to and play by the rules of games • I will accept the rules of the game even if it doesn't go my way • I will be flexible when playing with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will accept that I cannot always be the line leader or choose my spot in the line 

We've kicked off the new term with the cool change into autumn, and it's been great to see the kids straight back into it bringing loads of energy. We've been spending plenty of time outdoors, foraging for bugs, spotting lizards, and making the most of the fresh air. Our "Snacks to Scraps" system is running really well, with our Cluck Commander leading the charge and Coop Cadets getting involved and taking responsibility. We've also had heaps of creative play happening, a new STEM automated roller coaster build plus plenty of group games — Marco Polo is still the clear favourite. Looking forward to another fun and active term ahead!



Recognising National Reconciliation Week at TheirCare!

MAY 27 – 29

Join in arts and crafts, weaving, yarn circles and celebrations of Indigenous history.

"Bridging Now to Next".

What's on the menu?

Children have been exploring new foods during afternoon tea and are really enjoying tasting different flavours and combinations. If you you have any menu ideas or suggestions, please pop in and share!



HAPPY EASTER!

We hope you and your family had a happy Easter and a safe and fun school holidays! We can't wait to get stuck into Term Two!!

CONTACT SERVICE:

 0419 958 268

 Fernycreek@theircare.com.au

TC HEAD OFFICE:

 1300 072 410

 info@theircare.com.au

www.theircare.com.au



UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The wearing of school uniform is compulsory at Ferny Creek Primary School. All our uniform pieces can be purchased on site.



Broad brim
Grades F-2



Bucket hat
Grades 3-6



FERNY CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDER FORM

Student Name: _____ Phone No: _____ Class: _____

Date Ordered: _____ Date Paid: _____ Date Collected: _____

Uniform Shop Item	Size Range	Prices	Size	Quantity	Sub Total
TOPS					
Polo T-Shirt Short Sleeve	4,6,8,10,12,14,16	\$22.50			
Polo T-Shirt Short Sleeve	Adult S, M, L	\$25.00			
JUMPERS					
Polar Fleece Full Zip	6,8,10,12,14,16	\$40.00			
Polar Fleece Full Zip	Adult S, M, L	\$43.00			
Polar Fleece Black Vest	6,8,10,12,14	\$34.00			
PANTS					
Mesh Shorts	6,8,10,12,14,16	\$14.00			
JACKETS					
Waterproof Jacket – Fleece Lined	6,8,10,12	\$55.00			
ACCESSORIES					
Brimmed Hats (Prep – 6)	S, M, L	\$12.00			
Bucket Hats (Grades 3-6)	M, L, XL	\$12.00			
Girls Winter Pinafore	6,8,10	\$52.00			
	12,14	\$56.00			
School Bags		\$45.00			
Book Bags	Free for Foundation and new students	\$20.00			
Second hand uniform items		\$5.00			
				TOTAL	

Uniform shop orders can be placed at the office.

Please clearly label all clothing items including shoes.

IMPORTANT DETAILS

CURRICULUM DAYS

Term 2 Student Free Day is scheduled for **28th May**.



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 2 2026



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
April	20 Student Free Day	21 Term 2 begins for students	22 ANZAC day service for student leaders 	23 Breakfast Club	24 Assembly
	27	28 FCPS Open Morning	29	30 Breakfast Club	01
May	04	05	06	07 FCPS Cross Country Carnival  Breakfast Club	08 Mother's Day Celebration Cross Country backup plan
	11 BOOK FAIR School Photo Day	12 BOOK FAIR	13 BOOK FAIR	14 BOOK FAIR Breakfast Club	15 BOOK FAIR
	18	19	20	21 Breakfast Club	22 District Cross Country (selected students only)
	25	26	27	28 Student Free Day	29
	01	02	03	04 Breakfast Club	05
June	08 Public Holiday	17	18	19 Breakfast Club	20
	22	23	24	25	26  MUD day Last day of term early 2.30pm finish



9755 1522

fernycreekps@education.vic.gov.au