

Ferny Creek PS Connections



Together we make a difference

Friday 4th September 2026

Hi everyone,

Thank you

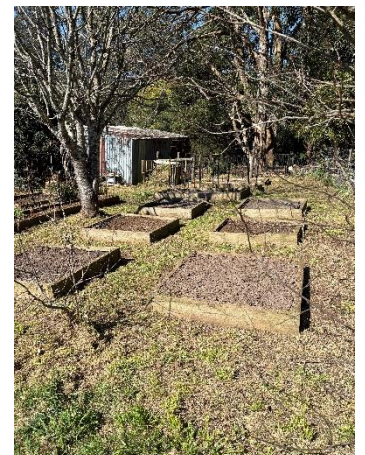
As Principal, one of the things I feel most grateful for is the incredible support our families and community give to our school. So much of what makes Ferny Creek such a special place happens because people are willing to give their time, share their skills and simply pitch in when something needs to be done.

Today was a lovely example of this, with our Parents' Club team organising a fantastic breakfast for our Dads and Special People. Seeing our families gathered together and sharing time with their children was such a wonderful way to start the day. Thank you to everyone who helped organise, set up, cook, serve and clean up and to all of our special people who came along to celebrate with our students. And thank you also to the Dads who offered to help as we navigated some temperamental equipment!



A very big thank you also to our Buildings and Grounds team and the families who joined our working bee last weekend. Giving up part of your weekend to care for our grounds is such a generous contribution. Our school is incredibly lucky to have people who take such pride in making our environment a wonderful place for our children to learn and play.

Our Parents' Club have also been working hard to support our Art Show, helping with the set-up and creating such a beautiful space for our children's incredible artwork to be celebrated as well as organising our Ferny Creek Festival. There is a lot of work that happens behind the scenes to make these events possible, and I want you to know how much it is noticed and appreciated. And to those of you who came along to enjoy the wonderful art work on display, we thank you for your support.



And to the parents and family members who have supported our students at athletics events-thank you. Your encouragement and your help with events makes such a difference. For our children, having familiar faces cheering them on and celebrating their efforts is something they remember.

A special thank you also to the parents who supported us during Science Week, taking the time to come into school and run some very cool experiments with our students! The excitement and curiosity on the students' faces said it all.

And to all of our parents and families who have turned up and supported our school events in all the different ways you can - a giant thank you. Sometimes that means giving up your time to volunteer, sometimes it means coming along to cheer on the children, and sometimes it means creating a costume at the very last minute so your child can join in and feel part of the fun! Every one of those little contributions matters. We know that family life is busy, and we never take for granted the effort it takes to be involved in school life.

A school is so much more than the people who work in it, and this week has been another wonderful reminder of that. I am so incredibly grateful for the way our community continues to come together to support our children.



Personal contact details

It is very important the school has your most current emergency contact telephone details, email and home address. If you change telephone details, email or home address at any point, we ask that you update the school with your accurate contact details as soon as possible. This may also include your communication preferences, particularly if there is more than one family group.

This is also a reminder that schools do not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance and any other transport costs.

Planning for 2027

We are beginning to look at our enrolment numbers and whole school structure.

If you have any intentions to unfortunately leave FCPS in the next 6 months, please let the school office know ASAP. Your decision does not need to be confirmed and does not mean your child loses their spot if you change your mind but giving us a heads up is very helpful. This information is vital for the school to budget and plan for staffing and grade organisation in 2027. We do not want any students to be stuck in classes that are too big or only have a few kids, but this relies on us knowing who will be here.

If you suspect you may be moving house, please communicate this to office as soon as possible.

And if you have a child starting school in 2027, we require your support by submitting their enrolment form ASAP.

Sun Smart and Uniform

As we head into the warmer months, it's time to remind everyone that our SunSmart policy is now back in action. All students are required to wear their school hat when outside during playtimes, PE lessons, and outdoor activities. Please make sure your child's hat is clearly named so it can be easily returned if misplaced.

This is also a good time to check that all items of uniform are clearly labelled. With jackets and hats often being taken on and off during the day, names make it much easier for lost items to find their way back to their owner. We do have a growing pile of homeless jackets that we would love to rehome before the holidays.

We also want to celebrate the joy our students have been finding in nature play. If your child loves to dive into this type of play, please pop an extra change of clothes into their bag so they can enjoy the experience fully and stay comfortable for the rest of the day.

Emergency Management Drills

At our school, we regularly carry out emergency drills as part of our comprehensive Emergency Management Plans. These drills include evacuation, lockdown, and other safety practices, and are an important part of keeping everyone safe.

The purpose of these drills is to make emergency procedures familiar and routine for students and staff. By practicing regularly, we help reduce stress and uncertainty in the event of a real emergency, ensuring that everyone knows exactly what to do.

While drills are only practice, they play a vital role in maintaining a safe and prepared school environment. We appreciate your support and encourage you to discuss safety plans as a family.

Mobile Phone Policy

In line with the [Department of Education's Mobile Phone policy](#), all phones brought to school must be switched off and stored securely in the front Office, during the school day. A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as a smartwatch.

Getting ready for bushfire season

As we head towards the warmer months, we are continuing our work to ensure our school is as well prepared and safe as possible for the upcoming bushfire season.

There are many things we do as part of our bushfire preparedness, including reviewing our emergency procedures, maintaining our grounds and ensuring our buildings and surrounding areas are prepared. One of the important parts of this work is tree maintenance and gutter cleaning, which will continue across the school over the coming weeks.



You may notice contractors working around different areas of the school as this work takes place. We ask everyone to please take care around these areas and follow any temporary out-of-bounds signage or directions from staff.

Living in the Dandenong Ranges means bushfire preparedness is an important part of our responsibility to our students, staff and community. We will continue to take the necessary steps to ensure our school is prepared, and we appreciate everyone's support as this important work continues.

*Have a great week,
Susan*

Susan Vissenjoux – Principal

Grade 3 / 4 Student Led Discovery Sessions

We are excited to share some insight into the 'Student Led Discovery' sessions that our Grade 3 and 4 students have been taking part in.

Each Friday both classes come together to take part in a range of creative, hands on and engaging activities that are set up as stations across the Middle School learning space as well as the beautiful spaces just outside the classrooms. Students have the freedom to select or create their own discovery learning experience and direct the learning as they so desire.

These sessions have been a welcome opportunity for our Middle School students and are a wonderful way to boost curiosity, engagement, critical thinking, problem solving, responsibility and teamwork.

Here are just a few snapshots of our 3 / 4 team during their **Student Led Discovery Sessions**. Enjoy!

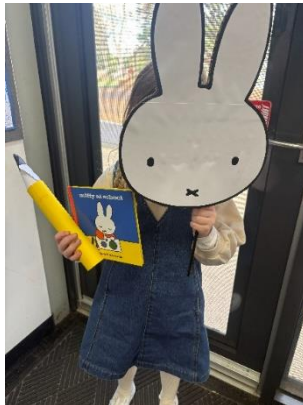


2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF STORIES

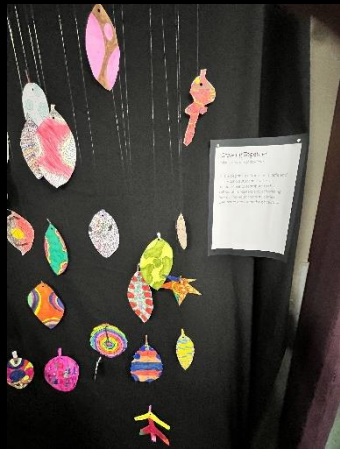


22-28 August 2026





FERNY CREEK PS ART SHOW





FERNY CREEK PRIMARY'S

FOOTY DAY IS COMING



FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

Get ready for a huge day
of footy fun at school!

We'll be kicking things off with a special
AFL SESSION, where the kids can
get involved, learn some skills,
and enjoy some footy fun.

Then it's time to refuel with a
HOT DOG AND JUICE BOX LUNCH

**FAMILY FOOTBALL MATCH
- STARTS 2PM**

**PARENTS & TEACHERS
VS
SCHOOL KIDS!**

Come along and play or
cheer on the teams as they
battle it out on the field.

KEEP AN EYE OUT ON COMPASS FOR MORE DETAILS

Students are encouraged to wear their favourite team colours and make a donation
to help support children and families affected by cancer

FOOTYCOLOURSDAY.COM.AU

#FOOTYCOLOURSDAY

Save the Date!

Our biannual **Ferny Creek Festival** will be held on

Friday 13th November 3:30- 6:30pm

Parent Representative

We are looking for a person from each class to be our **parent representative** and liaise with the festival committee, class teacher and parents from the class.

Community Stalls

We are also currently looking for expressions of interest if you or someone you know would like to hold your own **stall** (\$35 per stall). We welcome a variety of goods, including cards, crafts, clothing, woodwork, oils, candles, spices, soap, and more.

We also welcome second-hand stalls (though no toys/books as we are managing our own stall).

Please contact the office on
fernycreek.ps@education.vic.gov.au
to reserve your spot!

WHAT ZONE ARE YOU IN?

BLUE	GREEN	YELLOW	RED
			
I FEEL: ♥ Tired ♥ Slow ♥ Bored ♥ Sad ♥ Sick	I FEEL: ♥ Focused ♥ Ready to learn ♥ Calm ♥ Happy	I FEEL: ♥ Frustrated ♥ Worried ♥ Excited ♥ Silly ♥ Not in control	I FEEL: ♥ Elated ♥ Mad/Angry ♥ Terrified ♥ Out of control ♥ Yelling/Hitting
I CAN TRY... ♥ Getting a drink ♥ Walking ♥ Talking to a friend ♥ Reading a happy story	I CAN TRY... ♥ Helping others ♥ Remembering goals ♥ Finishing work ♥ Expected behaviours	I CAN TRY... ♥ Walking ♥ Counting to 10 ♥ Drawing the problem ♥ Talking to a teacher or trusted adult	I CAN TRY... ♥ 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 Learning Spaces

- 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

- 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

- 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

In outside spaces

- I will look after the school environment
- I will include others
- I will share equipment

- 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

- 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

Moving between spaces

- I will walk with quiet voices and quiet feet
- I will stay on the paths and avoid walking on the gardens

- 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

- I will accept that I cannot always be the line leader or choose my spot in the line



Wowee it's September!

It has been a busy and exciting fortnight at TheirCare Ferny Creek, with children enjoying our Architecture Week and Non-Fiction Week programs.

During Architecture Week, children explored creativity, design and construction through collaborative games, art experiences and group discussions. Our popular Bay Leaf Project also continued, with children decorating jars, creating labels and preparing them for donation to the local Upwey Foothills Community Care Hub. The Community Hub will be offering these Bay Leaf jars for 'Pay as you feel' with proceeds going towards meals for disadvantaged members of our local community, we were delighted to hear children proudly sharing how much they enjoyed contributing to this meaningful project.




SPRING 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAM
BOOKINGS OPEN
 Book now! TheirCare.com.au

Non-Fiction Week encouraged children to explore real-world facts through animal quizzes, Australian city word searches, landmark trivia and plenty of reading. Children also enjoyed making their own Pokémon cards, colouring, chess, Connect 4, UNO, Hot Wheels and a range of energetic outdoor activities, including football, basketball, soccer and dodgeball.

Our menus were another highlight, with children enjoying making their own croissants and toasties, trying new foods such as mac and cheese, and enjoying favourites such as noodles, smoothies, pancakes, nachos and hot chocolates. We also received a lovely compliment from a parent about our inviting reading corner.

Thank you to our children and families for another wonderful fortnight filled with creativity, learning, teamwork and fun!

CONTACT SERVICE:

☎ 0419 958 268

✉ fernycreek@theircare.com.au

TC HEAD OFFICE:

☎ 1300 072 410

✉ info@theircare.com.au

www.theircare.com.au



HILLTOP MUSIC INC. PRESENTS



MUSIC
TALENT FROM
ACROSS THE
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SUN 13 SEPT

11AM—7PM FERNY CREEK RESERVE / CORHANWARRABUL

FAMILY FRIENDLY!

**TANYA GEORGE BAND • THE CHOPS
THE LICKSPITS • BENOIT**

THE ALL STARS • BEE • BELYARD • CALLUM & THE CRASHOUTS
CECILY, I CAN'T RUN! • CENTRELEECH • DAPPER CHAPS • ELIANA MOREL
EMERALD SC ARTISTS • EXORCIST • FIGURE 8 • GEORGIA MCKINNON
I'M SORRY MS JACKSON • INCONVENIENCE • JESSE & FRIENDS
THE LOG CABIN ACOUSTIC SHOWCASE • MARLEY WARHAM • MILK BAR RUN
THE MOUNTAIN HOWLERS • MUNGBEAN WARRIORS • OLD SCHOOL • OZERGUN
PEDAL TO THE METAL • RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING • ROOM 2
SONGWRITERS SESSIONS • TAHLEE AND SHAE • TURPENTINE
WHILE COUNTING SHEEP • ...AND MANY MORE

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STALLS, ACTIVITIES
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\$10 STUDENTS
12 & UNDER FREE!**

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Early Years 2026 School holiday activities

Spring 2026: Monday 21 September to Sunday 4 October



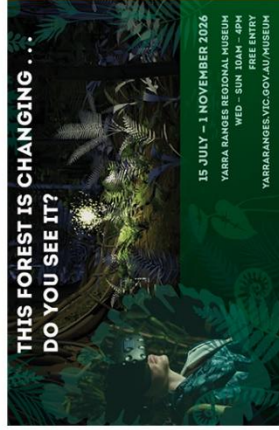
Bush Walk – Whose hiding at night?

- Thursday 24th September
- 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- Mt Evelyn
- For all ages
- Booking required



Gondwana Cyanotype Printing for Kids

- 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
- Yarra Ranges Regional Museum
- For all ages
- Booking required



THIS FOREST IS CHANGING ... DO YOU SEE IT?

15 JULY – 1 NOVEMBER 2026
YARRA RANGES REGIONAL MUSEUM
WED – SUN 10AM – 4PM
FREE ENTRY
YARRARANGES.VIC.GOV.AU/MUSEUM

Gondwana VR

- On display until Sunday 1st November
- Yarra Ranges Regional Museum
- For all ages
- Free entry

Early Years 2026 School holiday activities

Spring 2026: Monday 21 September to Sunday 4 October



23
SEP

Beauty and the Beast Ballet

- 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM
- The Memo Healesville
- For all ages
- Booking required



24
SEP

Coffee Painting Workshop

- 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM
- Arts Centre Warburton
- For all ages
- Booking required



24
SEP

Tiny Tunes

- 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- Belgrave
- For children aged 0 – 18 months
- Booking required



24
SEP

Making Music

- 10:45 AM – 11:30 AM
- Belgrave
- For children aged 0 – 5 years



1
OCT

Insect and Bug Headbands

- 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Yarra Junction
- For all ages
- No booking required



2
OCT

Let's Go Lawn Bowls

- 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- Lilydale
- For children aged 4 – 12 years
- Booking required



2
OCT

Dad and Me Bowling

- 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- Lilydale
- Age: 4 – 16 years
- Booking required



4
OCT

EEL Festival

- 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Yarra Glen
- For all ages
- No Booking required



Scan to explore more events and book now!

For more information and bookings

1300 368 333

www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/schoolholidays

earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au



WHO CAN I TURN TO FOR HELP?

We are always here to support you and your family. Please know that our door is always open, and we encourage you to reach out if you have any questions, concerns or simply need a chat.

In addition, the support services listed below are free or bulk billed.

SERVICE	FOCUS	CONTACT DETAILS	OPERATING HOURS
Nurse-on-call	Expert health advice from a nurse	1300 60 60 24	24 hours/7 days
Kids Helpline	Telephone counselling service for people aged between 5 and 25	1800 55 1800 Interactive webpage for children aged 5-12 www.kidshelpline.com.au/kids	24 hours/7 days
Parentline	Parents and carers with children from birth to 18 years	13 22 89	8am – midnight/7 days
Headspace Knox	For young people experiencing mild to moderate mental health or life challenges	9801 6088 2 Capital City Boulevard, Westfield Knox Ozone, Wantirna South, Victoria 3152	9am – 5pm Mon - Fri
Griefline	Support for experiencing loss and grief	1300 845 745	8am – 8pm/7 days
Medicare Mental Health	Support from mental health professional	1800 595 212	Mon – Fri: 8.30am – 5pm
Lifeline	Crisis Support, Suicide prevention	131114	24 hours/7 days
Beyond Blue	Confidential counselling, advice, and programs to help people dealing with anxiety, depression, and suicide prevention	1300 224 636 Or online chat https://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/talk-to-a-counsellor/chat	24 hours/7 days
Orange Door	Confidential support service for children, young people and families who need help with family wellbeing, parenting or safety at home.	1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732)	
MensLine	Supports men dealing with mental health, family and relationship problems, anger management, stress, and suicide prevention	1300 78 99 78	24 hours/7 days
13YARN	Crisis support telephone service in Australia for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	13 92 76	24 hours/7 days

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	\$26.50			
Polo T-Shirt Short Sleeve	Adult S, M, L	\$26.50			
JUMPERS					
Polar Fleece Full Zip	6,8,10,12,14,16	\$40.00			
Polar Fleece Full Zip	Adult S, M, L	\$40.00			
Polar Fleece Black Vest	6,8,10,12,14	\$34.00			
PANTS					
JACKETS					
Waterproof Jacket – Fleece Lined	6,8,10,12	\$55.00			
ACCESSORIES					
Brimmed Hats (Prep – 6)	S, M, L	\$15.00			
Bucket Hats (Grades 3-6)	M, L, XL	\$15.00			
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

There are no Student Free days scheduled this term.



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 Wednesday's 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 3 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
July	13 Student Free Day	14 Term 3 begins for students Interschool Sport Gala Day	15	16 Breakfast Club	17 Assembly
	20	21	22	23 Breakfast Club	24
	27 School Council	28	29	30 Breakfast Club	31 Assembly (Parent Band performing)
	03 100 DAYS OF JUNIOR SCHOOL AFL after school program begins	04	05	06 Breakfast Club	07
August	10	11 FCPS Athletics Carnival POSTPONED	12	13 Breakfast Club	14 Assembly
	17 SCIENCE WEEK FCPS Athletics Carnival	18 SCIENCE WEEK School Council	19 SCIENCE Open Morning and Dress as a Scientist Day	20 SCIENCE WEEK Breakfast Club	21 SCIENCE WEEK
	24 SYMPHONY OF STORIES Book Week Parade, Activity Day & BOOK WEEK LIBRARY NIGHT	25	26 District Athletics (select students)	27 Breakfast Club	28 Assembly
	31	01 ART SHOW	02	03 Breakfast Club	04 Father's Day Celebration Breakfast
September	07	08	09	10 Grade 5/6 District Basketball Breakfast Club	11 Assembly
	14	15 Where is the Green Sheep? - Junior excursion School Council	16 Division Athletics (select students)	17	18 FOOTY DAY! Last day of term early 2.30pm finish



9755 1522

fernycreekps@education.vic.gov.au