

# FINLEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Teaching, learning and achieving in a safe and caring community*



Acting Principal: H McRae BA.Dip.Ed  
Acting Deputy Principal: A Oddie BA.Dip.Ed

Tocumwal Street FINLEY NSW 2713  
Phone: 03 5883 1344 Fax: 03 5883 2396

[www.finley-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.finley-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

## KEY DATES

### March

31 Parent Teacher Night

### April

1 Last day of Term One  
19 Staff Development Day  
20 Students return to school  
21 Boys and girls soccer - Hay  
22 Riverina under 15 football - Narrandera  
23 Under 15 netball - Deniliquin  
26 ANZAC Day Holiday  
27 Year Eleven HSC Music Study Day at Barham  
30 Riverina Netball Trials

### May

4 Open boys football – Finley  
6 Year Eleven VET Workplacement Information Day – Finley  
P & C Meeting, 8pm in the school library, or Jerilderie Public School  
11 NAPLAN, spelling and writing.  
12 NAPLAN, reading.  
13 NAPLAN, numeracy.  
14 NAPLAN, catch up day.  
18 Athletics Carnival.  
20 Year Ten Careers Day Out.  
24-27 Combined High Schools AFL – Albury.  
28 Year Seven Immunisations.

## CONTENTS:

- **Key Dates**
- **Principal's Report**
  - **Lions Youth of the Year**
  - **Year Eleven Morning Tea**
  - **State Swimming**
  - **Trade Training Centre – Hospitality**
  - **Parent Teacher Interviews**
  - **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Finley High School 2011**
  - **Stewart House**
  - **School Fees**
- **Siblings Activity**
- **Year Seven Disability Awareness Talks**
- **Dairy Heifer Show Team – Tatura Show**
- **Library News**
- **2010 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**
- **Ten Proven Ways To Build Confidence In Children – continued**
- **Canteen Roster**
- **Whole School Assessment Due Dates**
- **Community Announcements**
- **Canteen Helpers Needed (attached)**

### **Principal's Report**

As Term One draws to a close I can reflect on another very busy and successful term for Finley High School.

### **Lions Youth of the Year**

On Sunday, Rhys Portbury participated against students from Northern Victoria and the Riverina in the District Level of Lions Youth of the Year.

Rhys gave an outstanding speech and answered his impromptu questions extremely well. He was unfortunately beaten as the overall winner of the day, but represented Finley High School once again, with distinction. Congratulations Rhys.

### **Year Eleven Morning Tea**

Fifteen Year Eleven students were invited to a morning tea last Friday with Ms Bush, Mrs Kempton (School Education Director) and me. Each student was nominated by at least two teachers for the outstanding effort and commitment to learning they have displayed this term. Each student was given the opportunity to introduce themselves to Mrs Kempton and told her of the highlight of their term. Several students also had interesting ideas on how the school could further support them in their endeavours to learn. These suggestions have been taken on board by Ms Bush and me and in Term Two we hope to hold a study day for Year Eleven to develop time management skills and investigate different learning styles. Congratulations to all the students who attended.

### **State Swimming**

Our best wishes go to the following students who have travelled to Sydney this week to participate in the State Combined High Schools Swimming Championships at Homebush. We wish Dimity Sharp, Zoe Richardson, Georgina Mohr-Clarke, Shawna Maxwell, Hayley Daniel, Isabelle Carlon, Ashleigh O'Leary, Lachlan Westwood, Rowan Smith, Daniel O'Leary and Aiden Murphy-Riddell all the best at the meet.

### **Trade Training Centre – Hospitality**

Builders will be in the school this week to fence off part of the school on the Warmatta Street side for the construction of a Trade Training Centre in Hospitality. One of our kitchens will be refurbished and reconstructed as a commercial style kitchen. This is exciting news for Mrs Rowe, Mr Weir and

present and future Hospitality students as we will soon have a 'state of the art' facility to prepare food and learn all aspects of the hospitality industry. The building is expected to be completed by the middle of August.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

A reminder that Parent Teacher Interviews will take place in the hall from 4pm this Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March. This is an opportunity to meet each of your child's teachers briefly to discuss their progress, strengths and areas of concern. I look forward to talking with as many parents as possible.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Finley High School 2011**

Finley High School turns fifty in 2011.

A small group of interested ex students met last Monday evening to begin to plan a reunion next year.

Jan Gray brought along some archives and scrapbooks of the previous school reunions celebrating twenty five years and forty years.

Unfortunately the number of people attending the meeting was insufficient to begin planning.

All past students are urged to attend the next meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April and show their support for the reunion to ensure that the school can celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday next year.

If you are interested in being a part of the organising team, or have any enquiries or apologies for the meeting, please phone me or Jan Gray at the high school.

### **Stewart House**

Attached to this newsletter is an envelope seeking donations to Stewart House. Stewart House supports students and families from public schools across New South Wales who need a healthy and

supported break. Students from this school have accessed this program and I encourage your support. Donations should be returned to the pay office in the envelope.

### School Fees

Invoices for school fees are being mailed home this week. While school fees are optional, subject fees must be paid to cover the costs of resources used in electives. Should you need any assistance with paying these fees, please do not hesitate to call me at school.

H McRae  
Acting Principal

### Year Seven Disability Awareness Talks

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, Year Seven were involved in the annual Year Seven Disability Talks. The purpose of the day is to give the students a glimpse of some of the specific needs of people in our community and our school. Each class spent a period in the VTR room, where they were encouraged to realise that students with a disability have much to contribute to our school.



Above: Class 7D at the Disability Awareness Talks.



Above: Ashleigh O'Leary trying some speech exercises.



Above: 7B students learning about wheelchair etiquette.

The key message of the sessions is that “everyone is important at Finley High School”. They were given activities to help them understand how they can assist others at school.

The sessions addressed items such as:

- Asking anyone before they offer assistance.
- Things to consider if someone is in a wheelchair.
- Why a quiet classroom is important for some people.
- Why sometimes people may misunderstand what we say.

Feedback from the students indicated it was a worthwhile activity and helped them understand the specific needs of others.

Muriel Murada and Jenny Wheeler

### **Siblings Activity**

The Term One Siblings Activity (Siblings is for students who have a brother or sister with a disability) was held recently. On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, the rain held off long enough for us to head down to the Finley Bowling Club to try our hand at Lawn Bowls.

Jake Rees showed us his style on the green and Sharna Graham got some tips from Murray Barry.



Above: Jake Rees.



Above: Murray Barry giving Sharna Graham some tips.

The focus of our time together was getting to know our new Year Seven members and to get to know each other a little better.

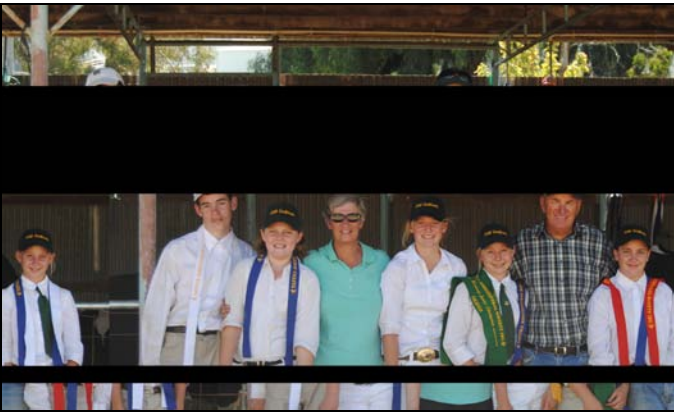
The goal of the Siblings Group is to help our members gain resilience and understanding of their situation and support others in their situation.

A big thank you to the Finley Bowling Club for allowing us to enjoy their facilities and for giving us a few bowling tips.

Mr Martin, Ms Schneller and Ms Wheeler

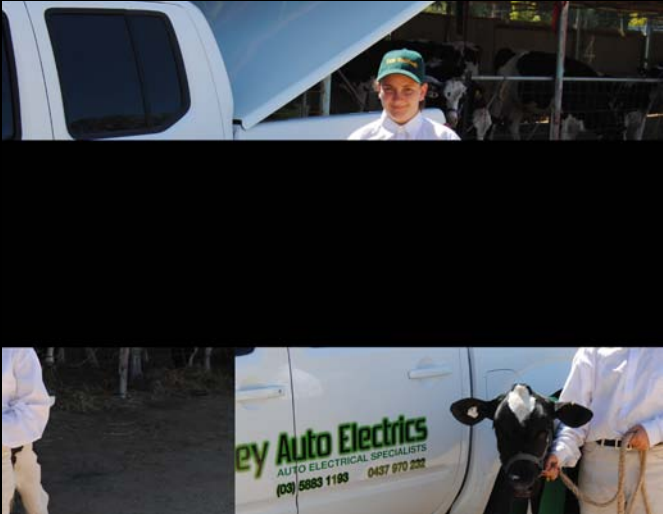
### **Dairy Heifer Show Team – Tatura Show**

On Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2010, six students, Alexander Macartney, Talei Holm, Meg Campbell, Brooke Sweeney, Sally Sweeney and Melanie Kantarias with their eight heifers travelled to the Tatura Show.



Above: Alexander Macartney, Talei Holm, Jenny O’Hora, Meg Campbell, Brooke Sweeney, Brian O’Hora, Melanie Kantaria and Sally Sweeney.

Talei Holm placed first with T-Bluebell Gannon (from Gai and Robert Singleton); Alexander Macartney placed second with Sensation Lillian (from PJ & A Ibbott); Talei Holm placed first with Frank Kirste (from R & L White); Meg Campbell placed second with Shottle Lulu (from R & L White); Alexander Macartney placed third with Quality Bradley (from B & J O’Hora); Melanie Kantarias placed first with Asteroid Eve, then went on to get first and second in teams of three, then third and fourth in the Championship, then Reserve Champion.



Above: Melanie Kantarias with Quality Bradley with their Reserve Champion ribbon.

The students helped other exhibitors parade their cattle.



Above: Brooke Sweeney and Meg Campbell leading other exhibitor’s cattle.

Talei and Melanie did a fantastic job for the day. Congratulations to the older students for being a great help to them.



Above: Talei Holm leading Frank Kirste.



Above: Students lining their cattle up after judging.

Three students raced over to the pet parade to enter their heifers. They all came back with blue ribbons and an assortment of goodies. The schedule for the cattle events had to be changed slightly as they were late back to their class. The judge was very obliging as he thought it was great they entered into the pet parade.

All in all we had a great day and even got the most successful exhibitors award.

These students never cease to amaze us and we are very proud of them.

Brian and Jenny O’Hora

### Library News

It’s been great to see so many year 7s making good use of the library this term. We currently have in the library a ‘homework centre’ operating which initially was provided for year 7 but has been such a success that we are extending an invitation to all students in all year levels to make use of this opportunity. Wednesday and Friday afternoons 3.15 -4.15.pm have been popular times this term however the library is generally available every afternoon until 4.00pm, the second half of lunch as well as before school from 8.30a.m. We would encourage all students to make the most of the library facilities.

Remember senior students that the library has an extensive list of texts which relate to the topics ‘belonging’ and ‘journey’ – particularly yr 11 -if you want to prepare yourself ready for exams next term. Come in and the library staff will help to point you in the right direction.

The library staff are here to help with study timetables, essay writing, research assignments and lots of other things too. If anyone needs a hand in any year, just come in and ask-that’s what we’re here for.

A. Begbie/K. Dempster  
Teacher Librarian

### 2010 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Information and entry forms for the ICAS Spelling, Writing and English Competitions are now available. They will be handed to interested students from Years Seven to Twelve by English teachers or can be collected from the English staffroom.

Due date for entry forms and fees is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Fees and dates:

<i>Spelling</i>	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2010	\$5
<i>Writing</i>	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2010	\$5
<i>English</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2010	\$5

Please see Mrs O’Bryan if you have any queries.

### Ten Proven Ways To Build Confidence In Children – continued

Here are three more points from Michael Grose’s article.

1. Recognise effort and improvement.  
Low risk-takers and perfectionists appreciate parents who focus on the process of what they do, rather than results. Effort, improvement and enjoyment are examples of processes that you can comment on. For example, in swimming ask if they were pleased with their time rather than what position in the race they came. In sport, rather than did you win? did you enjoy the game?
2. Focus on strength and assets.  
Fault-finding can become an obsession for some parents, particularly fathers. Step back and look at supposed faults through a different lens (i.e. Stubbornness can be rebadged as determination, which is handy in many contexts). Give your children the opportunity to explore activities and find what their strengths are.
3. Accept errors as part of learning.  
Don’t over react when kids don’t get the perfect score or make mistakes. As parents we

often want their work to be mistake free. So when asked to proof read my focus is often on the spelling or grammar mistakes rather than the quality of the ideas within the writing. Another of example of this was illustrated to me the other day, a presenter said the following,  $6 + 1 = 7$ ,  $3 + 6 = 9$ ,  $4 + 2 = 6$ ,  $1 + 2 = 3$ ,  $4 + 1 = 5$ ,  $2 + 2 = 6$ , he then asked around the room for a comment, obviously the comment was  $2 + 2 = 4$ , and his response was why does everyone always comments on the one answer I got wrong, not the 5 answers I got right.

## CANTEEN ROSTER

Canteen Contact and Number  
Mrs Kaylene Dawe 5883 1105  
...LADIES, Please note 10am start....

### March

- 19 T Clarke, H Braybon
- 22 A Lang, A Lee
- 23 L Bryce, H Harris
- 24 C Milburn, A Steele
- 25 R Rowe, C Shaw
- 26 S Ford-Jenkins, L Jackson
- 29 D Jewell, J Russell
- 30 S Robertson
- 31 J Colwell, D Dalglish

### April

- 1 C Moloney

## *Whole School Assessment Due Dates*

Year	Class	Assessment Task	Teacher	Due Date
Seven	French	Cultural Studies Research Project	Miss Neilan	25/03/2010
Seven	Geography	World Heritage Site Research	Mrs Jackson Miss Brown Mr Crapp	24/03/10 31/03/10 31/03/10
Eight	8B English	Film Studies Task	Miss Neilan	26/03/10
Ten	All Maths classes	Maths Project	Mr Pigginn Mrs Braybon Mr Oddie	20/08/10
Eleven	Business Studies	Business Studies Research	Mrs Jackson Miss Brown	24/03/10
Eleven	PDHPE	First Aid	Mr Tooke Ms Downey	Commences 21/04/10 (ongoing)

# *Community Announcements*

## **Free Triple P3 – 8 Years Group Parenting Program**

Parents have the important role of raising healthy well adjusted children who have the skills and confidence to succeed at school and in their relationship with others. The eight week program offers suggestions and ideas on positive parenting.

Dates: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May and 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Time: 10am to 12pm.

Venue: Jerilderie Library

Presenter: Margaret Graham

Please book into the program by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April by ringing Wendy at Finley Centacare office on (03) 5883 4870. If you have any questions regarding the program please ring Margaret on (03) 5883 3747.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Tour de Toc' – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

This event is a charity fund raiser for NSW Rural Fire Brigade. Entry forms and tickets are available from Berrigan Indoor Outdoor and Haynes Butchery in Tocumwal. All ages and fitness levels are welcome, all precautions taken, riders at own risk, support vehicles and transport available leaving 9:15am from the Berrigan Rural Fire Station, please advise early on your entry form if you require transport, please register early to assist in catering. A hot lunch provided \$5, riders free. Followed by children's ride, presentation and raffle draw. Departing from Anzac Parade Tocumwal at 10am.