

# FINLEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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



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6<sup>th</sup> May 2010

## KEY DATES

### May

- 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
- 21 Under 16 girls football in Deniliquin
- 24-27 Combined High Schools AFL – Albury
- 25 ICAS Computer Skills
- 28 Year Seven Immunisations

### June

- 3 15's Basketball in Barham
- 4 Tuppall Station Excursion – whole school
- 8 Formal Assembly 10:06 am in the School Hall
- 9 ICAS Science Competition
- 10 Zone Athletics Carnival in Finley
- 14 Queen's Birthday
- 16 – 18 Holbrook Sheep and Wool Show
- 22 15's Boys and Girls Soccer in Deniliquin  
ICAS Spelling and Writing Competitions
- 23 Riverina Boys and Girls Tennis Trials

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## Principal's Report

Welcome to Week Three, Term Two.

### Year Nine Laptop Roll Out

Laptops for Year Nine students should arrive in the school this week. They will be set up for each individual student by Mr Tessier, the school Technical Support Officer before being issued to the students next week.

On Monday night, a meeting of Year Nine parents was held in the Multi Purpose Room to showcase the laptops and to outline the responsibilities of students and parents in the care and use of this new technology.

Laptops will not be issued to students until they have returned the DER Laptop User Charter signed by both

the student and the parents, agreeing to the terms and conditions of use.

If a student stays at school until the end of Year Twelve they will be able to keep their laptop. Should they leave school before then the laptop will be returned to the school.

### **NAPLAN**

NAPLAN Assessments are scheduled for next week for all students in Year Seven and Year Nine. As you are aware there exists some dissention between the DET and Teachers Unions around the country surrounding the production and publication of League Tables using the data obtained from NAPLAN.

At the time of writing the staff at Finley High School are supporting the moratorium on NAPLAN and will not be supervising these assessments next week. However it is possible that the DET will organise for other personnel to conduct and supervise the tests. Please note that next week is a normal school week – all classes will continue as normal and all students are expected to attend everyday.

### **New Principal**

Bernie Roebuck will commence his appointment as Principal of Finley High School on Wednesday. He is looking forward to meeting the school community and working with staff, students, parents and the local communities to ensure Finley High School remains an outstanding centre for learning in the region.

### **P & C Meeting**

Bernie will be attending this week's P & C Meeting to be held at the school library at 7:30pm this Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May. All parents are invited to come along and meet Bernie at this meeting.

### **Reunion 2011**

A second meeting for the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion was held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Decade representatives were elected for the committee. They are:

Prior to 1960	Colin Jones
1960's	Karen Peacock
1970's	Lee McLennan, Glenn Flyger, Martin Robertson
1980's	Tania and Kellie White
1990's	Donna Milne
2000's	
Staff	Peter Watts

Monthly meetings have been scheduled for the last Monday of each month.

The next meeting will be in the school library on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 7:30pm. At this meeting Jan Gray will have lists for each year group to start searching.

The date for the reunion has not been finalised but will be in October next year.

For more details visit the 'reunion' page on the Finley High School website at [www.finley-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.finley-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

### **Support our Outstanding Teachers**

Our school has been invited to submit nominations for the *NEiTA 2010 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards* program. The awards program provides a rare opportunity to publicly recognise and encourage our outstanding teachers and give them a well-deserved pat on the back. It is the only independent national awards program where school communities – school councils and parent associations, individual parents, secondary student councils, and community organisations – can nominate teachers and principals who contribute excellence.

Nominated teachers receive a congratulatory *NEiTA Certificate of Nomination* and become candidates for NEiTA State and National Awards. Nomination forms are available from the school office or forms can be

downloaded or completed online at [www.neita.com.au](http://www.neita.com.au) or requested from the NEiTA Secretariat by phoning free call 1800 624 487

### Thank you

Next week I step back into the role of deputy principal after fifteen weeks as acting principal. I would like to thank the whole school community for their support during this time and I look forward to working with Bernie to continue to lead Finley High School into the future.

H McRae  
Acting Principal

### Athletics Carnival

The annual Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May. It is expected that all students will attend and participate in events or support their peers as this is a normal school day.

Students are invited to wear house colours.

If you have any questions please contact Ms Downey.

### Year Twelve Half Yearly Reports

This year our Parent/Teacher interview session in April was held for Years Seven to Twelve.

Year Twelve will soon be issued with their half yearly reports.

Should parents or carers have any concerns regarding subject results they are invited to contact the respective Year Twelve subject teacher and make an appointment to meet with the teacher at a time convenient to all parties as there will not be a separate Year Twelve Parent Teacher evening this year.

Mrs M Rowe

### 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 7<sup>th</sup> May.

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.

### 2009 Waterwheel Magazines

If you missed out on buying last years 'Waterwheel' magazine you can still purchase one from the Pay Office for \$12.

### Helping With Homework

You can:

1. Help your child with assignments, but don't do the work for them as this doesn't help your child learn.
2. Let the school know of any family situation that may interfere with homework.
3. Talk to your child's teacher if your child is finding homework too hard.
4. Help your child to have a regular time each day to do their homework.
5. Help your child manage their time when they have lots of assignments at the same time.
6. Help your child research information on the internet by directing them to useful sites, such as [www.tale.edu.au](http://www.tale.edu.au)
7. Encourage children to re-read their writing to check for spelling and punctuation. Sometimes it's easier to find ways to improve writing when it's read aloud.
8. Encourage and praise all of your child's efforts.

For more information visit  
[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/gotoschool/ttsy7.pdf](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/gotoschool/ttsy7.pdf)

### Staying On At School Research

Staff from the University of Western Sydney would like to thank all the staff, parents and students that participated in their Staying On at School research in 2009. They had a great response from our school and will be coming back to continue their research during Term Two. The research will look at: (a) factors that help students complete high school; (b) issues surrounding student part-time employment; and (c) how students balance school and study time with out-of-school responsibilities. The study is supported by the NSW Department of Education and Training. Overall, nine schools in three NSW regions will take part. The researchers will be conducting surveys with the students in Years Eight, Nine and Ten that completed surveys last year as well as reinterviewing a small number of students that they talked to last year. Questions asked will be centred around what they want to do after high school, their intentions regarding completing school, what they think about school and part-time employment, as well as information about their experiences and perspectives. This information has become important in relation to the Raised School Leaving Age policy. We encourage the students to participate in this important research.

### 'Your Tutor' at Berrigan Libraries

'Your Tutor' is a valuable resource for students who may need additional assistance or guidance in

particular areas of study. An online tutor is available between the hours of 4pm and 8pm each week day to work with them and guide them to the answer.

All a student needs is internet access and their Berrigan Shire Library card to access the 'Your Tutor' site where a qualified teacher or honours student is waiting to help them out. The normal time taken according to the statistics is ten minutes online and only first names are exchanged.

The website is [www.rrlc.yourtutor.com.au](http://www.rrlc.yourtutor.com.au)

## CANTEEN ROSTER

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

### May

6	K Mynard, M McCaw
7	J Congdon, T Clarke
10	W Cleve, D Jewell
11	C Girdwood, S Robinson
12	J Blackmore, D Dalgliesh
13	S Holmes, D Pyke
14	C Kennedy, D Thomas
17	D Williams, K McDonald
18	Di Sexton, L Bryce
19	L Bright, J Conn
20	G Ferguson, H Harris
21	L Jackson, Susanne Weir

## Whole School Assessment Due Dates

Year	Class	Assessment Task	Teacher	Due Date
Ten	All Maths classes	Maths Project	Mr Piggan Mrs Braybon Mr Oddie	20/08/10
Eleven	PDHPE	First Aid	Mr Tooke Ms Downey	Commences 21/04/10 (ongoing)

# *Community Announcements*

## **Free Swine Flu Clinic - For all members of the family.**

**Where:** Finley Health Service  
**Date:** Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
**Time:** 3pm to 6pm  
**To Register:** Please phone 03 58831133  
**Note:** Signed parent/guardian consent required for minors

## **Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops for Learner Driver Parents in Finley**

Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in casualty crashes. That's why the RTA has introduced a new licensing scheme, with more supervised driving practice for learner drivers.

To help parents in supervising learner drivers, the RTA has set up a FREE two hour workshop for parents that offers practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

A FREE RTA parents' workshop will be hosted by David Riches on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June at the Finley RS Club from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Early bookings are essential, so phone on 0438 215 323 now to reserve your place or email [parentworkshop@optusnet.com.au](mailto:parentworkshop@optusnet.com.au)

## **Hip Hop Dance Classes at the Tocumwal Memorial Hall**

\$11.00/Week – Lessons are to run during school terms on Tuesday nights, starting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May.

Lesson times and age groups:

4-7 years = 4:15 – 5:15pm	8-10 years = 5:15 – 6:15pm
11-12 years = 6:15 – 7:15pm	13-18 years = 7:15 – 8:15pm

All classes on 11<sup>th</sup> of May are free. Contact Lourine Taylor for further details on (03) 5874 2418.

This is a Youth for Youth initiative.