

# FINLEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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



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1<sup>st</sup> July 2010

## Better Ways To Receive And View The School Newsletter

Sometimes the newsletter gets 'lost' and doesn't make it home. Sometimes it gets squashed under the old banana and sandwiches. Want a better a better way to receive it!!

Problem solved

– you can view the newsletter on our website in full colour (see address above) or, we can email it to you – simply let Sarah Singleton at the school office (phone number and email address located above) know your email address and it will be there safe and secure.

### KEY DATES

#### July

- 1 P & C Meeting, 7:30pm in the school library
- 2 Last Day of Term
- 19 Staff Development Day
- 20 Students Return to School
- 21 Parent/Teacher Interview Sessions
- 23 State Combined High School Cross Country at Eastern Creek, Sydney
- 24 – 31 National Australian Rules in Perth
- 30 Riverina Athletics Carnival at Albury

#### August

- 3 ICAS English Competition
- 5 P & C Meeting, 7:30pm in the school library  
Australian Mathematics Competition
- 23 – 27 Trial HSC Exams

#### September

- 2 Exhibition Night, 7pm in the school hall  
P & C Meeting, 7:30pm in the school library
- 6 – 10 Year Eleven Exams

- 9 – 11 State Combined High Schools Athletics Carnival at Olympic Park, Sydney
- 20 Swan Cup Under 16 (TBC) in Blacktown
- 20 – 24 VET Work Placement  
Melbourne Show
- 23 Year Twelve Farewell  
Frank Kelly Shield
- 24 Last Day of Term Three

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### **Principal's Message**

Only a few more sleeps and we all get to have a well earned rest during the July holiday break. By the time this newsletter gets home all parents should have the mid year reports that will be handed out on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

### **School Reports**

A huge thank you to all of our staff and in particular to the year advisers, head teachers and Mrs McRae for the huge effort that goes into the writing and putting together of 500 plus reports. I urge all students and parents to read them very carefully. As a follow up we would also encourage as many as possible to take advantage of the opportunity to speak with staff at the Parent Teacher afternoon from 4pm to 6pm on the first Wednesday back at school –21<sup>st</sup> July.

### **Driver Education Program**

A huge thank you to Ellen Downey for the massive amount of work she put into the organisation of the Driver Education Program that was held last week for our Year Eleven students. I have heard nothing but the highest possible praise from students, parents and other staff members for the outstanding program that Ellen was able to put together. Our special thanks also to David Woodward for his very significant input into the program and his enthusiasm and support to make it all happen. Our hope is now that all the students who were involved took in the key messages from the day – that driving is a

privilege and that it is so easy for a bit of fun to become a tragedy. We really hope that we can continue this program as an annual event. Once again, a great big thank you to Ellen.

### **Berrigan Shire Careers Expo**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June was a busy day at Finley High School with a whole range of employers, businesses, a range of tertiary education providers as well as guest speakers, all available to work with our students in opening their eyes to the opportunities and options available to them in their lives after school.

We sincerely thank the Berrigan Shire for their continued support of this event and in particular special thanks to our Careers Advisers, Jacqui O'Bryan and Deb White, for their very significant hard work in making the whole program come together so well.

### **Regional Cross Country**

It is great to report that a significant number of our students have made it through to the state finals of Cross Country to be held at Eastern Creek in western Sydney early next term. Hopefully they all use the holidays to put in some hard yards in preparation for the big event. We will give full details as the time gets nearer.

### **Other Interesting Happenings'**

As usual there are lots of activities going on at Finley High School.

- This week we have a large number of our staff involved in training to use the many interactive whiteboards that we have across the school. It is envisaged that the number of these boards will be significantly increased by the start of next year.
- We had our show team involved in the recent Holbrook Sheep and Wool Fair and once again our students not only won many top prizes but were exemplary in their behaviour, approach and enthusiasm.
- This week we had a special Interested and Talented students Visual Arts Day run by Ms Brady that was once again a great success.

- Canada Day is shaping up to be a big event at the school with many staff preparing special lessons and lots of activities to help Ms Read celebrate her national day.

### Next Term

Term Three is a critical one for our Year Twelve students with their Trial HSC coming up mid term. Year Eleven also face their final exams towards the end of the term and students in Years Seven, Eight and Ten will be involved in selecting their courses of study for 2011. We encourage all students to have a good break over the next few weeks and come back ready for a solid ten weeks of hard work next term.

Bernie Roebuck  
Principal

### Parents of Year Twelve Students

All students in Year Twelve receive a Finley High School Careers Bulletin. This bulletin contains important information relating to Career opportunities and Tertiary pathways. Should you like to receive an electronic version of this newsletter for your own reference please email the careers staff at [deborah.l.white@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:deborah.l.white@det.nsw.edu.au) and we will forward the next available issue to you.

Mrs D White  
Careers Adviser

### Bendigo Beef National

Finley High School had another successful outing at the Beef National in May. We took six carcass animals and they received the following placings, 1st in the light domestic class with Toby, 3rd in the medium domestic class with Jaz, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the export class with Jaffa and 4<sup>th</sup> in the export class with Excalibur.

We did not receive any placings with our carcass animals on the hook this year.

Jaffa was our charity steer this year and at the auction he made \$2.60/kg which equated to \$1,279.20 for the McGrath Foundation. The lowest price that we received was \$2.00/kg for Toby and our next top price was \$2.19 for Gypsy.

We also took three of our stud cattle with us, Elite our 12 month old heifer, Leah our 22 month old heifer and Devil our 20 month old bull. Elite and Leah both placed 2nd in their respective classes and Devil was 4<sup>th</sup>. We had them entered in the group class and they placed third here. Elite went on to be Reserve Junior Champion Shorthorn Heifer, which we were thrilled with. Elite was also the Reserve Junior Champion at Canberra Royal this year.

Elite's sire is Marellan Gladiator and her dam is Grawenjobar Joanne 168<sup>th</sup> (affectionately known as Mildred). Elite has a full sister, Finley High School Fancy, on the ground. Fancy was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May weighing 46kg and at 5 weeks of age she has increased her weight to 101kg.



Above: Chelsee McCormack with Ellie, Alleisha Killick with Leah and Mallory Shaw with Devil.

On Thursday the students participated in Youth Day activities. Shawna Maxwell was placed first in her class, Charlotte Close was 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jeremy Robertson 4<sup>th</sup> and Ashleigh O'Leary 5<sup>th</sup>. Shawna went on to be the Intermediate Champion Parader. In the Open division Caitlin Marcus placed second, Adam Kent equal 3<sup>rd</sup> with Hannah Campbell. In the 13 -15 year age group of Junior Judging Jeremy Robertson and Nikki Williamson were in the top 7 and addressed the crowd on the reasons for their placings. In the Open division Mallory Shaw, Gaby Thompson and Chelsee McCormack finished in the top seven.

On Friday Gemma Chaplin, William Barnes and Christopher McAllister arrived in Bendigo. They came down to participate in the calf classic. We organised calves and Gemma dressed her calf as the martial arts calf, William had the McGrath Foundation calf and Christopher had the Blighty

Football Club calf. The kids did a fabulous job with their calves and answered all the questions that MC Peter Falls asked them. They helped out with the other animals and enjoyed the show atmosphere until they departed after lunch on the Saturday. Devil was offered for sale at the Beef National on Sunday. At the show Devil weighed 860kg, scanned at 10/8 for fat and had an Eye Muscle Area of 128cm<sup>2</sup>. Devil attracted fervent bidding at the Helmsmen auction and was eventually the highest priced selling bull making \$4200. His sire is Springwood Station Hercules and his dam is Nullamanna Edinburgs Gloria. Devil was purchased by Mr Tom Honey of Rochester.



Above: Hannah Campbell with Jaffa.

The students were sad to say good bye to Devil having raised him from birth and shown him since he was just one week old, however they are pleased that he has been sold to a good home.

Also on Sunday the Show put on a Junior Handlers competition in the 16 to 20 years group.

We are now busy getting in our carcass animals for the Melbourne Royal Show. We are working with Council to try and improve our feed pad area in an effort to make it more comfortable for the cattle and more robust in wet weather.

It has been great to see the recent rain and I know that it has put a spring in many peoples' step. It

certainly came at the right time for our oats crop which is looking fantastic.

Mrs R O'Leary  
Agriculture Teacher

### Girls Soccer – Round Two

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, the Finley Girls Soccer team travelled to Leeton to take on St Francis College in the second round of the Bill Turner Cup. The most outstanding attribute displayed was the teamwork and support from all the girls.



Above: Girls Soccer Team.

Our opposition displayed good skill and speed and were lucky enough to score first. We then fought back and eventually came away with a 3-1 win. The girls really deserved the soft-serve cones and the win.

I look forward to the next round - again!

Miss Downey  
Coach

### Riverina Cross Country

Finley High School was well represented at the Riverina Cross Country with twenty two students travelling to Albury on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of June to compete. The cool temperature and slightly damp conditions were perfect for the event. Finley High School students performed exceptionally well even though the organisers set a challenging course that contained hills! The first six place getters in each age



division win the right to represent Riverina in the State championships in Sydney on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July. Stacy Lang, Isabelle Carlon, Matt Osborn, Ian Congdon, Tina Lang, Blair Henery, Jye Holcombe, Aaron Morham and Melissa Maxwell have all qualified for the State competition, with Georgina McLeod, Nick Fenaughty and Ashleigh O’Leary as first emergency for their age groups. In a first for our school, a number of our students have qualified to be able to represent Finley High School as a team at the New South Wales Championships. Aaron Morham, Rhys Morham, Jye Holcombe, and Blair Henery in a Finley High School 15 years boys team. Ashleigh O’Leary, Chloe O’Bryan and Mollie Sexton in a Finley High School 13 years girls team.



Above: Aaron Morham and Blair Henery

The event ran like clockwork and it was a pleasure to support our students on the day. Their sportsmanship and behaviour was to be commended.

Mr M O’Leary

### Parent Teacher Interview Sessions

We hope that by now your son/daughter would have booked your interviews with their subject teachers. These interviews will be held in Week One of Term Two on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July. The time is 4pm to 6pm in the school hall. Light refreshments will be served by the SRC for a gold coin donation. Booking forms are still available from the school. Contact the front office.

### FADAMS Desserts

A huge thank you to the Year Eleven Hospitality students, Gaye Maxwell and teacher Lisa Higham for cooking 392 sticky date puddings with caramel sauce and 392 apple crumbles for four nights of the FADAMS productions. A mammoth task indeed, well executed.



Above: Michael Long and Hannah Campbell – Have we made enough?

### Year Eleven VET Subjects Industry/Business Workplacements

The majority of the forty five Year Eleven VET students will be out and about in our region this week, June 28 to July 2, working alongside talented mentors. We thank the industries and businesses who are accommodating our students for this important part of their learning. Students continuing on with their chosen VET course in Year Twelve will participate in another week at the end of Term Three.

### Thank You

Ms Lisa Higham has been a practicum teacher in the TAS faculty for the last ten weeks. Lisa became an integral part of our faculty and school activities over this time.

We thank Lisa for her dedicated efforts in her teaching of Years Seven and Eight Technology

Mandatory, Years Nine and Ten Food Technology and Year Eleven Hospitality. Lisa now awaits her first appointment as a TAS teacher in her own right. Good luck Lisa from all at Finley High School.



Above: Sarah Taylor and Libby Small with Berry Pancakes.



Above: Nick Lyons making Naan bread

Mrs M Rowe/Head Teacher TAS

### **Spelling Competition**

The school is running a spelling competition for all students from Years Seven to Ten. In the past, this has been run for stage 4 (Years Seven and Eight) but it has been extended this year. This term, each student has been issued with a spelling booklet. The stage 4 booklet is made up of words taken from the NAPLAN booklet issued to schools last year. This includes columns of simple, common, difficult and challenging words that students across the state are encouraged to learn. These words are included in the stage 5 (Years Nine and Ten) booklet, but each faculty has also added a list of words that students in this stage should know before completing Year Ten. It is compulsory for students to be involved in this at the class level. Every student is expected to improve their spelling. A written test will be held for each year level and this will be included as one of their assessment tasks. Each teacher is doing weekly class activities to help students become better spellers. A Spelling Bee will be held in each class to determine the best three spellers in each class. These students will represent their classes in the competition. This will be held in the hall, with all students from the relevant stage present to cheer on their class mates. Years Nine and Ten will have their event in the last fortnight of Term Three so that we have a winner before Year Ten students complete their School Certificate.

Years Seven and Eight will compete early in Term Four. Both dates will be confirmed early next term. These events are being sponsored by McNaught's Transport, so a special thank you is extended to John McNaught. Each class winner will receive \$10 and the overall winner in each stage will receive \$50. Second and third place getters will receive \$30 and \$20 respectively. The winners will also receive a trophy on presentation night.

All teachers would appreciate it if you encouraged your child/children to learn their words.

### **Public Speaking Competition**

Every student in Years Seven to Ten will be given a public speaking assessment task. They should receive these before the holidays so that they can begin working on them, if they have time, during the holidays. Year Ten's task is due Week Two, Thursday

29<sup>th</sup> July and all other years will be due in Week Three. There will be a night where the best will be heard by parents and other interested spectators. This was an outstanding success last year, so expect it to be well supported this year too. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase many of our extremely talented students. Your support is much appreciated.

### **Drama**

Last Thursday night our Year Nine and Ten Drama students were involved in a production that was supported and run by Outback Theatre. These students wrote and performed short plays. Members of the audience thoroughly enjoyed the night – much laughter was to be heard! Special thanks to Ms Wilde who also provided valuable support and organisation for this night to be a success. Congratulations to all involved.



Above (left to right): Rachelle Hustwayte, Shana Mackenzie, Alex Walker (Outback Theatre Co-ordinator), Cassia Chatzidimitriou, Brittany Kelly, Meg Carmichael and Stacie Morgan.

Mrs V McNaught  
English Head Teacher

### **Library News**

The Year Seven library classes have currently been learning about the 'your tutor' website which is easily accessed by logging in using your Berrigan Shire library card member number. This is an outstanding program provided by our Shire Library and is instant online homework help from subject experts. The online tutoring is available from Year Four right through to Year Twelve and includes

assistance with English, maths, biology, chemistry, physics, assignment research and study skills. Go to [www.yourtutor.com.au](http://www.yourtutor.com.au) for further information.

### **Visiting Author**

On Wednesday and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June, Paul Stafford, a published author who has written fourteen books, came to Finley High School to talk to the students. He talked to us about how to start writing and what to do to write a good story. He also told us about what we can turn a good narrative in to.

Paul Stafford told us a lot of useful information about writing narratives, from deciding on the genre to writing the plot and the actual story. We learned that a narrative doesn't have to turn into a book, it can be a film, a TV series, a play, a comic or graphic novel or even a video game. He told us that sometimes if you decide on one aspect of the story, more of the story will follow on from there. One example of this is if you decide on the setting, you will find the characters' traits, personalities and background stories.

I thought the talk was extremely interesting. I learnt more about writing narratives and how to start writing them. We even got to start writing our own story as a group, to see how easy it is to write a story if you do a few simple things. The talk with Paul Stafford was great and I really enjoyed learning from a published author.

By Chloe O'Bryan  
Year Seven

### **World Cup Competition**

For your chance to win a soccer ball don't forget to come to the library and enter our World Cup Competition! To enter just grab a form and list the last five winners of the Soccer World Cup and then say who you think will win it in 2010. You can enter up to 3 times and the competition closes at the end of this term. There are also a number of soccer magazines that are available for borrowing in the library.

Don't forget to come up and borrow some holiday reading before the end of term!



A. Begbie/K. Dempster  
Teacher Librarian

### Report By Elizabeth Griffin

For the past four weeks, various classes at Finley High School have been overtaken by myself, a Practicum teacher, Elizabeth Griffin (Ag/Science Teacher) from Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. I found myself spread across the school, teaching students from Year Seven through to Year Eleven. Working mainly with the staff from the Science/Agriculture Department, I have been able to gain a greater insight into the profession that is teaching. I have also discovered that staffrooms are places that evoke interest, thrive on conversations that can shed light on various topics, as well as being the place that class work is created. The students of this school have been patient while 'I learnt the ropes', discovered ways to manage a classroom and most importantly, teach the students themselves, and for that I sincerely thank you all.

I have found that meeting, teaching, working and living within the school community is one of the best ways to prepare for becoming a confident, competent and courageous educator for the years to come. I discovered the perks of the school show team, the value of the museum in a box, how well students are able to stretch the truth, and to expect the unexpected as you don't know what situation you might end up in. My advantages have led me to find that being nice to Mrs Wooster never goes astray, the students never know where they are going and that you should never take directions from students as they will only have you driving across town for no reason!

Filing cabinets have been searched, bookshelves sifted through and probing questions have been asked all in the name of gathering resources. The

time has come, to go back to university and share my experiences, to work on the feedback I have received and build upon strengthening my career.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all the staff and students here at Finley High School. I have thoroughly enjoyed my stay and will take all that I have gathered with me and build upon it, so that I can become a quality teacher. I have found this school to be an asset to any student's education and their self-development as a member of any society.

Many Thanks  
Elizabeth Griffin

### Thank You For Soup And Slices

Kaylene Dawe would like to thank everyone who provided soup or slices for the Careers Expo Day on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. We greatly appreciate your support.

## CANTEEN ROSTER

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

### July

19	Pupil Free Day
20	J Middlebrook, C Moloney
21	J Petzke, J Colwell
22	Lou Bryce, C Shaw
23	T Thompson, L Horne
26	B Agosta, A Lang
27	G Smith, N Curtin
28	D Dalglish, S Robertson
29	M McCaw, R Lockhart
30	T Clarke, J Congdon



## *Whole School Assessment Due Dates*

Year	Class	Assessment Task	Teacher	Due Date
Seven	French	Family Tree	Ms Neilan	30/07/10
Ten	All Maths classes	Maths Project	Mr Piggin Mrs Braybon Mr Oddie	20/08/10
Ten	10 PASS	PASS Coaching Assessment	Ms Read	06/08/10
Eleven	PDHPE	First Aid	Mr Tooke Ms Downey	Commences 21/04/10 (ongoing)

## *Community Announcements*

### **Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre**

Communities NSW, Sport and Recreation will be holding a **Sports Crazy Camp** for boys and girls aged between 9 to 14 years, during the second week of the July school holidays.

The camp is designed as an introductory skill development program to give children in Southern NSW the opportunity to improve their skills in a variety of sports with fully qualified and experienced coaches and instructors.

*Date:* Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010

*Venue:* Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre, located 25km east of Wagga Wagga on the Sturt Highway.

*Activities:* volleyball, soccer, wheelchair sports, touch football, croquet, archery, fencing and more.

### **SRYC Snow Camp**

SRYC Snow Camp is coming up on 6 – 8 August. For bus timetable and details contact Mrs Kathy Dempster or the front office for registration and information forms. Cost is \$170 for skier/snowboarders plus ski hire or \$140 for non skiers. Snow camp accommodation is in warm cabins at Wandiligong Holiday Village. Enjoy a day at Mt Hotham. Saturday evening speakers & band. Cost will include entry to Wandiligong Hedge Maze and a visit to the Beechworth Bakery on Sunday. Registration forms and payment can be posted or emailed to [sryc@bigpond.com](mailto:sryc@bigpond.com) with direct deposit receipt.

### **Jerilderie Shire Council 2010 Sir John Monash Education Bursary**

Jerilderie Shire students entering into tertiary education next year (2011) are invited to submit an essay on the subject of Sir John Monash's life and career for the opportunity to receive the Sir John Monash Education Bursary.

The bursary is worth \$1000 and is awarded to assist with the purchase of course books and/or essential equipment for tertiary studies. The successful applicant will be announced at the Sir John Monash Dinner on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

For further details or to obtain an application form please contact the Jerilderie Shire Council Office on (03) 5886 1200 or email [mail@jerilderie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@jerilderie.nsw.gov.au)