



Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Deputy Principal: Mr P Velikans

26th March 2015

KEY DATES

March

- 27-31** Preliminary Final Exams
30 Under 15's Boys and Girls Soccer
in Hay

April

- 1** Girls AFL Trials
Berrigan Shire Employment Expo
2 Youth Day
Last day of Term One

- 20** Staff Development Day
21 Students return to school

- 27-29** Year Ten Exams
30 Year Ten Careers Day Out at
Shepparton

May

- 4** Immunisations – Years Seven,
Eleven and Twelve boys and girls.
5 Open boys and girls football
7-8 Tertiary Tour
11 Athletics Carnival
12-15 NAPLAN
13 Parent Teacher Evening for
Senior Students.
19 Under 15 boys and girls AFL and
Swan Shield at Barham.
20 MADDD Night
21 Year Nine Charles Sturt University
Future Moves Workshop at Finley
High School.
29 Zone Athletics.

Principal's Report

As Term One draws to a rapid close, I feel that the year is flying by before our eyes. It is supposed to be a sign of getting old..... but when the students themselves are commenting that the term has flown by, it must be that we are all busy and engaged in learning each day that we are scarcely aware of the passing weeks.

District Lions Youth of the Year

I would like to extend big congratulations to Chloe O'Bryan who represented the zone at the district Lions Youth of the Year in Nathalia last Sunday. Chloe won the public speaking section of this event and we are very proud of her achievements.

State swimming

Best wishes to our Senior Relay teams who will compete at Sydney Olympic Park Swimming Centre on Friday in the State Relay finals. The girls team (Chloe O'Bryan, Ashleigh O'Leary, Rachael Barnes and Jorja Daniel) and the boys team (Ryan Twemlow, Michael McRae, Alex O'Leary and Tom Burns) will travel down to Sydney on Thursday to compete at 11 am on Friday. They will return home on Friday evening. Their dedication to travelling this far to compete in their one race is impressive. Thanks to Mr and Mrs O'Leary and Mr Paul Burns for driving them to this event. Good Luck!

College Exams

Year Eleven and Twelve students will be sitting for their final Preliminary exams on Friday this week and Monday and Tuesday next week. I am sure they will prepare themselves well as these are their last exams before they start their HSC courses. At the start of next term, all HSC courses will commence. It is essential that students complete all set tasks to the best of their ability. Any letters sent home must not be ignored as students will place their HSC in jeopardy if they do not work with "diligence and sustained effort" throughout their HSC courses.

Finley High School Cross Country

The cross country was held yesterday. All students participated with enthusiasm and motivation. Congratulations to all who participated. The age champions are:

	Boys	Girls
12 years	N/A	Nicola Denny
13 years	Nick Gray Ben Ashley-Cooper	Hayley Doohan
14 years	Jack Sexton Fraser Haintz	Kattarina White
15 years	Damon Bainbridge	Eloise Ashley-Cooper
16 years	Jake Maconachie	Courtney Sexton
17 years	Cameron Isedale	Alysha Knight
18 years	Jarrood Morham	Molly Sexton



Above: Emily Gustin, Kimberly Montgomery and Mikaila Ackers



Above: Shania Bentley, Kitty Lawton and Duncan Clarke



Above: Riley Dempster and Dan O'Bryan



Left: Students at the start of the course.



Above: Ben Ashley-Cooper and Nick Gray

Below: Students at the beginning of the course.



Above: First, Second and Third place getters of all age groups.

Year Twelve held a Barbeque after the run to raise funds for their gift to the school.

Bullying and social media

Several instances of bullying have been brought to my attention over the past weeks. Often an incident at school can be resolved simply through discussion and understanding of the feelings of others. Unfortunately, some of these incidences have been impacted by parents who have used social media to comment on individual students sometimes using abusive language. I encourage all parents to talk to their children about issues at school and if it is a case of bullying, come to the school and discuss it with the Year Adviser, the Deputy Principal or myself. If we work together, incidents of bullying can reduce. Social media is not the forum to resolve such issues.

School Holidays

School holidays commence next Friday (Good Friday). Students return to school on Tuesday 21st April. There is **no public holiday** for ANZAC day this year, but we would encourage as many of our students as possible to dress in full school uniform to march in their towns on ANZAC Day. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli and will be an even more meaningful event this year.

School Improvement Plan

Attached at the end of this newsletter is a draft of the Finley High School Improvement Plan 2015 – 2017. I encourage all parents and students to read it and send to me, via email or phone call, any feedback on it.

The plan was developed after consultation in each town with parents during Term Three last year. The SRC and staff were also asked about the strengths and possible areas for improvement in the school. From this data, this plan was developed to outline our purpose and direction for the next three years.

I would value any further input or comments from the school community.

The final Plan will be uploaded at the start of next term so would be grateful to hear any feedback before the end of term.

My email is helen.mcrae@det.nsw.edu.au

I thank you in advance for your support.

Helen McRae
Principal

VET Workplacement

The first round of Primary Industries and Hospitality workplacements for Year Eleven were completed last week. Students completed their placements in the local region (Finley, Berrigan, Tocumwal and Jerilderie) or in wider regions of the state (Wagga Wagga, Narooma and Albury).

For all students, the host employers provided work locations and the opportunity to experience valuable learning in their chosen subject area.

As Workplacement Service Provider, I co-ordinate Work Placements for VET courses at Finley High School for Murray Industry and Community Employment Partnership (MICEEP), a community based not for profit organisation. I have worked closely with Mr Gary Webb and Mrs Tessa McNamara and host employers to provide positive learning experiences for all students during their placements.

The support and personal and professional time provided by local host employers to VET students is always outstanding! My sincere thanks to all employers for your ongoing contribution to the education of local students.

If you would like further information on VET workplacements or MICEEP, please don't hesitate to contact me, Mrs Marg Bull, on 03 58983722 or mbull@miceep.com.au.

If you would like further information on the VET courses being offered at Finley High School, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Robyn O'Leary on 03 58831344.



Above: Ellie Heazlewood with Fleur Hutchinson at Amaroo Aged Care Hostel



Above: Tani Taylor with Joy Touhey from the Tea Pot Cafe



Above: Emily Dempster at the Blue Door Café



Above: Josh Barrett with Tammy Thornton at the Berrigan Bakehouse



Above: Zoe McCaw with David Jones at the Finley RS Club



Above: Emily Dempster with Rohan O'Neill at the Blue Door Cafe

Marg Bull
Workplace Service Provider, MICEEP

Loddon Prison Excursion

On the 17th of March our Legal Studies class went to Loddon Prison in Castlemaine. We listened to four prison inmates and students asked them questions about what happened and what their lives are like. The prison guard also told us the rules and regulations within the prison and what the average day of an inmate is. The majority of the prisoners were under the influence of drugs or alcohol when they committed their crimes.

We were separated into groups where the prisoners spoke in greater detail about their stories. They provided us an insight into their lives prior to prison and their plans for after prison. They also provided advice on keeping out of trouble and not making the same mistakes as them. Although we did not tour the prison we got shown images of the different faculties within the prison; such as basketball courts, sacred gardens and library, we also saw a loss of privileges cell and the observation cell.

We were able to ask the prisoners questions about their life experiences, which allowed us to understand how they ended up in prison. Their stories were interesting and showed us the affects drugs and alcohol can have in our society. A 26 year old offender was charged with culpable driving resulting in death. His blood alcohol level was 0.16 and the victim was found with ecstasy in his blood and an alcohol reading. The accused was sentenced to "5 years on bottom and 7 on top" which means 5 years non-parole and 2 years parole depending on his behaviour in prison. He will return to the real world in 2018; we found this particular story quite interesting. We found out about the different programs they have in prison to try to educate and inform prisoners of making better choices. Overall it was an interesting experience and we look forward to utilising this information when we study Crime in our HSC.



Students L-R: Mitch Gustin, Harrison Curtin, Chelsea McDonald, Levi Middleton, Tylan Sharp, Warren Pitt, Alysha Knight, Amy Jones, Chelsea Dempster, Bronte Russell, Tayla Cicolini, Ethan Mills, Jemma Lostroh, Ryan Twemlow; Front: Caitlin Bourke and Isabella Westwood.

Miss Brittany Scott
Legal Studies Teacher

Berrigan Shire Youth Futures Employment Expo

On Wednesday 1st April Finley High School, in conjunction with the Berrigan Shire Council, will be hosting the Annual Berrigan Shire Youth Futures Employment and Careers Expo.

Students in Years Eleven and Twelve are all invited to participate. On the day students will attend roll call and period 1. At 9:45 am they will meet Careers staff at the Assembly Dias for a quick briefing. Students will then walk to the Finley Recreation Reserve for the day's activities.

The purpose of the day is to encourage and stimulate young people living in our local area to consider training, living, earning and investing in our local area. It also serves to provide a positive link between young people and local employers. Students will get the opportunity to interact and engage both formally and informally with people who have a regional working or business career.

The program for the day will involve both small group and large group sessions, where students will move between presenters. Topics covered will include things like

- Local success stories
- Understanding the pitfalls of buying a car including running costs and loan information and much more
- Employability expectations from dress through to behavior, language and social representation

- Real Estate information from becoming a tenant through to responsibilities, rights, leasing issues and setting up house
- Local Apprenticeship provider information
- Social media including how what is posted now can affect later careers – ***if your student has a mobile phone, with your permission we encourage them to bring them along to this session***
- Price is Right Game Show on budgeting – ***prizes large and small up for grabs in this sessions***

Students will be provided with a **free** morning tea (biscuits/slices) and lunch (salad rolls with fruit) at the Recreation Reserve. During the lunch break students will also have the opportunity to participate in a workshop on local apprenticeships.

Students will be required to **dress appropriately** for the day under the theme of “**Dressing for a Career of Interest**”. This should see all students attend the day in clothing that represents how they would dress for an appropriate career that is of interest to them.

Should you wish to discuss any matters relating to the Berrigan Shire Employment Expo please feel free to contact the Finley High School Careers Staff. As this EXPO will replace normal class room activities for the day please encourage your child to attend this compulsory and very worthwhile and informative activity.

NAPLAN 2015

NAPLAN exams are once again upon us. They will be held from the 12th May to the 14th May inclusive for Years Seven and Nine. A catch up day will be held on Friday 15th May for students who were absent during any of the exams. All students in Years Seven and Nine are expected to participate in these exams.

We recognise that some students may require special provisions to access the material in the examinations. These special provisions may include extra time, exams printed on coloured paper or quieter space with fewer distractions for the exams. If you think that your child requires any of these special provisions, please fill out the attached permission note for disability adjustments for the NAPLAN exam. Please indicate the reason(s) for the special provisions on the sheet and return to the Pay Office by the end of term. Extra permission notes will be kept at the Pay Office. If no permission note is received, then no adjustments can be made. Exemption notes are also at the Pay Office.

Students are also reminded that no sharing of calculators is permitted during the exams. Board approved calculators can be purchased from the school pay office for \$22.

Ms W Coates
NAPLAN Co-ordinator

Forensics Day

On the 16th of March Year Six students from local primary schools attended a display of forensic science at Finley High School. Students from Blighty, Berrigan, Jerilderie, Tocumwal and Finley were treated to “A Case of Identity”, a show that highlighted the use of forensic science to solve an actual police case. Throughout the activity the Year Six students were assisted by students from the Year Nine advanced science class of Finley High School. After this performance the Year Six students were guided through several activities by students from Year Nine who expertly lead them through exercises to take finger prints and identify several white powders. It was a great day for all involved and I must commend the group of students from Year Nine for the mature and enthusiastic way that they approached the day and guided the Year Six students through their activities.



Above: Students participating in the Forensic Science Day.

Mr Daryl Bird
Science Teacher

Combined High Schools Tennis at Barham

Monday, 23rd March, twelve students ranging from Year Eight to Twelve travelled to Barham to play in the Combined High Schools Open Tennis Knockout. The enthusiasm of the students was high and promised much in their attitude on the day. The two boys teams encountered very tough opposition in their first round matchups, facing both finalists from the 2014 meet. Despite their best efforts, both sides went down against quality players. Our senior players, Harrison Curtin and Joe Catena, performed the best from our two sides.

Unfortunately the girls also drew and played against some serious opposition. Again, it was Molly Sexton, our senior competitor, who earned the most impressive results.

All students displayed exemplary behaviour and sportsmanship throughout their matches, which has always been the trend for our tennis players at Finley High School.

Thanks go to Terri-Lea Anderson, Tanya Clarke and Di Sexton for providing transport and support throughout the day. We again look forward to next year.



Above (standing) L- R: Molly Sexton, Joe Catena, Jack Sexton, Lauren Clarke, Fraser Taig, Damon Anderson, Rosie Archer and Courtney Sexton.

Above (kneeling) L-R: Harrison Curtin, James Bramley, Luke Bramley, and Duncan Clarke.

Mr John Lethbridge
Tennis Co-ordinator

Sam Ludeman Visit

Forty students were treated to a motivating and entertaining presentation on Monday from Sam Ludeman, a musician and performer who has recently been on 'The Voice' and 'Grease' the stage musical. Sam talked about his pathway from school to the entertainment industry and also performed some examples of his work. Thank you to Sam and his mum, Jane Hill, for organising this most enlightening visit.



Year Seven French Assessment Task 1

For all Year Seven students Due Date: Week 8 (last week)

This task is now overdue for all Year Seven classes and needs to be handed in to Mr O'Donnell as soon as possible. Two marks are deducted for each day late.

Helpers Needed

The P&C is catering for the Finley Cricket Club Presentation Dinner at the clubrooms on Saturday 28th March. We will require helpers on the night, also donation of slices would be appreciated. If any parents can assist please contact Suzanne Robertson on: 0358859229 or 0417405107

CANTEEN ROSTER

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

March

27 C Moloney

30 D Jewell

31 R Lockhart

April

1 V Bryce

2 G Smith

20 Pupil Free Day

21 H Harris, T Simpson

22 J Chellew

23 S Robertson

24 K Litchfield, S Congram

Finley High School

P&C

Wednesday 13th May 2015
7pm in the staff common room.

The P&C meet every second
Wednesday of the month.
Everyone is welcome to attend.



The SpACE

Specialising in Achieving, Connecting and Excelling

Dear parents/caregivers,

Finley High School is establishing a learning environment, The SpACE, to allow students to be positively supported in their learning. The SpACE will provide students with teacher-led support to complete assessment and in-class tasks, development of organisational and study skills, alongside extension and enrichment tasks.

The SpACE is available to ALL students at Finley High School and will cater to the diverse learning needs and styles within our school community.

Students will be referred by classroom teachers, Year Advisors and can also request, with teacher support, time in the SpACE themselves.

Students will be withdrawn from the specific subject that requires assistance to attend the SpACE.

If you DO NOT want your child withdrawn from class to attend the SpACE please return the slip below.

Please feel free to contact Anne Braybon or Amanda Street for further information on how the SpACE can assist your child.

Many thanks,

Anne Braybon & Amanda Street

03 5883 1344

I DO NOT give my child permission to be withdrawn from class to attend the SpACE.

Child's name: _____

Year: _____

Parent/caregiver's signature: _____

Date: _____

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

TUESDAY 12 MAY	WEDNESDAY 13 MAY	THURSDAY 14 MAY
Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) Writing	Reading	Numeracy

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

PARENT/CARER CONSENT FOR DISABILITY ADJUSTMENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The tests will be conducted across Australia on the same days for all students.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement and will be able to compare their child's performance against the national minimum standard.

A student with a significant intellectual and/or functional disability may be exempt. However, all other students are expected to participate in NAPLAN and disability adjustments may be made to support individual students. Adjustments to testing conditions should reflect the normal support the student receives in the classroom. Parents should discuss the adjustments that can be accessed by their child with the child's teacher and the principal. Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students registered with the NSW DEC, NSW CEC or NSW AIS as vision-impaired.

The completed parent-carer consent form for access to disability adjustments must be lodged with the school principal by **1 May 2015**.

I have discussed my child's participation in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2015 with the school principal and understand that _____
(name of child) in Year _____ is entitled to receive disability adjustments for the following tests:

Principal please tick (✓)

Language Conventions test	<input type="checkbox"/>	Writing test	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading test	<input type="checkbox"/>	Numeracy test	<input type="checkbox"/>

These disability adjustments include:

Principal please tick (✓)

Extra Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rest breaks	<input type="checkbox"/>	Support person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scribe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oral/sign support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Print	<input type="checkbox"/>	Braille	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coloured paper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electronic test	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer / assistive technology	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Principal's signature _____

Parent/carers signature _____ Date: ___ / ___ / 2015

Community Announcements

Finley Farmers' Market

Come one, come all to Finley Farmers' Market for the Easter Egg Scramble at Finley Lake.... at 10am Saturday 4th April.

Jerilderie Arts and Talents Society Inc

Jerilderie Arts and Talents Society Inc is seeking out all talented people to come and join our variety showcase evening in Jerilderie on the 2nd of May 2015. We are looking for singers, dancers, actors, comedians, people who play musical instruments, individuals, duets and groups; any talents any age you do not have to be professional just come and give it a go.... If you have any questions or would like more information please contact me as follows. Kylie Pitt 0400 319 084 or charmingkylie@gmail.com

Free National Youth Week Event

Rumble in the Gums is a FREE event to be held in National Youth Week on Saturday 11th April, 2015. The event will be held at Federation Park (Cobram Skate Park) in Cobram from 11am to 5pm. The day will feature a number of great attractions to cater for all ages including; live music featuring young local talent, kids rides, face painting, petting zoo, mechanical bull ride, skate workshop, street art demo, market stalls and food stalls. Come along to this fun and affordable day out and celebrate the young people in our communities. For more information on this event just search 'Rumble in the Gums' online and be listening to STARFM leading up to the event.

Emily Gough
Cobram Youth Foundation

Hearing Tests

Shane Atkinson, Nurse Audiometrist, will attend Finley Community Health Centre on Tuesday 7th April 2015 and Tuesday 5th May 2015.

Please call Tocumwal Hospital on 03 58 742 166 to make an appointment.

Children must be free of cold at time of test and at least 6 weeks following a cold. If you have any queries please call Tocumwal Hospital and leave a message for Nurse Audiometrist.

Epilepsy Awareness Seminar

Epilepsy Awareness Webinar

Tuesday 31st March – 5.30pm

Come along to this FREE session and learn more about this condition, have your questions answered by the experts.

- What is epilepsy?
- Diagnosis and treatment
- How to recognise different seizure types
- Safety and first aid
- Behaviour and seizure triggers.

Presented by: **Epilepsy Action Australia**
Nurse Educator

Where: **Finley Bowling Club**
Murray Street
FINLEY

RSVP: Fran.Hatty@gsahs.health.nsw.gov.au

