



Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Acting Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

23rd April 2015

KEY DATES

April

- 27-29** Year Ten Exams
29 Parent Teacher Evening 4pm to 7pm in the School Hall
30 Year Ten Careers Day Out at Shepparton

May

- 4** Immunisations – Year Seven.
5 Open boys and girls football
7-8 Year Twelve Tertiary Tour
11 Athletics Carnival
12-15 NAPLAN
19 Under 15 boys and girls AFL and Swan Shield at Barham.
20 MADD Night
21 Year Nine Charles Sturt University Future Moves Workshop at Finley High School.
29 Zone Athletics.

June

- 3** ICAS Science Competition
4 Under 15's Basketball in Deniliquin.
8 Queen's Birthday
9-10 HSC Mid-Course HSC Exams
12 Riverina Cross Country
15-19 Year Ten Work Experience

Principal's Report

Welcome back to Term 2, 2015

It was with a heavy heart that the staff returned to school having been touched by the death of Stephanie Scott; a much loved English teacher from Leeton High School. She was killed while doing what many of us do, spending her own time at school, preparing lessons to be left so that her students could continue to learn in her absence.

Staff at Finley High and many other schools around the state, sent their support to the school and community of Leeton. Teachers at Finley High School pitched in to send morning tea to the staff and counsellors who were at the school on Tuesday when the students returned, to show our concern and support. This was sent on behalf of the staff and students at Finley High School. Let us pray that such an atrocious event will never happen again.

Staff Development Day

Term Two has begun with gusto. We had a productive staff development day on Monday. Work, Health and Safety was high on the agenda following the events of the holidays. The final draft of the school improvement plan was discussed as well as the changes to technology that have taken place in the school over Term One.

Mrs McNaught spoke to staff about electronic roll marking which will commence in Week Two, Anne Braybon and Emma Eldridge inducted the staff on the new study skills program to be introduced to the senior students this term and Tricia Jackson in-serviced the teachers on ALARM – a matrix that can be used to assist students in writing extended responses in assessments and exams. Staff then had time to prepare lessons to be completely organised for Tuesday's lessons.

Staff Changes

We have had three staff changes since Term One. Mr Velikans has returned to Billabong High School and Tricia Jackson has agreed to return to the role of acting Deputy Principal for the rest of the year. I thank her for agreeing to do this as the role of the Deputy Principal is a demanding, yet critical, role in the school. We are fortunate to have Tricia willing to step in and continue to do the job as she has done so well in the past. Mr Crapp will cover Mrs Jackson's classes for this term.

We also welcome to the Finley High School team, Mr Tom McCarney. Tom is from Newcastle and is the permanent replacement for Miss Heath who left at the end of 2014. I would like to thank Mr Maxwell who has done a terrific job filling in while we were waiting for a permanent appointment.

Mrs Amanda Street will continue to replace Miss Turner in the TAS faculty for the rest of the year.

School Improvement Plan

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the three year improvement plan for Finley High School. As you know we have been working on this for some time now and it is finally completed. It will be uploaded to the school website this week, along with the Annual School Report for 2014. I would encourage you all to read these documents, and feel free to contact me if there is anything you wish to discuss.

The SpACE_(Specialising in Achieving, Connecting and Excelling)

Anne Braybon and Emma Eldridge are busily working to establish the SpACE in the library. The SpACE will be situated upstairs in the mezzanine area of the library. Teachers and parents can refer students to the SpACE to assist with assignment work, organisation and study skill development. Students can also self-refer. The SpACE will be open from Monday to Thursday. Please contact Anne, Emma or myself if you have any questions.

Study Skills

Anne and Emma have also put together a "Study Skills" package for all students in Years Eleven and Twelve. Senior students will no longer be doing sport on Wednesdays, but will have study periods instead. During each study period, students will be asked to complete a short activity on the many different ways to study effectively. Guided by their teacher, these activities should take about 15 minutes but should provide helpful advice into how to prepare effectively for exams, assessment and learning activities. An online component will also be available which students can access at home. This resource was purchased for 2015 by the school and can be accessed by all students in any year at any time by logging onto:

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au

username: finleyhs

password: 54success

Overseas Emersion Tours

During the holidays, two groups of senior students went to underdeveloped countries to learn about their culture and assist where they could in local communities.

Chelsea and Emily Dempster went to Rwanda as part of a Hope Global project. They were selected for the trip from many students across Australia. They experienced life in a desperately poor country travelling to remote areas of the country and working with children; leading activities about health, hygiene and creativity.

A group of eight Year Twelve students also travelled to Timor-Leste under the guidance and leadership of Yasmine McGrath, Darren Sharp and Gaye Maxwell. They were billeted with local families and spoke the local language in order to communicate. They worked with children and with the sick. They all agree it was a life changing experience with some declaring they will return when they are older as a volunteer aide worker.

These students will report to the school on their adventures on Harmony Day, later this term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Yasmine, Darren and Gaye for organising this experience and accompanying these young adults on this journey.



Above back L-R: Daniel Montgomery, Keegan Murphy-Riddell, Jonathan Rowe, Darren Sharp.

Front L-R: Gaye Maxwell, Chloe O’Bryan, Isabella Westwood and Le Shai Morris.

Below: Relaxing at a swimming hole L-R: Yasmin McGrath, Isabella Westwood, Tayla Cicolini, Le Shai Morris, Jonathan Rowe, Keegan Murphy-Riddell, Daniel Montgomery, Georgina Mohr-Clarke, Chloe O’Bryan, Maxine Harris and Gaye Maxwell.





Above: Traditional house in the Lautern district.



Above: Jonathan Rowe, Isabelle Westwood and Chloe O'Bryan Katupa making.



Left: Group photo at Tutuala

Remember the ANZACS on Saturday

This Saturday marks the 100th Anniversary of the landing of the ANZACS at Gallipoli. Four of our students have travelled to Canberra to take part in a ceremony to mark the contribution that our indigenous soldiers made to the war. They are Natalie and Warren Pitt, Samantha Cook and Emma Campbell.

I encourage as many of our students and teachers as possible to participate in the march on Saturday in their own towns, to show their respect for those who have fought and died to ensure Australia is a safe place to live. I ask that students marching wear their winter uniform as the weather forecast for Saturday is showers and a maximum temperature of 16 degrees.

Helen McRae
Principal

Finley High School Athletics Carnival

Finley High School Athletics Carnival will be held on Monday 11th May (Week Four). This is a compulsory school day. Students can come dressed in house colours. Bucket hats, in house colours, can be purchased from the school canteen for \$15.

Updating Student Details

If your contact details have changed due to moving or your street name changing please contact the school to update these details. It is important that we have up to date contact details, should we need to contact you urgently or send you letters.

Years Seven to Twelve Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interviews for all Years will be held next Wednesday 29th April. Letters requesting an interview will be sent out this week. These are at the request of your child's teachers or Mrs McRae.

We encourage all parents to be involved in their child's learning and attending these sessions is an excellent way of discovering how you can assist them in their education.

Craig O'Donnell

Finley High School representing the region

Finley High School swimmers represented the region at the State swimming Championships in Sydney on the 27th of March. We had two teams in the 4 by 50m freestyle race. Our senior boys and senior girls both travelled to Sydney to compete in this prestigious event. It was the culmination of a full seasons training and was a credit to the dedication of the swimmers, their coaches, the Finley Amateur Swimming Club and the parents of the swimmers. Both teams swam well and lifted their personal best times, pushed by the extremely high standard of the competition. Emotions were running high as it was the last time most of the team would have the opportunity to represent the school and the region at state finals, as they are in their final year of School. The team would like to thank all those who supported them over the year and helped them to achieve State finals. A special thanks goes to the Berrigan Shire Council and the Finley Amateur Swimming Club who assisted with the costs of attending the biggest event on our swimming calendar.



Above: Jorja Daniel, Chloe O'Bryan, Rachael Barnes and Ashleigh O'Leary.



Above (back): Alex O'Leary. (Centre L-R) Rachael Barnes, Chloe O'Bryan and Ashleigh O'Leary. (Front L-R) Jorja Daniel, Michael McRae, Ryan Twemlow and Tom Burns.



Above L-R: Ryan Twemlow, Michael McRae, Alex O'Leary and Tom Burns.

Special Provisions Year Ten

Any parent that considers their child eligible for special provisions, such as extra time, separate supervision, reader or coloured paper, for Year Ten half yearly exams should contact the school. This is to allow provisions to be put into place for both the half yearly and yearly exams. The provisions sought should reflect the kind of provisions that may be accessed during preliminary and HSC years.

NAPLAN 2015

The time for NAPLAN exams is fast approaching. Parents are reminded that a calculator is required for the numeracy exam. No sharing or borrowing of calculators will be permitted. Calculators can be purchased from the school for \$22.

Any parent/ guardian receiving a special provisions permission slip for their child should return these by the 1st May 2015. If the note is not forthcoming no special provisions will be provided for. Provisions may include extra time, separate supervision and coloured paper. Permission notes are available from the front office or attached to this newsletter.

Ms W Coates
NAPLAN Co-ordinator

Career News

The Bert Evans Apprentice Scholarships and Country Apprentice Scholarships

These scholarships are now open for nominations until 30th May 2015. A total of fifty scholarships are available.

Updated eligibility criteria apply to include apprentices working in a skills shortage area and experiencing hardship in both metropolitan and regional areas.

Scholarships are open to apprentices who meet the eligibility criteria and are in the first year of their apprenticeship contract.

Scholarship recipients will receive \$5,000 per year up to year 3 of their apprenticeship contract.

These Scholarships are open to **school based apprentices**. For more information Google Bert Evans Apprentice Scholarships.

Mrs D White
Careers Adviser

From the Chaplain

Another busy term has started for the Finley High School Scripture programs. It has been a very positive start to the year with lots of exciting things happening. At the high school, scripture is taught once a fortnight to Years Seven and Eight in their technology classes.

The aim of scripture at Finley High School is to encourage students to think about spiritual matters in a safe, caring and non-judgmental environment. Even though it is taught from a Christian perspective, you do not have to subscribe to a particular religion or even have any spiritual beliefs to be able to attend scripture. Everyone is welcome and it is great to discuss the different opinions and beliefs of everyone in these classes.

We are currently studying the NARNIA films by CS Lewis in Year Seven. This is done in order to introduce students to the idea of Jesus and the Easter message of Salvation and forgiveness of sins. Students will study this film within the context of the death and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Bible.

Year Eight students are currently looking at the topic of relationships. The idea of this topic is to explore our creator God and his plans for us to relate to each other as told in the Bible. Topics include trusting others, actions and consequences, the role of the family and trusting in God as a friend. The students are doing some great work in all these classes and exploring more about themselves and what they believe every lesson.

If anyone wants some further information about Scripture at Finley High School then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school. I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Regards

Mr Josh Renn
School Chaplain

Immunisations for Year Eleven and Twelve Students

Thank you to parents who returned immunisation cards for Measles, Mumps and Rubella. Following checking all cards, no immunisation is required as children have already received two doses.

Lynda Campbell
Immunisation Co-ordinator
Finley Community Health

CANTEEN ROSTER

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

April

- 24 K Arnold, S Congram
27 M Read, D Jewell
28 C Girdwood
29 N Curtin
30 T Roe

May

- 1 M Haintz, K Barry
4 H Mortlock, L Whiley
5 R Lockhart
6 D Dalgliesh
7 R Rowe

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.

Stewart House Donation Drive 2015

If you would like to donate money towards the Stewart House Donation Drive 2015 please complete the slip provided and bring it and your donation in to the Pay Office. All donations are greatly appreciated.

**WIN A \$4,000 HOLIDAY
to a destination
of your choice**



NSW Public Education's
Charity of Choice

Stewart House Donation Drive 2015

Your donation supports the 1,800 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW and the ACT.

Please place a \$2 coin or equivalent in this envelope, complete entry details on the back and return to your school or workplace co-ordinator to be eligible for the draw.

Submit your entry on Stewart House Day 8th May 2015

ALL ENTRIES MUST REACH STEWART HOUSE BY

Friday 22nd May 2015

to participate in the draw



NSW TEACHERS FEDERATION



Education &
Communities



Teachers
Mutual Bank
We put you first

The draw will take place at Stewart House on 22nd May 2015, so make sure you return your envelope to your school or workplace on STEWART HOUSE DAY, FRIDAY 8th MAY 2015.

The winner will be notified by telephone and mail.

Further information including full terms and conditions are available on www.stewarthouse.org.au or by contacting Stewart House on (02) 9938 3021.

ENTRY DETAILS:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Phone: _____

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 Writing test
Reading test Numeracy test

These disability adjustments include:

Principal please tick (✓)

Extra Time Rest breaks Support person Scribe
Oral/sign support Reader Large Print Braille
Coloured paper Electronic test Computer / assistive technology

Principal's signature _____

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

2015

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC

WALK OR RUN FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW YOU WALK OR RUN.
IT JUST MATTERS WHY.



4km walk/run & 8km run | \$20 adult, \$10 senior/child, \$50 family
TOCUMWAL - 10AM START | SUNDAY 10 MAY
Register online by Wed 6 May or on event day

mothersdayclassic.com.au



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Four Creeks Festivities for 2015

Friday 22nd May to Sunday 24th May. Come along for the Bush dance Friday night with the Bushwackers leading the feet on the floor, stroll the markets lakeside Saturday, squint at the sheen off the cars gleaming in the show and shine, and sip a cuppa whilst enjoying the High Tea and relaxed reading to top off a great 24 hours in Jerilderie. For more details visit www.fourcreeksfestival.com/event/2015-four-creeks-festival/?instance_id

Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops for Learner Driver Parents in Tocumwal and Jerilderie

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

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

FREE parents' workshops will be conducted by David Riches at:

Jerilderie: Wednesday 6th May at the Monash Room (behind the library) from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Tocumwal: Thursday 7th May at Tocumwal Primary School from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Early bookings are essential, by phoning David on 0434 964 764 now to reserve your place, or email saflearnerdrivers@gmail.com