



Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Acting Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

30th July, 2015

KEY DATES

July

31 Riverina Athletics

August

5 Year Twelve Study and
Information Night
Parent Teacher Night – all years

21 HSC Trial Exams

24-25 HSC Trial Exams

24 Year Seven Immunisation

September

2 Senior Social

3 Years Nine and Ten Future Moves
Campus Visit

17 Year Twelve Formal Assembly
Year Twelve Graduation Dinner

18 Last day of Term Three

October

5 Labour Day

6 School resumes

12 HSC Exams commence

25-31 Year Ten Excursion

November

2-6 Year Ten Work Experience

4 HSC Exams conclude

Principal's Report

Education Week

This week marks Education Week across NSW public schools. It is a time to reflect and celebrate on the fantastic things that happen every day in NSW schools to support our young people to grow into positive and responsible young adults who are prepared to be able to contribute to the future of our communities.

This year the theme is Local Heroes. This is a time to remember all the contributions that local people make to Finley High School to guarantee it is the best possible school to educate the children of our community.

While we have many, many local heroes, I have singled out two very special people in our school who are true local heroes: Bernadette Brooks and Kaylene Dawe – our fabulous canteen ladies.

Bernadette and Kaylene spend many hours supporting our school, not only in servicing the canteen, but also in supporting fundraising ventures of students and the P&C. They are the first to volunteer their time and assistance when and where it is needed. From helping Year 12 with fundraising, supporting Year 12 by providing breakfast on their last day at school, to assisting with brekky club, FADAMS, raffles and other P&C catering ventures, Kaylene and Bernadette are always there.

At Tuesday's assembly, I presented Kaylene and Bernadette with their certificates of appreciation for being our local heroes. The student body were enthusiastic in showing their thanks and appreciation.

We are very lucky to have these very special local heroes. Thank you both.

Education Week Celebrations

Yesterday, Finley High School played host to over 40 student leaders and their Principals from surrounding schools at an Education Week Luncheon.

Catered for by Mrs Maxwell, Ms Brain and Ms Street and the Year 10 Food Technology class, visitors enjoyed a delicious sit down, two course meal. Ms Kempton (Director Public Schools) led the students on some leadership activities before lunch where students worked as a team to construct a tower out of spaghetti and sticky tape.

After lunch, Ms Kempton gave a presentation about her trip to Gallipoli earlier this year on the 100th anniversary of the landing of our ANZACS. This was a very moving presentation about some of Australia's best loved and remembered local heroes. Her speech inspired those listening to find their local heroes and thank them. This is a message from which we could all learn.



Finley High School Captains (L-R) Chloe O'Bryan, Chelsea McDonald and Michael McRae with Coleambally School Captains.

Senior Curriculum 2016

Thank you to the parents, students and staff who came to the school last Monday evening to listen to the reasons why we recommend that the Senior Curriculum be taught under the more traditional model of 6 subjects each year for two years.

I particularly want to thank the parents who spoke so highly of the school and its dedicated teachers. We were humbled by the level of faith and trust that the parent body places in the school and we will do our very best to make sure we have some positive change in the culture and operation of the school.

On behalf of the staff, I thank the parents who came for their endorsement. We will always work in the best interests of our students.

Subject Selections

Year 10 and Year 11 are currently carefully studying their prospectus to choose the subjects they wish to study in 2016. Year 11 will choose 6 subjects they wish to study in each of the two remaining years of high school. Year 12 will choose 3 subjects to complete their studies under the compressed curriculum model. Students in Years 11 and 12 should return their selection sheets to Mr Whitty ASAP.

Remember: not all subjects will run and some you may wish to study may be on the same line. Have some back up subjects in mind.

Subject Contributions

This is another reminder that subject contributions are due. We will not be able to sustain classes in some of the most popular subject areas unless subject fees are paid. It is vital that all students pay for the consumables they use in practical lessons especially Technology, Food Tech, Hospitality, Wood, Metal and Silver. The cost of resources each year is not covered by the school alone. Please remind yourself to pay these subject contributions for your students ASAP.

Attendance

Lack of attendance at school is becoming a major issue. Students are being given permission to miss school for all sorts of reasons. Like employees at work, students can only legally miss school if they are sick or must take leave to attend an appointment or engagement which cannot be done at an out of school time. Taking a day off school to go shopping, get a haircut, working or celebrating a birthday are not satisfactory reasons for not attending school. If your child tells you that they don't have to go to school on a certain day, please ring me at school to find out why; it is probably not true! Any variation to school that takes up a whole day of learning, is very rare and we will notify you by note if the students should not attend. Teenagers have been known to exaggerate to get what they want. I am sure most parents remember being a teenager once!

ALARM

This week, nine teachers travelled to Albury to attend a workshop on ALARM (A Learning and Response Matrix). This is a process that students in other schools have found useful in writing extended responses. Mrs Jackson will lead a team to look at introducing this gradually across the school as a tool to boost the writing skills of our students. This will be one of our focus areas over the coming year at Finley High School.

Temora visit

Yesterday, a team of teachers and the Principal from Temora High School visited Finley High School to investigate the FHS Agricultural facilities. They were impressed with the school as a whole, but in particular were amazed at the resources the school had developed in the Ag. Farm. They were glowing in their praise of Robyn O'Leary and her team and the facility she has established. They also commented on the "good feel" to the school with the student uniform and behaviour in the playground. It is wonderful to receive positive feedback from visitors to our school.

The Principal also spoke about a program operating at Temora High School which gives students in Year 11 and 12 the responsibility and accountability for their learning. Students are engaged in their own study time at school in which they plan for and complete tasks in a time frame. They discuss their progress and time management with a supervisor and may seek assistance from teachers available to assist. They have found

that the students are self-motivated and successful in their HSC and beyond. It is anticipated that we will send a team back to Temora to see how it operates with a view to possibly developing a similar program here.

Helen McRae

Principal

Years Seven to Twelve Parent Teacher Interview

Parent Teacher interviews for all Years will be held next Wednesday 5th August 4pm to 7pm in the school hall. Students have been given their booking sheets.

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

Craig O'Donnell

Parent Teacher Interviews

One of the most important opportunities you get as a parent happens when you have a meeting with your child's teacher(s). This meeting provides an ideal opportunity for a number of things:

- You can hear directly from the teacher about your child's progress
- You can ask questions about anything related to your child's learning
- You can share concerns you may have about your child's learning
- You can develop a shared understanding with your child's teacher(s) about your expectations and efforts with their study routines and learning behaviours and what this means for their behaviour in class at school.

Following is a list of aspects that you could raise with your child's teacher(s):

Participation

- Level of participation in class discussion/Q&A
- Level of attentiveness in class
- Is participation constructive and positive?

Working with others

- Extent of contribution to group activities
- Does my child respect the views of others?
- Is my child helpful toward others?

Discipline

- Does my child show high regard for rules and key principles?

- Is homework always done?
- Are assignments completed properly?
- Does my child always bring the correct equipment and resources needed for each lesson?

Independence

- Does my child persist with difficult tasks by reviewing previous work first before seeking help from the teacher or classmates?
- Extent to which planning occurs on more complex tasks before starting on solutions
- Does my child show initiative?
- Does my child offer to help others when there is an opportunity?

Year Twelve Tertiary Information Evening

On Wednesday the 5th of August, Finley High School Year 12 students and parents are invited to attend a special Tertiary Information evening.

The evening will be presented by Mrs White and will cover the Tertiary Application process for both Victorian and NSW institutions.

The sessions will take place in the VTR in the library. The evening will begin at 6.30pm and will run to approximately 8.30pm.

Parents and students alike are encouraged to attend the session.

Deb White

Library News

The Library is running the 2015 Finley High Chess Competition. Each year group will have a winner! A major title will be awarded.

Every day the Library is buzzing with activity – lunchtime reading/ computers/ games and many classes making use of research facilities for assignments.

The Premier's Reader Challenge has excellent fiction to borrow. We are up to letters N – R.

Don't forget Homework Centre every Thursday afternoon.

RED AND WHITE DAY

Friday August 14 is the day that Finley High is celebrating “Red and White Day” in honour of Lucas McCaw.

Students are asked to wear Red and/or White clothing only, and provide a gold coin donation to go to the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Lucas’ memory.

There will also be a cake stall on the day, plus Year 10 students will be cutting and shaving their hair to raise funds. Rumour has it that a teacher has also offered to shed his locks if enough money can be raised.

Mark the day down on your calendar; all donations are welcome and appreciated.

Year 10 – Finley High.

Finley High School Programs

We had a very busy week 2 here at Finley High S. The Brekky Club started up for the Term. Every Wednesday Mr Renn, Miss Downey, Senior Leaders and I run the Brekky Club, open for all students. They are able to get some toast, cereal and a warm milo free of charge. This initiative is thanks to many local organisations and clubs who donate funds to ensure our students have the very best start to the day.

Miss Scott and I visited the first of many school for the Year Six transition programs. Miss Scott gives the students some information on Finley High School and answers any questions they may have regarding coming up into high school. The transition from primary school to high school can be one filled with anxiety and nerves but by having the visits early in term 3 it gives students the opportunity to get to know their upcoming Year Advisor and learn some general information about the school. The visits will continue for the next few weeks to ensure all feeder schools are covered.

The Year Seven students all attended the Free, Fresh and Fit program on Thursday. The program is about the dangers of smoking, energy drinks and also nutritious eating. It was a fantastic interactive way for students to learn about making healthy lifestyle choices and the consequences of an unhealthy lifestyle. We would like to thank Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service for this program opportunity.

On Friday we had Project Rokit speak to our Years Seven, Eight, Nine and Ten students about cyber bullying in their program DOT.COM. The presenters Ash and Lucy gave the students some hot tips on how to deal with cyber bullying and how to keep each other safe. It was an interactive, exciting session. We would like to thank

local organisation, Intereach, for funding this program. It is very much appreciated. The feedback from the students has been extremely positive.

Jodi Brown
Student Support Officer

Bendigo Sheep Show, High School triumphs

Finley High has recorded its best ever results at the recent Bendigo Sheep Show. The Poll Dorset section is one of the strongest in the sheep world, so to remain competitive is an achievement to be excited about.

First up at the show were the novice classes for breeders yet to win at a major show. Each of the three classes went the way of Finley High, winning us the Aggregate Novice Poll Dorset exhibitor trophy and ribbon. This completes the set of CEVA hand-made glass trophies of the last three years, have a look when in the foyer at school next, they look fantastic.

In the open classes things get really competitive, but we were excited with the results; most notably, a 4th with the ram lamb in a class of 17 and a 3rd with a ewe lamb in a class of 13. Our ewe over 1 ½ looked fantastic to be placed 2nd and a pair of ewes was placed 2nd. Terrific results.

Finally the classes every school wants to win, the Interbreeds Schools Competition. Around 10 schools and 15 sheep were entered in each class. Up first was the pair of school sheep, any age - First prize. Then the ewe class - First prize. (Students really jumping up and down excited now). Then the ram class - First prize again to win each school interbreed class!! What a great way to finish the show.



(L-R) James McCaw, Mitch A'Vard, Isaac Arnold, Victoria Alexander



Back: (L-R) Isaac Arnold, James McCaw, Mitch A'Vard. Front: Victoria Alexander.



(L-R) Victoria Alexander, Isaac Arnold, Mitch A'Vard, James McCaw



(L-R) Isaac Arnold, Victoria Alexander



(L-R) Mitch A'Vard, James McCaw.

CANTEEN ROSTER

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

July

31 K Litchfield, T Jones

August

3 H Mortlock, J Russell

4 T Nash

5 J Burdon

6 T Roe

7 K Arnold, G Gale

10 J Chellew, D Jewell

11 C Alexander

12 L Knight

13 S Barlow

14 T Clarke

Finley High School P&C

Wednesday 12th August 2015
 7pm in the staff common room.

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

fhspandcassociation@gmail.com

A WALK THROUGH ONE OF THE ARTROOMS

The Visual Arts Department has been hard at work developing life drawing skills in observation and hand eye co-ordination as seen in the work of Hector Mclean and Molly McGrath.



Year 12 are working solidly on their Majors.

Pieces from their folio shown below



Kristen Holmes' 'Imaginary Worlds' and Rosie Mottram's 'Zen Tangle design'

LOST PROPERTY

A scarf was left at FADAMS by a helper, if you are missing such an item please collect it from the school front office.

Community Announcements

Junior Aviator Day

Saturday 1st August 2015, 10am – 5pm at the Tocumwal Aerodrome

The Southern Riverina Gliding Club is holding a Junior Aviator's Day for 14 – 25 year olds who are interested in flying or a career in aviation.

Day's program includes:

- 10:00 - Information sessions on the history of flight – the first aviators, principles of flight, meteorology, the first steps in learning to fly, career opportunities in the aviation industry, competition flying, maintenance and safety.
- 12:00 - An opportunity to sit in a power plane and glider, operate the controls and learn what they do (while on the ground).
- 1:00 - BBQ lunch
- 1:30 – 5:00 - Using a simulator to learn how to fly (provided by the Gliding Federation of Australia)
- 1:30 – 5:00 - Free Introductory Air Experience Flights – in gliders (with signed parental permission.)
- 1:30 – 5:00 – Learning the role of the Duty Pilot - Actively participating in keeping a flight sheet, monitoring safety in the launch area and learning launching procedures (launch signals and running the wing) on the airfield.

Experienced club instructors including four times World Gliding Champion, Ingo Renner, will be available for the days activities. Videos on flight and gliding will be a part of the morning program.

The cost is \$30, payable on registration and includes lunch.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity and register now as numbers will be limited.

All participants will receive an information package on gliding plus a DVD.

Parents and carers are also welcome as we understand that some students may have considerable distances to travel.

Enquiries and registration to club secretary Judy Renner, 03 5874 3052, 0427 141 241 or email renner@netspace.net.au

Hearing Test

Shane Atkinson, Nurse Audiometrist, will attend Finley Community Health Centre on Tuesday 18th August 2015.

Please call Tocumwal Hospital on 03 5874 2166 to make an appointment.

Children must be free of cold at time of test and at least 6 weeks following a cold.

Finley Farmers' Market

The scarecrows are coming to town! If you would like to enter the scarecrow competition, come along to the Finley Farmers' Market this Saturday and find out how to enter, you will have a whole month to make your special scarecrow. Lots of prizes and lots of fun. The market is this Saturday in the Finley Memorial Hall from 9am till 12 noon.

TAFE News

Being offered at your local Finley and Deniliquin TAFE campus are the following opportunities – why not try it. Contact 1300823374 for more details

Automotive for Women Deniliquin 4 September, 9.30am – 3pm or Deniliquin 6 November, 6 – 9pm 1 day, \$270

Small Motor Maintenance Deniliquin 4 to 25 August, 6 – 9pm 1 night per week for 4 weeks \$440

General Construction WHS Induction* (White Card) Deniliquin 13 August, 9am - 4pm Finley 8 October, 9am – 4pm 1 day, \$210

Photography'Capture, Edit, Create' Deniliquin 9 & 16 October Finley 5 & 12 November 10.00am – 2.00pm - \$220