

Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae Acting Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

10th September, 2015

KEY DATES

September

15 Year Ten parents drive talks

5:30pm to 7:30pm Finley RSC

17 Year Twelve Formal Assembly

Year Twelve Graduation Dinner

18 Last day of Term Three

October

5 Labour Day

6 School resumes

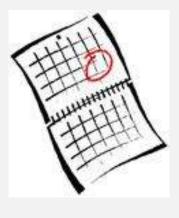
12 HSC Exams commence

19-23 Year Ten Work Experience

25-31 Year Ten Excursion

November

4 HSC Exams conclude



Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Surveys

The TTFM survey gathers valuable information about your child's experiences at Finley High School which we will use to help improve our school. Earlier this year our students participated in TTFM surveys. Now we are asking parents to do the same. The surveys are conducted online and are completely anonymous; there is no way any answers can be tracked back to an individual.

It will only take about 15 minutes of your time and can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/j acegi security check?j usern ame=parent12643

This should take you to a green login page. Enter the username and password listed below.

Username: parent12643 Password: Fin8360

I have attached a FAQ and Parent explanation sheet to the newsletter should you require more information but you don't need to read these to complete the survey.

If you can't access the internet at home feel free to contact me at the school and I'll arrange a computer for you at school to do the survey.

We are hoping for a high response rate from parents so please get on board. You have until the 19th October to complete the survey.

Thanks,

Tricia Jackson
Acting Deputy Principal

Principal's Report

As Term Three is winding to a close, we give special thoughts to our senior students who are preparing for their HSC exams. Year Twelve will have their last day at school on 17th September while Year Eleven will stay until the last day of term. We wish both year groups every success in their final exams.

Arrangements for Year Twelve

A letter has been given to all Year Twelve students and has also been emailed (or mailed) to all Year Twelve parents. Please read the emails to be perfectly clear about what is happening during the last week of term and what our expectations are of students regarding attendance and behaviour.

On Wednesday, 16th September, Year Twelve will spend the day practicing for the assemblies, decorating the RS club for their Formal and completing community service activities for the community.

The final assembly for Year Twelve will be held at 12:30 pm on Thursday 17th September. All parents and family of our Year Twelve students are encouraged to attend to watch Year Twelve receive their final reports and farewell from the school.

Prior to this assembly, Year Twelve will have a breakfast in the Bar-b-que area and hold a mock assembly during period 1. We have stressed the importance of appropriate behaviour by all students. Apart for these two assemblies, classes will run as normal on this day.

The Formal farewell for Year Twelve will commence at 7 pm at the RS Club. Admission is by pre-purchased tickets/invitations only and is a dry event. No alcohol will be permitted at the function as this is a school event.

Arrangements for Year Eleven

Students in Year Eleven are required to attend school for the remainder of this term.

When next term begins, Year Eleven should remain at home on "Stuvac" – their study vacation leading up to their exams. All students have been issued with a timetable of when these exams are on. Students must be aware that these exams are compulsory. They are not supervised by teachers but by the BOSTES supervisors. There will be NO opportunity to make up these exams. If students are sick on the day they MUST call the school and they MUST have a medical certificate. All students have been issued with a booklet of rules. Failure to comply with the procedures outlined in the booklet may result in the HSC not being awarded.

Students in Year Eleven then return to commence their senior studies when the HSC exam period is completed. They return to start their Year Twelve year on Monday 9th November.

Parents who have further questions, please contact me at school.

Spelling and Public Speaking

On Monday students in Years Seven and Eight competed in the annual Spelling Competition.

It was a hotly contested competition with Nathan Vidler winning the competition.

Congratulations to each of the class winners and all those who participated. (see report later)

Last night, the annual Public Speaking Competition was also held. Students from across the school gave prepared speeches on any topic they chose. Congratulations to all who participated.

Tournament of the Minds

Good luck to our TOMs team who head down to Melbourne this weekend for the State final. The challenge is huge – preparing and performing and scenario in 3 hours. We know you will all do a fabulous job. Good Luck!

Finley Show

Last weekend, Finley High School took centre stage at the Finley Show. From our fantastic exhibits in the pavillon to the sheep, dairy and beef competitions, our students did themselves and their school proud. Congratulations to all those students who participated in the show. We had many placings in the art exhibits, cooking entries and cake decorations, while our Finley High School Display held pride of place at the end of the pavillon.

Finley High School scooped the pool with winners in the Miss Show Girl and Miss Teen competitions. Congratulations to Rachael Barnes who was outstanding as Miss Finley Show Girl, congratulations also to her sister Michelle who was named Miss Finley Teen. Both girls contribute to the school, Finley Community and the Finley Show and are worthy winners. It was wonderful to see Year Twelve students Alexandra Williams, Shania Bentley, Kathleen Lawton and ex student, Fiona Sleeman, participating in the show girl competition. You all made us proud. Well done.

Our students who work with the animals were up before dawn to ensure the animals in their care were well presented and relaxed for parading.

A huge thank you must go to all the staff and parents behind the scenes who helped students with their entries and ensured they were correctly entered.

A top effort all round...

Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that Chloe O'Bryan has been chosen by the Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli, to receive a Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement. This prestigious award is given to only 38 students across the state. Chloe receives this award, not only for her academic achievements, but also for her outstanding sporting achievements, leadership initiatives and community involvement.

Chloe and her mum Jacqui and I will travel to Sydney next Tuesday to attend a Minister's reception and be presented with the Award. We are thrilled for Chloe who truly deserves this honour.

Christmas Gift Packages

It is wonderful to see student leaders in the school taking on projects to help others.

The SRC advertised on Tuesday's assembly their drive to put together Christmas packages for children overseas who do not receive a gift at Christmas. Students are invited to bring in hygienic gifts (eg. Tooth brushes, soap, toothpaste), toys (bears, balls etc) or education gifts (pencils, books etc).

These items can be brought to the teachers' common room in the main administration building and packages will be made up to go overseas. This is a great initiative by the SRC.

SToMP on Thursday

This Thursday the SToMP(Student Team on Mental Positivity) team will be running RUOK day.

Students are encouraged to show care for their friends and fellow students by asking them if they are ok. The SToMP team will run lunchtime activities to promote having a sense of fun and being positive. Giant Chess, Skipping, Hula Hoops

and music will be operating on the oval at lunchtime. The team will dress in yellow and they will decorate the school in yellow on the day.

This is a great initiative which I hope the whole school gets behind. I applaud the efforts of the SToMP team who have put the wellbeing of the school well and truly on the public agenda.

Soccer

The Senior Leadership Team soccer competition wrapped up this week. Year 10 played Year 8 in the final game to determine the overall champion team.

Year 12 have also challenged the teachers to a rematch of the Harmony Day Soccer game, which ended in a draw. The game is scheduled for lunchtime on Friday where we hope a good and fair game will determine the superior team.

SAS Appreciation Week

Last week, schools across NSW were encouraged to celebrate their SAS staff. SAS staff in the school are the support staff. They are the ladies in the front office, the office manager, photocopier, kitchen, library and lab assistants as well as the Ag Assistant, General Assistant, Student Support Officers and the Technical Support Officer. Without all these people working together for our kids, the school would not function. We do acknowledge all they do for the school and thank them for their ongoing fabulous efforts.

Finley High School Showcase

Robyn O'Leary and Gary Webb, along with several students, will travel to Barooga today to showcase the Finley High School Agricultural Program at the Murray-Darling Basin Annual Conference. The team was invited to present to the conference delegates the current practices in Agricultural Education. This is an excellent opportunity to show how Finley High is leading the way, not only in the education of our young people, but in the leadership and mentoring opportunities they have created through their programs.

Mrs H McRae Principal

Legal Studies Guest Speaker -Sally Bickerton

On Monday 31st of August Sally Bickerton, a solicitor at Taylor and Whitty, came and spoke with the Year Twelve Legal Studies class. The students had prepared questions the week before the visit in relation to the effectiveness of the legal system. Sally spoke to the students about the effectiveness of the law in protecting victims and the role the courts play, as well as other topics that the students study. The students were excited to speak with someone who has extensive knowledge and experience in dealing with the law and it gave them another perspective to consider in the lead up to their HSC exams. I would like to thank Sally for taking the time to come and share her experiences and knowledge as it was very beneficial for the students.

Miss Scott

Careers

Future Moves Year Nine

On Thursday 3rd September some Year Nine students travelled to Charles Sturt University in Thurgoona to undertake some tertiary aspiration workshops. The students participated in a campus tour where they got to see first hand the environmentally friendly facilities that the campus has to offer. These ranged from water recycling programs, to rammed earth building designs to drop toilets. Students also participated in activity workshops including the

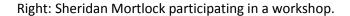
establishment of a new planet and a botany science lab session. Students relaxed between sessions in "The Gums" which is the university café and recreation area. Thank you to Helene Mortlock for her support and assistance in making this trip possible.



Above: Students participating in a workshop.

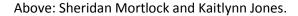


Above: Jesse Read and Aleisha Gray relaxing in "The Gums" Café.









Right: Stephanie Harris.



Start Smart

On Friday 4th September students in Years Eight and Ten were visited by START Smart where they participated in some workshops that aimed to change the way young people approach money decisions. Students looked at money management in an interactive, engaging and fun manner with the aim to increase their confidence and competence to make smart decisions about money.

Years Eleven and Twelve Albury Wodonga Tertiary Tour

On the 10thNovember 2015 the incoming Year Eleven (current Year Ten) and Year Twelve (current Year Eleven) students have been invited to participate in a trip to Albury/Wodonga to visit Charles Sturt University, LaTrobe University and Wodonga TAFE Campuses. The trip will be a great opportunity for students contemplating university to investigate local regional campuses and see first hand what is on offer, the facilities, the courses, accommodation etc. Notes will go home this week and as spots will be limited to seats available on the bus keen students are encouraged to return their note and payment as soon as possible.

Reminder of our great website resources

A gentle reminder too that we offer a great careers website that students and parents can access for a wide range of resources for school, TAFE, Defence, University, Scholarships, Employment, Apprenticeships, work experience and so much more. It is a great starting place for parents to help students with career decisions. Check it out.

www.finleyhighcareers.com

Year Twelve Tertiary Applications

A reminder to Year Twelve students that most applications close at the end of this month. Be sure to carefully check closing dates on all applications and complete all necessary forms and requirements before the deadlines.

Work Experience Reminder

A reminder to Year Ten students and families that all work experience paperwork is to be completed and returned to the school no later than Week Ten this term.

Deb White and Jacqui O'Bryan Careers Adviser

ICAS Writing

Congratulations to our students who took part in this competition. They have achieved some outstanding results.

High Distinction (top 1% of Year Twelve students in Australia who entered) – Chloe O'Bryan (Year Twelve) Distinction – Alexandra Williams (Year Twelve)

Credit – Maxine Harris (Year Twelve)

Merit - Georgia Webb (Year Eight)

Spelling Bee Final For Stage 4 Students

On Monday we held the spelling bee final for Years Seven and Eight. Students had five weeks of preparation and weekly winners for each class won a small prize, generously donated by Ms Spence.

Stage 4 Spelling competition winners:

1st place: Nathan Vidler (7B)

2nd place Emma Carey (8A)

3rd place Saxon Burdon (7A)



Above (Back L-R) Ellie Jones, Emma Carey, Daniel O'Bryan, Rebecca Pierce (Front L-R) Saxon Burdon, Nathan Vidler and Maddison de Bruyn.

Other class winners: Maddison de Bruyn (7C); Rebecca Pierce (8B); Ellie Jones (8C); Daniel O'Bryan and Ben Ashley-Cooper (8D).

The students received cash prizes for their efforts, with the first place winner taking home \$60. Thank you to McNaughts Transport for sponsoring this event and a special thank you to Ms Spence for organising it.

Reading Competition

This year we are running another reading competition. Students are recording the books they have read and they are then entered in a draw for a kindle, which is an e-reader. The senior draw took place yesterday and the kindle was won by Alex Williams. Alex is a worthy recipient as she has been an avid reader for many years and will make good use of her prize. The kindles are kindly donated by McNaughts Transport. Please encourage your sons/ daughters in Years Seven to Ten to make sure they enter this great competition. The junior draws will take place at the formal assembly next term so there is still plenty of time for them to read many more books.



Above: Alex Williams with her kindle.

Public Speaking Evening

Our annual public speaking evening was held on Wednesday night. Students were outstanding as usual! They were engaging and entertaining. Congratulations to all who participated. We really enjoyed the night.

Winners:

Year Eight: Ellie Jones and Georgia Webb

Year Nine: Stephanie Harris Year Eleven: Joshua Barrett

Year Twelve: Maxine Harris and Alexandra Williams

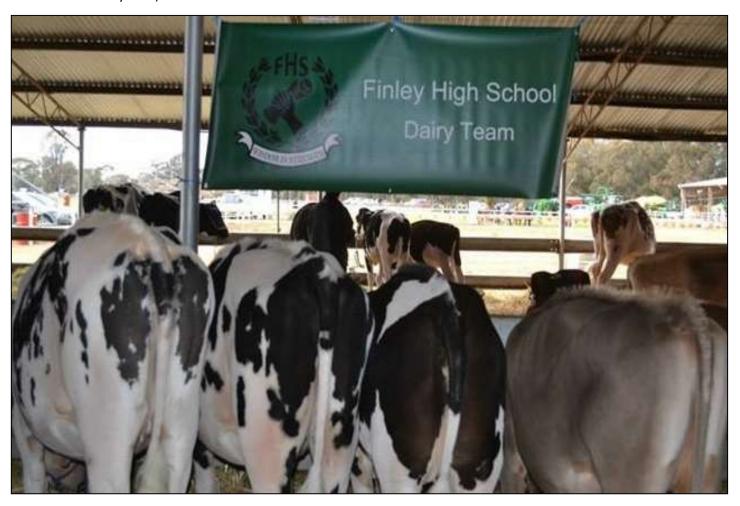
Encouragement certificates were presented to: Hayley Doohan, Isabella Jackson and Sarah Cameron



Mrs V McNaught English Head Teacher

Finley High School Dairy Team

On Sunday 6th September the Finley High School Dairy Team attended the Finley Show. We had a great day although the weather was cold. Christopher Wright came 3rd in his handler class with Emily Lock 7th and Shiralee Connors 8th. Jessica Knight came 4th in her handler class and Rosie Archer 5th. Rachael Barnes came 2nd in her handler class. Rosie's heifer was awarded junior champion for Brown Swiss and Rachael's received junior champion also for her Illawarra. Christopher's Jersey came 2nd in her class and the Holsteins had big classes with us placing 9th, 10th and 11th. To cap off the day we had Rachael Barnes win Miss Show Girl. Overall we had a really good day and look forward to next year's show. Thank you to Allison O'Hora for the photos. Well done to everyone:)



Above: Cattle under the show banner kindly donated by Trevor and Dim Wright.



Above: Emily Lock leading Holstein Cherry



Above: Rachael Barnes leading Illawarra Blush



Above: Shiralee Connors leading Holstein Sally



Above: Rosie Archer leading Brown Swiss Opal



Above: Christopher Wright leading jersey Sarah



Above: Jessica Knight leading Holstein Rosa

Brian and Jenny O'Hora The Dairy Team

Support Students Successes at Finley Show

Support students entered some fantastic exhibits for the Finley Show last Sunday. Kenielle Chellew's beautiful watercolour painting won first prize for any other artwork under 18, Brooke Pitt was very pleased to come second in the open raspberry jam and Tyson Morris was happy to receive second prize for his matchstick tractor. Max Roe, Gabbrielle Taylor-Tran, Noah Anderson and Cade Fisher are also commended for their great entries.



Tourism Cuisine Competition

Over the past few weeks we ran a competition amongst the Year Seven Geography classes while studying tourism. The students were to present a food dish or cake that represented the country they studied for their assessment task. There were some fantastic entrants in the competition and a lot of work went into the cakes and dishes. The overall winner for the competition was Taylor Simpson. Class winners were Meg Marsden (7A), Sarah Orro (7B) and Georgia Lunn (7C).



Above: Meg Marsden's cake (7A)

Right: Sarah Orro and her cake (7B)

Above: Taylor Simpson and her cake Below: Georgia Lunn's cake (7C).

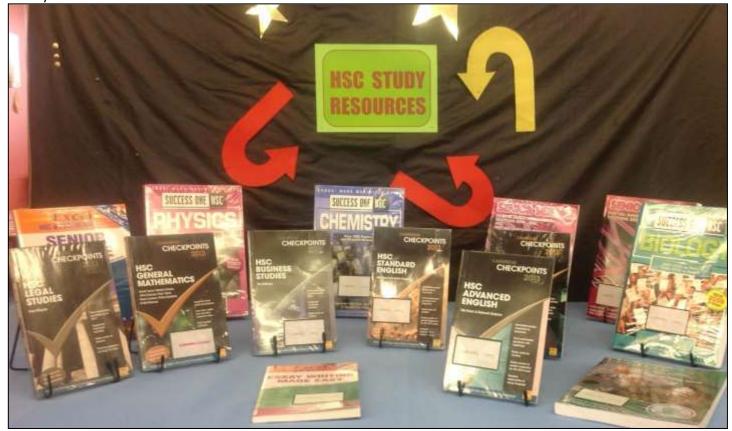




Year 7 Geography Teachers

Library News

It is a vital time for HSC revision. We have many resources available in the library for study. Past papers in folders are also in the senior section upstairs. The display for English and Area of Study based on Discovery is very useful with its variety of texts.



Check out the new release novels that are ready for borrowing!

Happy reading and researching!



CANTEEN ROSTER

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

September

- **11** J Orro, C Moloney
- 14 M Kleinschmidt, L Whiley
- 15 Michelle McGrath
- 16 B Agosta
- **17** T Anderson
- 18 J Loughman

October

- 5 Labour Day
- 6 H Harris
- **7** J Chellew
- 8 J Burdon
- **9** T Jones and K Litchfield

Finley High School P&C

Wednesday 14th September 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

Whole School Assessment Due Dates						
Year	Class	Assessment Task	Teacher	Due Date		
Eight	8B	Caring and Respectful Relationships Test	Ms Downey	15/09/2015		
Nine	9A	Equal and Respectful Relationships Test	Ms Downey	16/09/2015		



Tell Them From Me parent survey Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

1. What is the Partners in Learning parent survey?

The Partners in Learning parent survey is part of the Tell Them From Me suite of surveys on student engagement. The parent survey helps to clarify and strengthen the important relationship between parent and school.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

2. What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey questions aim at understanding parents' perspectives on their child's experience at school, including teach ing, communication, activities and practices at home and the school's support of learning and behaviour.

The survey will ask parents questions about:

Parents feel welcome	Parerks are informed	Farents support learning at home	Parents participation at school
School supports positive behaviour	Safety	Inclusion	School supports learning

3. How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open for all NSW government schools to participate in at no cost to them. Your school has taken up this offer,

4. How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The parent survey provides school principals and school leaders with parents' perspective on their school as well as learning at home. Communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home, and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour all help build an accurate and timely picture that schools can use for practical improvements.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

5. How does the parent survey relate to the student survey?

The parent survey is complementary to the Tell Them From Me student survey that your child may have been asked to participate in. These surveys are offered (along with a teacher survey) to ensure schools can capture the views of students, teachers and parents.

For more detail on each of the surveys, see the survey website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/

6. What do I need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes 15 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, The Learning Bar. You will be provided with a link to complete the survey at home or your school may make computers available so that you can complete the survey during school hours.

7. Do I need to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Whilst your responses are very much appreciated, if during the survey, you feel uncomfortable, you can stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped.

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WWW.CESE.NSW.GOV.AU

8. Will the school be able to identify me or my child from my responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual parents or students from parent responses. To ensure confidentiality, schools will be provided with a unique URL for all survey users. Where fewer than five parents respond to a question, the results will not be made available.

9. What sort of analysis will be done on the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders may use the data to better understand the experiences and views of parents at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the Department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between parents and student's engagement and wellbeing, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE's analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the Department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

10. When will the Partners in Learning survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 171h August (Week 6, Term 3) and Friday 161h October 2015 (Week 2, Term 4).

What is CESE?

The Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) is part of the Department of Education and Communities, within the Office of Education

CESE has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in New South Wales.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all of education.

More information about CESE is available at: www.cese.nsw.gov.au

What is The Learning Bar?

The Learning Bar is a Canadian education company that specialises in school surveys for both primary and secondary students. Its survey, Tell Them From Me, is the largest national school survey in Canadia, used in nine of Canadia's ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years.

The Learning Bar is led by Dr J Douglas Willms. Dr Willms is a Professor and Director of the Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy at the University of New Brunswick, and holds the Canada Research Chair in Literacy and Human Development. Dr Willms led the development of questions on student engagement for the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

More information about The Learning Bar is available at: www.thelearningbar.com

If you have any questions about the parent survey, please contact CESE via email: TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au or by telephone: 9561 8688 /9561 8331 /9561 8370.

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WWW.CESE.NSW.GOV.AU



Tell Them From Me: Partners in Learning survey



You're invited to participate in the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey designed for parents and carers. This survey complements the TTFM student and teacher surveys, which focus on student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices. All Department of Education schools have the opportunity to participate if they choose.

Why should I participate?

Parents and carers are an important and valued part of the school community. Schools can use survey feedback to make practical improvements and inform school planning.

What does it involve?

This online survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. It is anonymous and voluntary. If you have more than one child at this school, and feel that your children's experiences differ, you can complete the survey more than once.

How can I participate?

You can access the survey in your own time, between now and 16 October 2015. Follow the link below on your computer or tablet:

If you don't have access to the internet and would like to participate please contact Mrs Jackson who will organise access at the school for you.

More information on the Partners in Learning survey can be found on the NSW Department of Educations' TTFM website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/





NSW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

TIME & DATE:

5.30 pm- 7.30pm

Tuesday September 15 VENUE:

Finley RSC

BOOK NOW ON:

Phone David on 0434 964 764 or email saferlearnerdrivers@ gmail.com

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers



Community Announcements

Jerilderie Cricket Club

Jerilderie Cricket Club will be holding its registration for the 2015/16 season on the following dates and times at Monash Park, Jerilderie:

Juniors: Tuesday 15th Sept at 5pm Seniors: Friday 18th Sept at 5pm

If you would like more information please do not hesitate to contact Karen Sleeman on 0410491315.

Finley Tennis Club

Finley Tennis Club would like to invite current and new members to register for the Adult Night Competition (Thursday) and Junior Inter-town Competition (Friday). For further information please contact Cherilyn Taig on 5883 2010 or Terri Lea Anderson on 5883 1730.

South West Music Regional Conservatorium

South West Music Regional Conservatorium present "Belle Chanson" as part of the South West Music Concert Series in two locations; Conargo and Hay.

Saturday 19th September – 7pm at Conargo Hall, Conargo.

For bookings, call Paula 0400-767-997 or email concerts@swmusic.org.au

\$15 Adult, \$5 Under 18's. Tickets available from Conargo Junction Store and South West Music, Deniliquin.

Sunday 20th September – 2pm at Bishop's Lodge Historic House, Hay.

For bookings, call Paula 0400-767-997 or email concerts@swmusic.org.au

\$15 Adult, \$5 Under 18's. Tickets available from Hay Tourist Information Centre and South West Music, Deniliquin

Anglican Parish of Finley, Jerilderie and Tocumwal

The Anglican Church of Finley, Jerilderie and Tocumwal is offering a sacrament of First Holy Communion and Confirmation on 1st November.

Holy Communion and Confirmation is available to all persons of high school age. Please contact the parish office on 0358831262, or Reverend Stephen Davis on 0429 845 525.

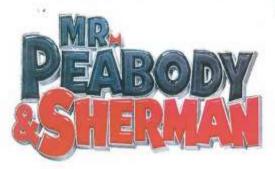
Trivia Night

Finley Golf Club will be holding a Music Trivia Night on Saturday 19th September, 7pm for 7:30pm start. Bring your own nibbles. Tables of 8-10 people. For table bookings please phone the club on 5883 1360 between 5pm and 7pm. We look forward to hearing from you.

Jerilderie Tennis

Term Four Inter-town tennis competition for children in Years Four to Nine. Parents must be willing to transport children to neighbouring towns. Enquiries and numbers as soon as possible to Janine 0428 577 304.

You are invited to St. Joseph's Finley performance of





Wednesday 16th of September

Matinee: 11.30am School of Arts Hall

Night Performance: 7pm

