



# Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Relieving Deputy Principal: Ms E Downey

31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

## KEY DATES

### April

- 4-5 NSW CHS Swimming  
4-6 Preliminary Final Exams  
6 Cross Country  
7 ANZAC and Formal Assembly  
12:30pm in the school hall.  
8 Open Netball Trials  
Youth Day  
Last Day of Term One  
25 ANZAC Day  
26 Staff Development Day  
27 Students return to school  
Motivational Media  
28 Year Ten Careers Day Out,  
Shepparton.  
Under 15 Boys AFL Trials, Albury.  
29 Under 15 Girls AFL Trials.

### May

- 2 - 4 Year Ten Exams  
4 Parent Teacher Evening 4pm to  
6pm in the school hall.  
5 - 6 Tertiary Tour  
10 Open Boys/Girls AFL in Hay  
10 - 12 NAPLAN  
13 Athletics Carnival  
17 Under 15 Boys/Girls AFL,  
Deniliquin  
18 Year Nine Future Moves school  
visit.  
20 Harmony Day  
24 - 26 CHS Netball  
30 - 31 Year Ten Work Experience

### June

- 1 - 3 Year Ten Work Experience

## Principal's Report

As Term One draws to a rapid close, I am amazed at the amount of activity that has been happening across the school throughout the term. From Swimming Carnivals, Trivia Nights, Life Education, BYOD, new sport arrangements and a number of excursions including the Year Seven camp, the term has flashed by. I would like to thank all my staff for the enthusiastic way they have approached their jobs this term, as always going above and beyond to provide the best opportunities possible for our students.

### **State Swimming**

I would like to wish all the students heading to Sydney for the Combined High Schools State Swimming Championships the very best of luck. These students are Justin Lawton, Ben Chesworth, Zander Nash, Rory Knight, Ben Ashley-Cooper, Nick Burns, Zec, Tom Burns, Lachlan Pyle, Damon Anderson, Tom Burton, Jemma Coombs, Elle Rochford, Sascha Jones, Ellie Jones, Eloise Ashley-Cooper, Daniela Gargaro, Michelle Barnes, Emma Carey and Johannah Tessier.

### **Sport**

Mr McCarney has been a passionate advocate for improving opportunities for student sport at the school this year. We now have a wide variety of sports on offer from which the students can choose, many of which happen at venues outside of the school.

I sent out reminder emails to parents of students who are yet to choose their sport for next term. These are not due to be returned to the school until next Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, but students have already had four weeks to return their forms and there were over 100 forms outstanding.

If you received a letter or email, I encourage you to talk about the sport choices with your child as soon as possible and return the form to Mr McCarney so that sport options can be finalised before the end of term.

## **Formal Assembly**

I would like to remind all students and parents that we have decided to combine our annual ANZAC ceremony with the Formal Assembly this term. The assembly will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April from 12:30pm. We would encourage all parents to join us in this celebration of student application and effort and commemoration of our fallen heroes.

## **Point Score**

This year we have refined the point score system used to determine awards on the formal assembly. Teachers are asked to allocate points to students on their efforts and application in class. Last year, this rating was a 0, 1 or 2. We have extended this to a 3 and 4 this year for students who go above and beyond in the classroom to participate actively and positively in lessons, help or encourage their peers or work hard towards improving their learning by seeking advice and feedback from their teachers. In this way, we hope to encourage all students to maximise their potential in learning and make learning the focus of their time in the classroom.

## **Trivia Night**

Last weeks Trivia night was a fabulous success. The SToMP team did a terrific job in running the evening with the support of Jodi Brown, Ellen Downey and Britt Scott. The competition was tight with one point separating 1<sup>st</sup> from second and second from third. I should particularly mention the efforts of our Year Twelve table of young men who missed out on second place by a mere point. This was an extremely impressive effort. I extend many thanks to those students, staff and parents who came along to support the night. The winning team received chocolates and a \$100 meal voucher donated by Barry and Alice at the Hong Loch Restaurant in Finley. We thank them for their generosity. Second prize was also a \$100 meal voucher from Hong Loch. The night was a credit to the StOMP team who put it together to raise community awareness of the importance of positive mental health. The funds raised will go towards further SToMP projects in the school throughout the year.

## **ANZAC Ceremonies**

I would like to encourage as many students as possible to participate in the local ANZAC marches in their towns on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April. The marches commence at 9am in Berrigan, 10am in Jerilderie, 11am in Finley and Tocumwal. Marching in full school uniform is a terrific way to honour our fallen heroes and to show respect for their sacrifice. School Captains and members of the senior leadership group will be at all venues to assist with the march.

## **Term Two**

Term Two will commence for all students on Wednesday April 27. I wish all students and staff a relaxing, enjoyable and safe holiday.

Mrs H McRae  
Principal

## **NSW Country Schools Teams Chess Competition**

On Tuesday March 22<sup>nd</sup>, Finley High Chess Team travelled to Deniliquin to play Deniliquin Christian School. Our team consisted of four students: Warren Pitt (Year 12), Sabrina (Year 11), Shirsho Soumyajit (Year 7) and Michael (Year 11).

There were some interesting games on both sides with two being quite evenly matched. Unfortunately, Finley High went down to Deniliquin three games to one. Michael was victorious in his game.

The team represented Finley High with great dignity and they are to be congratulated.

Denise Fulton

## 8C English Excursion to the Finley Historical Museum

During period two on Tuesday, March 22, students from 8C went on a mini-excursion to the Finley Historical Museum to gain some inspiration for completing their upcoming English assessment task for the *Visions of Identity in Fictional Worlds* unit studied this term. Their assignment involves drawing/painting/constructing an imaginary 'lost thing' creature (based on our film study of Shaun Tan's award-winning short film, *The Lost Thing*), which must contain both mechanical and organic components. Students perused the incredible array of antique items on display, from old fridges and classic household items to farming machinery and vintage cars. Students took photos or sketched pictures of unusual things they saw, and got some great ideas to use in their assignments. Even though it was a brief visit, students had a good time extending their learning beyond the classroom. Many thanks to Dan, Henry and the team at the museum who answered our questions, showed students around and demonstrated how an old engine worked.



Above: Students looking around the museum for ideas.



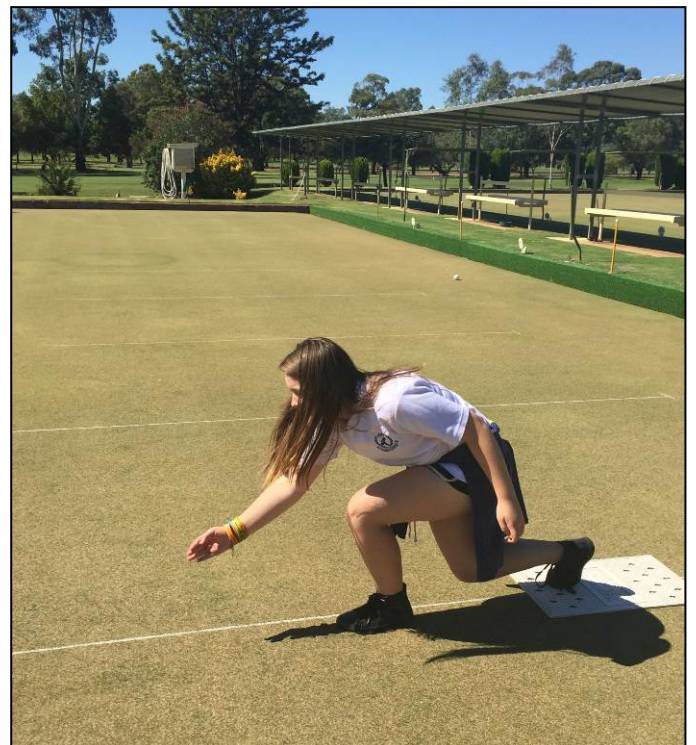


Above: Elle Rochford and Lachlan Osborne.

Jess Laxton  
Year Nine Advisor and English Teacher

### Finley High School Bowls Competition

On Monday, March 21, six students travelled to sunny Barham to compete in lawn bowls against teams from Barham High School, Deniliquin High School and Balranald Central School. The boys' team, comprising of Logan Shumack-Bell (Year Seven), Brandon (Year Nine) and Corey Percy (Year Nine) were a hard team to beat, losing their only game to Barham High, who won by three bowls. The girls' team, made up of Chloe Hudson (Year Eight), Breanna and Kattarina (Year Nine), won their game against Balranald by three bowls, but were ultimately defeated in the final match against Barham, which meant the boys' team (who were, prior to this stage, tied with Barham) did not make it through to the next round. Each Finley team put every effort into each game and in particular, the girls impressed everyone present by how much they improved from the first game to the last.



Above: Chloe Hudson





Above: Logan Shumack-Bell



Above: Corey Percy

Jess Laxton  
Year Nine Advisor and English Teacher

### Forensics Day

For a number of years Finley High School has run a Forensics Day. The day involves Year Six students from our feeder schools coming to the high school to participate in several forensic science workshops. The day begins with the students participating in an interactive forensic science workshop presented by an external provider. The students then break up into mixed groups to complete two forensic science experiments. These groups are led by Year Nine students from Finley High school. The day was a great success and it was a real pleasure to watch how well all the students worked together. A big thank you goes to Miss Ritchie and her Year Nine Science class. They did an excellent job.



Left: Abbey Maconachie, Tiarna Burke from Finley High School and Shelby Hislop from St Joseph's Finley.

## Student Support Officers Report

### Life Education

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> we were fortunate enough to have Angela Green from Life Education come to speak to our Year Nine, Ten, Eleven and Twelve students. The program went for two hours each session and covered topics such as alcohol, safe partying and positive choices. Angela is a fantastic presenter who captured the attention of our students throughout the week. A big thank you goes to the Finley Life Education Committee for funding such a worthwhile event.



Above: Emma Marsden, Stephanie Wright, Isabelle Bradford, Presenter-Angela Green.

### Free, Fresh and Fit

On Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> a team from the Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service came to Finley High School to speak to our Year Seven students. In the hour sessions students learnt about healthy choices in particular when it comes to eating fast foods, energy drinks and soft drinks and smoking. The program is an interactive session where our students were able to make and taste healthy alternatives to fast foods such as breakfast smoothies and participate in games that got them thinking about the effects of smoking and drinking energy drinks. The Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service provides this program to the schools in our Riverina free of charge.

### National Day against Bullying and Violence; Bullying No Way Day

On Friday March 18<sup>th</sup> the SToMP group ran lunchtime activities to build and strengthen relationships here at Finley High School. The students and staff enjoyed the opportunity to get out on the oval and have some fun. There was skipping, three legged races, giant chess etc. The weather was a little cooler on the day but that didn't deter anyone.



## Close the Gap Day

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March Finley High School took part in the National Close the Gap Day. Close the Gap is a campaign aiming to achieve health equality in Australia, with a focus on improving Indigenous health services and access. This year will be the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the campaign and whilst it has made some great strides there are always steps forward to be made. Raising awareness and understanding of the inequality between health access is important to us at Finley High School. Students and staff had the opportunity at recess and lunch to sign a pledge, 30 by 2030, to call on the Australian government to commit to providing adequate long term resources, invest in real partnerships around health service delivery and to address critical social issues that contribute to the health crisis affecting Indigenous Australians. We were able to get over 200 signatures to support the campaign.



Left: Molly Taylor, Meg Marsden, Lily Sharp and Riley Nolen

## SToMP Trivia Night

On Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> the SToMP group ran Finley High Schools first ever trivia night and what a great success it was. With approximately eighty people through the doors the night was a hit. There was laughter and friendly competition throughout the night. The aim was to build and strengthen community connections alongside raising some funds for future SToMP activities such as guest speakers, programs etc. A profit was made of \$461.15. A huge thankyou goes to all of the students, staff and community members who came along to support such a fantastic initiative.



Above: Stephanie Wright presenting Kaylene Dawe with the Easter Raffle prize.





Above: Winners – Robertson table.

Below: Runners-up – Sharp table.







Above: Wright table.

Jodi Brown  
Student Support Officer

### **Career s News**

#### For All

Please don't forget to make good use of our Finley High Careers Website. It is a great starting point for all sorts of Career information, forms, scholarships, Tertiary, employment etc

Simply go to [www.finleyhighcareers.com](http://www.finleyhighcareers.com)

#### Year 10

Work experience blue cards and student placement records need to be returned to Mrs O'Bryan. The blue cards must be returned by the end of this term. This is only the beginning of the process for organising work experience but it is an essential deadline for all to meet.

Careers Day Out – students in year 10 have been invited to participate in a fun interactive day of hands on Careers activities at the Shepparton showgrounds on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April. At this point not enough students have returned notes to allow this excursion to go ahead. We strongly urge you to encourage your student to attend this day as it is a great opportunity to get involved in a range of hands on activities that showcase possible careers in and around our local community.

## Year 12

Reminder that students attending the Tertiary Tour to Melbourne early next term must have returned notes and final payments this week.

Mrs D White  
Careers Adviser

### **NAPLAN 2016**

NAPLAN exams will soon be upon us next term. Year Nine will complete exams generally in periods one and two, and Year Seven will complete exams in periods three and four.

The exam schedule is as follows

10<sup>th</sup> May – Language conventions and writing test

11<sup>th</sup> May – Reading test

12<sup>th</sup> May – Numeracy (calculator and non-calculator) test

If for any reason, your child is absent for any of these exams a catch up session is held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May. Once finished their exams, students will return to class.

Students are examined on their skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Mathematics. These are a snapshot of your child's skills on these particular days. All students will require their own calculator for use in the Calculator based Numeracy exam. No sharing of calculators is permitted. If your child has not yet purchased a calculator, they are available from the school for \$22. With care, these calculators should last for your child's entire schooling at high school.

All students in Year Seven and Year Nine are expected to participate in these exams. Those students requiring special provisions should have received a note by this stage. If your child has not yet received a note and you think that they should please collect one from the front office. These notes must be returned by the end of term so that sufficient planning can take place to cater for their requirements. No late returns of permission slips will be accepted on the day.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school for further information.

Miss Coates  
NAPLAN Coordinator

### **International Competitions and Assessments for School (ICAS)**

Dear Parents

Education is lifelong. As a secondary school student your child is moving towards adult life and closer to determining their future.

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, quality skills-based assessment program which rewards and recognises achievement. ICAS gives you broad insights into your child's performance across English, Mathematics, Science, Digital Technologies, Spelling and Writing. ICAS (sometimes referred to as the UNSW assessments) has been developed by Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) since 1981.

When your child takes part in ICAS assessments, we can track their learning as they progress from year to year. It also helps us identify potentially gifted students and those who may need more focused and purposeful teaching to achieve their best.

#### **Each student receives:**

- an engaging and challenging full-colour test booklet



- an individual diagnostic report highlighting strengths and weaknesses and year to year progression
- login details to access their online results which can be analysed and downloaded
- a High Distinction, Distinction, Credit, Merit or Participation Certificate acknowledging their level of achievement
- the chance to receive an individually-engraved UNSW medal for the highest scoring student in each year level for each subject.

To learn more about ICAS go to [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about) Remember, EAA has some very helpful tools to help your child prepare. You can access practice assessments at [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation)

**To enrol your child in ICAS- English, Spelling and Writing, please complete the registration form and return it, with your entry fees, to the school pay office no later than Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016. PLEASE NOTE NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

## CANTEEN ROSTER

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

### April

4	M Read
5	J Loughman
6	R Sharp
7	J Burdon
8	C Moloney, D Thomas
26	Pupil Free Day
27	T Doohan, C Moloney
28	J Chellew
29	M Haintz, K Barry

### May

2	M Read, K Lunn
3	C Alexander, T Nash
4	L Knight
5	S Barlow
6	K Litchfield, T Jones

## Finley High School P&C Meeting

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016  
7pm in the staff common room  
(School Admin Building).

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

[fhspandcassociation@gmail.com](mailto:fhspandcassociation@gmail.com)



## 2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Permission Form

Please return this form, with payment, to the Finley High School pay office.

I give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_ (Child's name) of  
year \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the following 2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools  
(ICAS).

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter:

Subject/Paper	School Year	Official Sitting Date	Entry Fee, incl. GST	Fee Enclosed
Writing		13–17 June 2016	\$8.80	
Spelling		15 June 2016	\$8.80	
English		2 August 2016	\$8.80	
			<b>TOTAL</b>	

Students must sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals. However, your school may choose to sit at another time to fit in with other school activities and routines.

\* Previously known as Computer Skills.

Please find \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed total entry fee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian



# Community Announcements

## Hearing Test

Shane Atkinson, Nurse Audiometrist will be attending the Finley Community Health on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to book your child in for a hearing test please call Tocumwal hospital on 0358742166 to make an appointment.

## Are you interested in joining a youth group?

The Finley Lions Club is looking for young people between the ages of 12 and 18 to form a Leo Club.

Leo clubs are for young people just like you – active, social and fun.

You can develop leadership skills, serve your community and more than anything, have a good time.

If this sounds like your kind of adventure, the next step is up to you.

You and your parents are invited to attend a meeting on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm at the Bob Close Pavillion at the Finley Show Grounds. Enquiries to 0417 868 498.

## Finley Farmers' Market – NEW VENUE

Finley Farmers' Market on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April will be at a new venue! The Palm tree, near Railway Park Endeavour Street.....centre of town.

Supporter of the Heywire winner 'Boots for Change' drive supporting local farmers. Wear your boots and come on down for a bacon and egg roll and some coffee. 8am till 12 noon.

## Southern Riverina Health, Fitness and Beauty Expo

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May from 10am to 4pm at the Berrigan Race Course, Cobram Street Berrigan.

Tickets: Adults \$10, Pensioner \$7, 12-18 \$5 and children under 12 are free.

Featuring special guests and speakers. Powerful workshops on kinesiology, theta healing, reflexology, meditation, massage therapy, forensic healing, therapeutic touch, natural products, healthy cooking, demonstrations, zumba, wellness advocate, psychic healer and much more. Show and shine club attending.

For more information please email [srhwcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:srhwcommittee@gmail.com)

I've put together a new website.

It's a "One Stop Shop" for everything you need with Career Planning and help.

UAC/VTAC/QTAC

VET

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

WORK EXPERIENCE

DO AN INTERESTS TEST

FIND A JOB

CHOOSE A UNIVERSITY

GAP YEAR

CREATE A RESUME

DEFENCE CAREERS

YOUTH ALLOWANCE

**CHECK IT OUT NOW!**

*Deb White*

Careers Adviser



**THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT**



# MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION EVENING

Finley Recreation Reserve @ 7.30pm  
TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016.

Guest speakers include:

**Mrs Cheryl Bester (Clinical Psychologist)**

**Mr Greg Frazer (Mental Health Nurse with 50  
years of experience & instigator of Nolan  
House Albury)**

**Mr Garrick Bridges (Nursing Unit Manager at  
Karinya, Private Hospital, Albury)**

**Sam Little (Author & Survivor)**

**Dr Alam Yoosuf  
(GP - Finley)**



*Open to all ages from Grade 6 to  
Senior Citizens with a special  
emphasis placed on adolescents  
and parents/carers.*

**Literature from Beyond Blue available.**

**"Into the fog" by Sam Little for sale.**

**Light supper provided.**

**Gold coin donation entry fee - proceeds to Beyond Blue.**

***For further information contact:***

***Lee McLennan 0432 629 589 or Dean Russell 0422 311 483***