



Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

16th February 2017

KEY DATES

February

- 17** Day off in lieu of swimming carnival
- 21** Zone Swimming Carnival, Denilliquin
- 22** Breakfast Club
- 23** Open Boys and Girls Basketball
- 27** Charles Sturt University Skills Fix, Year Eleven.
- 28** Open Boys and Girls Touch Football

March

- 1** Breakfast Club
Year Seven BBQ
- 3** Riverina Swimming
- 7** Riverina Girls Basketball Trials.
- 8** Breakfast Club

Principal's Report

It is hard to believe that we have completed three weeks of school already. Classes are settling down to some great learning and our new initiatives are having some fantastic positive results for our students.

Swimming Carnival

Today our annual School Swimming Carnival will take place.

Students will have classes until lunchtime. After a short lunch break, students will walk to the pool under the supervision of staff. The carnival will commence around 2pm and will conclude at 7:30 pm.

Buses WILL NOT pick up students at 3:15pm. Students are expected to stay for the duration of the carnival. Buses will pick students up at 7:30pm from the pool and drop them off in the centre of each town. It may not be their usual bus, so students should check with the driver about which town they are going to before they hop on the bus.

Students may only leave the pool if accompanied by a parent.

All students are encouraged to come dressed in their house colours on the day, but must wear enclosed leather shoes while at school.

Due to the lateness of the twilight carnival on Thursday, school will not operate as normal on Friday. Students and teachers have been given an

exemption from school on Friday and are not required to attend. They will no doubt appreciate a sleep in after participating in the carnival.

We would welcome parents to attend today's carnival to support their students. It is a great opportunity to network with each other and staff in a less formal environment. A BBQ will be in operation on the day.

The houses are:

Coree – Green

Finley – Blue

Tuppal – Yellow

Murray – Red

Attendance

A letter was emailed earlier this week regarding attendance.

Attendance is compulsory for all children up until the age of 17 unless they have completed Year Ten and have 25 hours of employment or are attending TAFE.

It is a parent's responsibility to send their children to school every day unless the student is **sick** or has to travel to an engagement or appointment in which case, they are taking **leave**.

It is **not appropriate** for students to miss school to go to concerts, get haircuts, have dress fittings, stay home because it is hot, cold or they had a late night. These and similar reasons are unacceptable and fall outside the guidelines of the Department of Education attendance policy.

If your child says they don't have to go to school today, and you have not had a note from school about it, they may be deceiving you. Please feel free to contact the school to check. If something doesn't ring quite true with you, it probably isn't true. If there is a variation to school attendance such as for the swimming carnival, letters will be sent home, notes posted onto the Finley High School facebook page or notification given in the newsletter which is sent out every second Thursday via email.

Please ensure that your child attends every possible day of school as continuity of learning is important for success at school – academically and socially.

If there are any issues about attendance, please contact me, Patricia Jackson or the Year Adviser of your child's year group (Outlined in the last newsletter).

Year Seven Camp

Last week, Year Seven had a fabulous time at Howman's Gap on the Year Seven Camp.

Reports back from teachers were that this Year Seven is a wonderful group of students who showed respect for each other in everything they did. Teachers and students alike got to know each other and made for a very positive start to high school.

Thanks to Mrs Sexton on her amazing organisation, and to the staff who supported her on this most important excursion.

Well done to the students on their outstanding participation and behaviour on the trip. I look forward to seeing you continue to grow into responsible and respectful young adults over the coming years.

Year Seven BBQ

Save the date: Wednesday, 1st March, 2017.

An informal BBQ to welcome our Year Seven families to Finley High School will be held in the BBQ area of the school on the evening of 1st March.

Year Seven students are invited to bring their parents and families to have a sausage sizzle and meet some of their teachers in a casual get together.

Notes will be distributed to Year Seven students soon. Watch out for it!!

KRAM Awards

Congratulations to this week's KRAM Award winners:

I-tunes Cards – Maverick, Jade Baldwin, Alexandra

Canteen Vouchers – Shelby-Lea Hislop, Kennielle Chellew

Handballs – Max Roe and Zoe Barlow

Mrs Helen McRae

Principal

AFL

On Tuesday 7th February the AFL Development Officer from Albury came to test for potential female AFL players.

A group of girls from Years Seven to Eleven volunteered to have their fitness and skills tested. Their results will be analysed with the possibility of invitations to representative trials and/or teams. The development officer said he was impressed with the results from the girls, especially in hot and windy conditions.

Mr M Tooke

CHS Sports Co-ordinator

Year 7 Geography

7A and 7B have used their creative skills in Geography to build a physical map of the world using play dough and soft clay. Students worked in small groups to identify the different landforms present on Earth and worked on creating a 3D representation on a world map. Some students even made the play dough at home and brought it into class to share with their peers. Once the maps have dried students will be able to label some of the major cities around the world.



Left: Mathew Sleeman, Ethan Jeffress and Blake Harris

Below: Zye Treadway and Archie





Left: Alanna Steel and Courtney Lunn



Right: Riley Kleinschmidt and Jasmine Luscombe

Below: Ruby Russell, Lucy Armer, Mackenzie Watson and Pheobe Kennedy



Above: Olivia Cicolini and Jack Ogilvie



Above: Braidy O'Brien and Nicholas Arnold

The SpACE

Managed by Miss Brain and Mrs Braybon, **The SpACE** has been operating at almost full capacity since the beginning of the school year. Over 50 students have already used **The SpACE** this year and all have reported a positive experience.

Many senior students have been self-referring for specialist assistance during timetabled IXL lessons and teachers have been booking groups of junior students for help with activities such as reading, assignment research, organisation of assessment tasks and general class work.

Thanks to Miss Brain who has been covering the walls of **The SpACE** with lots of motivational posters and to Mr Tessier who fixes our computer glitches with a smile.

Remember, **The SpACE** is available for any student who needs assistance with any aspect of their school work. Ask your teacher to refer you for a booking.

Aurora College

In 2017 Finley High School has become an Aurora College Partner School for the first time. Aurora currently has over 220 students across 54 partner schools.

Two Finley High School Year Seven students have been accepted by Aurora College to study English, Mathematics and Science this year. Both students are enjoying the challenge of a new way of learning while remaining connected with their Finley High School peers and teachers.

The following overview is from the Aurora College website.

Commencing in January, 2015, Aurora College (The Virtual Secondary School) is a new and unique secondary option for Years 7 – 12 students in government schools in NSW. Aurora currently has 220 students enrolled across 54 partner schools.

Students connect with their Aurora peers and their teachers through lessons delivered virtually, through technology and personally during residential schools held twice each year.

Aurora College also allows students in rural and remote areas to remain connected to their local school.

Aurora College offers students expanded career options through innovative programs and strengthened partnerships between schools, TAFE, universities, business and employers. Mentoring opportunities and master classes are key features of both the online and residential school programs.

Anne Braybon
Finley High School Aurora Coordinator

Year Seven Excursion to Howman's Gap

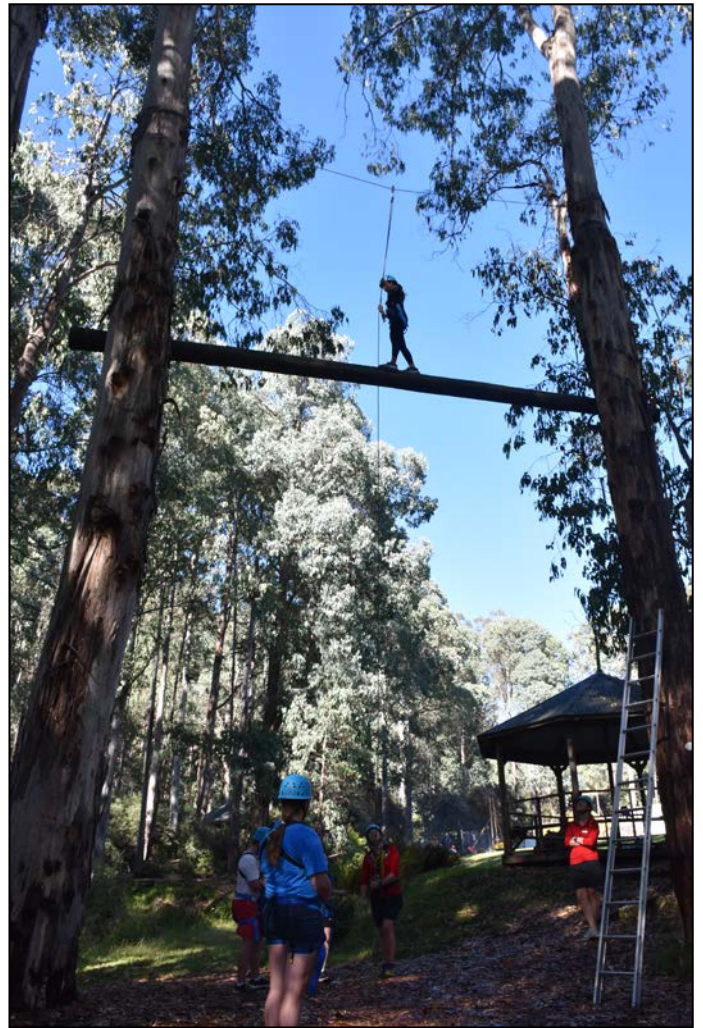
Year Seven from Finley High School had a blast on the camp at Howman's Gap!

They participated in many fun activities and learnt quite a few things.

They learnt how to make a camp fire! In small little groups we all made little camp fires, some worked and some didn't but in the end it ended up making for some delicious damper. Lots of people had already made fires with their family but for others it was a great first time and a new experience.

The giant swing was a big favourite. Almost everyone went all the way to the top. They just couldn't get Mr Campbell to get on one again. But we tried. There was a lot of screaming as they came down on the first go but after that it was cheers of excitement, everyone loved it!





Above: Mr Campbell and Annaliese having a go at archery. Above: Students participating in the high plank activity.



Left: Archibald climbing the rock wall.

The challenge trail was fun and new, it required imagination teamwork and quite a bit of thinking power to solve the four challenges to get across. The first challenge was to get around these cones on wooden plank skis, but you couldn't talk so you had to find some other form of communication. There was arm sticking out noises and just a rhythm of left right, left right. The second challenge included having to use a plank and a rope to get across a gap. There was a bit of arguing and shouting but eventually we got it. The third challenge was a rope, involving having to get on a platform using a rope and remaining there, once everyone was across we had to get back not falling off the platform or touching the ground as we came back. The final challenge was a series of logs and beams. We had to strategically place and move the beams to get across the stream without falling or leaving anyone behind. There was a bit of splatter as people fell in time and time again but it was fun!



Above: Students participating in the challenge trail.

Canoeing was a real treat for anyone that didn't go in the rain. We canoed around in this gorgeous lake at the bottom of a mountain. The view was beautiful! There were pretty flowers everywhere and the water was crystal clear, it was great. There were no capsizes but there were a few splashes. We played Sharks and seals where the seals had to get to the rapids to survive the sharks. The trek after though was worth it. We got to see even more of the beautiful scenery and learn a bit. We walked around the lake on the mountain and even walked through the burnt bush which had grown back quite a bit since 2004.

Overall the excursion was great fun and everyone enjoyed it. We all made some new friends and learnt quite a bit. I'm sure we all did something new and had a great amount of fun, making friends.

By Anneliese Flack

University Of Wollongong (UOW) Discovery Day

Three year Twelve students travelled to the University of Wollongong in conjunction with Murray High School to take part in the UOW Discovery Day. Students spent the day undertaking university style workshops on topics of interest and an accommodation and campus tour around the gloriously beautiful grounds of Wollongong University. They stayed the night at the Leisure Resort and partook in some bowling and browsing of the local beaches and city. Wollongong University staff were fantastic hosts and provided travel and meals for a very low cost to our regional students. This was a fantastic opportunity and is a great way to see what universities have to offer students in regards to courses, accommodation options, student services and much more. Well done to the girls for taking on the UOW Discovery Day.



Above: Jade O'Bryan, Courtney Sexton and Kiera Fennell at the University of Wollongong



Above: Jade, Courtney and Kiera at the Wollongong beach

Tertiary Tour – Year Twelve

Reminder to Year Twelve students and parents – a note regarding the upcoming Year Twelve Tertiary Tour to Melbourne has gone home seeking expressions of interest and a deposit. Again this is a wonderful opportunity for our students to get onto campus and speak first hand with tertiary providers about possible course, campus and pathway options. Should you have any questions regarding this please contact the Careers Staff.

Year Twelve Careers Newsletter

All careers information pertaining to Year Twelve is published in a Careers Newsletter that goes out fortnightly and at busy times weekly. This newsletter is sent to students DET email addresses but can also be sent to home email addresses. If you would like to stay updated with careers news for the current Year Twelve cohort please contact the Careers Staff with your email details.

deborah.l.white@det.nsw.edu.au

Year Ten Careers Day Out

In the next weeks information will come home on the Year Ten Careers Day Out to Shepparton. We encourage all Year Ten students to attend this Day Out in support of subject selection ideas, career planning and local networking for employment. Keep an eye out for permission notes coming home.

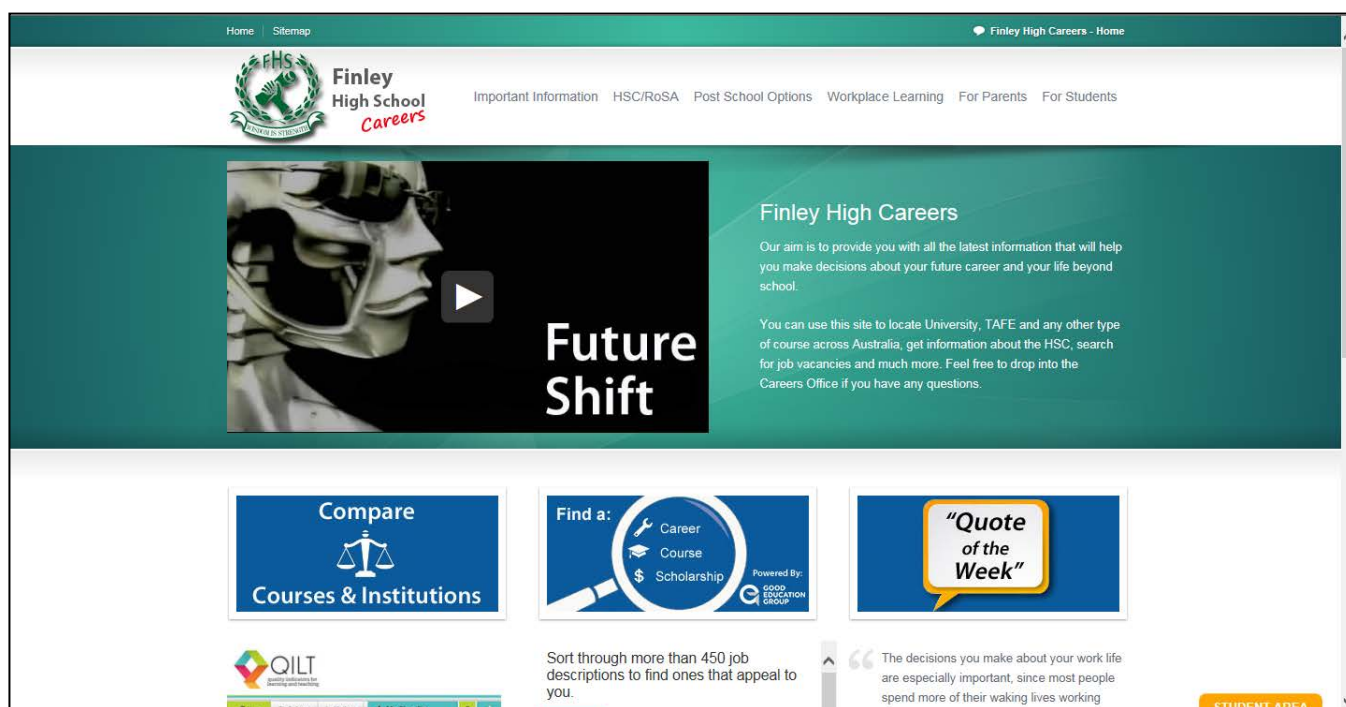
Finley High Careers Website

A reminder that we have a very informative web site dedicated especially to Careers information. The site is for all students and parents and contains information for post school options, as well as information for things like Tax file numbers, budgeting links and much more. It also has a student section that we use in class for resumes, portfolios and career planning but that students can access freely.

The site also has links to electronic workplace / work experience documents.

This site is well worth a look when discussing careers with your high school aged children.

www.finleyhighcareers.com



Other

Career Opportunities

Great opportunities are happening all the time in Careers and we encourage students to try and make the most of these opportunities by being involved when they can. Coming up we have:

- Year Eleven Skills Fix Day at Charles Sturt University Thurgoona
- A Big Day In IT at Charles Sturt University Wagga
- Year Ten Work Experience Round 1 planning

Year Ten Work Experience

The first week of Work Experience is scheduled for **Week 6 Term 2 (29th May-2nd June)**. Students need to start thinking about workplaces which they would like to explore. A package will be sent home shortly with all instructions and requirements.

Mrs D White and Mrs J Philpot
Career Advisers

I've put together a new website.

UAC/VTAC/QTAC

VET

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

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

CHECK IT OUT NOW!

WORK EXPERIENCE

DO AN INTERESTS TEST

FIND A JOB

CHOOSE A UNIVERSITY

GAP YEAR

CREATE A RESUME

DEFENCE CAREERS

YOUTH ALLOWANCE

Deb White

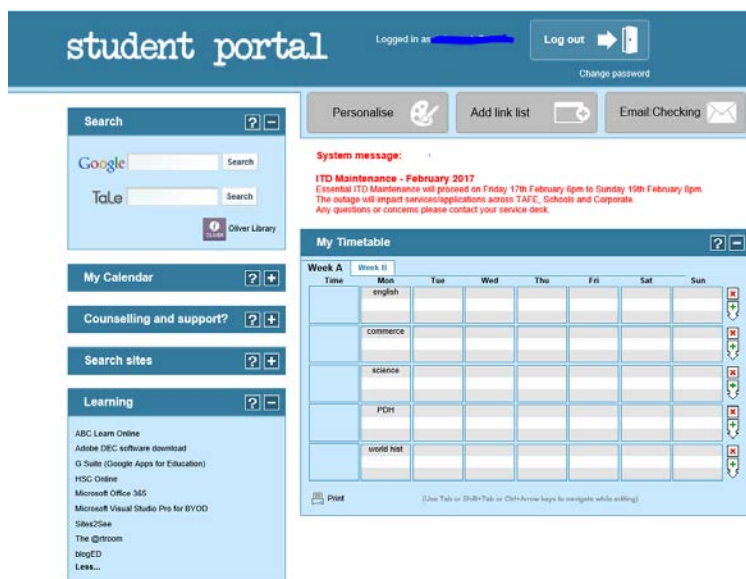
Careers Adviser



THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE IS TO CREATE IT

Free Software Available

A reminder to all parents and students that free software is available for download from the Student Portal, which can be accessed through the NSW Department of Education website. From there students can log in to their personal portal as shown below. The software can be found under the Learning Tab on the left hand side of their screen.



Please note that software cannot be downloaded at school during the hours 9am-3pm. If software is unable to be downloaded at home, arrangements can be made for BYOD laptops by contacting Gerard Tessier, our Technical Support Officer.

School Drive Subsidy

If you live a long way from public transport and need to drive a student to a public transport point or to school, you may be able to get financial assistance.

The School Drive Subsidy provides eligible parents and guardians twice-yearly payments to help cover some of the expenses of getting children to school.

To find out if you're eligible, and to apply online, visit www.transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Can't get online? Ask about the School Drive Subsidy at your school, or call 131 500.



FINLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs H McRae BA.Dip.Ed

Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson B.Com.Grad.Dip.Ed

Tocumwal Street FINLEY NSW 2713

Phone: 03 5883 1344 Fax: 03 5883 2396

www.finley-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

E-mail: finley-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Respectful

Responsible

Learners

Dear parent/s or caregivers,

Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps to build and maintain friendships with other children. If children miss the basic skills in the early years of school, they often experience difficulties in coping with their schoolwork in later years. You can help your child by getting involved with their learning right from the start and encouraging them to go to school.

Must I send my child to school every day? Yes – unless:

- Your child is too sick to go to school
- Your child has been injured
- Your child has to go to a special religious ceremony
- Your child has an infectious illness (such as chicken pox, mumps or measles)
- There is a serious family situation which requires their involvement.

Must my child attend sport? Yes. Sport is part of normal school activity which students must attend.

What does my child's teacher have to do?

- Mark attendance rolls every day
- Request a note of explanation if your child has been absent
- Inform the relevant contact person if your child is absent
- Make phone calls home to check on your child's wellbeing if your child is absent a lot

What should I do if my child has to stay away from school?

- It is important to let the school know when your child will be away and why your child is absent.
- Please provide a written note explaining the absence or contact the school by telephone.
- Any absence from school needs to be explained within seven days of the absence.

My child won't go to school – what should I do? You should contact your school principal as soon as possible to discuss the problem and ask for help. The principal may ask a Home School Liaison Officer to contact you.

Please remember to try to make non-urgent appointments with dentists and doctors before and after school.

Do not keep your child away from school for:

- birthdays
- minding other children
- hair cuts
- shopping.

Family and Community Services High School Scholarship 2017

This is an exciting opportunity for students studying in Years Ten, Eleven and Twelve to access scholarships of up to \$1000 to assist them with their education and training.

Students can use the funds to purchase items like course materials, equipment, pay for excursions or even tutoring, so they don't miss out on educational opportunities. Scholarships are open to those receiving housing assistance from the Department of Family and Community Services, community housing providers or Aboriginal housing. This also includes students:

- On the social housing waiting list
- In Out of Home Care – currently under the care of the Minister
- In public, community or Aboriginal housing
- In transitional or crisis accommodation or receiving supported accommodation
- Through a specialist homelessness service
- Receiving private rental assistance such as a private rental subsidy, bond loan or
- Tenancy guarantee.

For more information please contact (02) 8753 8673 or email youthscholarships@facs.nsw.gov.au



Would a \$1,000 scholarship help with your studies?

FACS High School Scholarships

-  → Will you be studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 in 2017?
-  → If you're living in social housing, out-of-home-care or crisis/supported accommodation, receiving private rental assistance or on the NSW Housing Register, you may be eligible.
-  → Applications will open in early 2017.
-  → Find out more at www.facs.nsw.gov.au/education

 **Family & Community Services**

Finley High School – 2017 Summer Menu

	Rolls	Sandwiches	Tubs of Salad	
Chicken Salad	\$4.70	\$4.30	Roast Chicken	\$4.50
Ham Salad	\$4.20	\$3.50	Ham	\$4.00
Tuna Salad	\$4.70	\$4.30	Tuna	\$4.50
Salad (no meat)	\$4.20	\$3.50	Salad (no meat)	\$4.00
Tuna	\$4.00	\$3.80	Extra beetroot, mayo and carrot	\$0.40
Roast Chicken	\$4.00	\$3.80		
Ham	\$3.30	\$3.30		
Cheese	\$2.50	\$2.50	Recess	
Tomato	\$2.20	\$2.20	Cheese and bacon roll - large	\$2.20
Egg/Curried	\$2.20	\$2.20	Cheese and bacon roll - small	\$1.30
Vegemite	\$1.70	\$1.70	Hedgehog (Mon-Fri) small	\$1.75
Peanut Butter	\$1.70	\$1.70	large	\$3.50
Ham and Cheese	\$3.50	\$3.50	Muffins	\$3.50
Buttered	\$1.40		Vanilla Slice (Wed)	\$3.50
Wraps			Large flavoured milk	\$3.60
Roast Chicken	\$4.70		Long life flavoured milk	\$2.00
Ham	\$4.20		Large orange juice	\$2.10
Hot			Small orange juice	\$1.60
Chicken Burger	\$5.00		Flavoured drink large	\$2.50
Hot Dogs	\$3.70		Water	\$1.50
+ Cheese	\$4.00		Plain milk	\$1.50
Chicken Wrap	\$4.30		Sport Water	\$2.00
Toasted sandwiches				
Ham and cheese	\$3.50			
Cheese	\$3.00			
			JJ's (flavoured)	\$1.00



CANTEEN ROSTER

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

February

**17 DAY OFF IN LIEU OF
TWILIGHT SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

20 M Read, J Burdon
21 C Girdwood
22 R Sharp
23 T Roe
24 K Litchfield, J Jones
27 J Orro, S Congram
28 K Nicholls

March

1 H Harris
2 L Bryce

Finley High School P&C AGM

Wednesday 8th March 2017
7pm in the staff common room
(School Admin. Building).

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

fhspandcassociation@gmail.com

Community Announcements

Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Information Session for Parents of Learner Drivers

Young drivers 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 2 hour workshop for parents that offers practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

The session will be conducted by David Riches on Tuesday March 7th at the Finley RSC from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Early bookings are essential, so phone David on 0434 964 764 now to reserve your place, or email

saferlearnerdrivers@gmail.com

Your child is eligible for FREE dental treatment

All children in NSW up to 18 years old can have free dental care at a Public Dental Clinic.

Staff will ask for your Medicare number.

Dental clinics are located at the **Berrigan** Community Health Centre and at the **Deniliquin** Hospital.

Appointments are available now no waiting - phone **1800 45 00 46**



Interested In **The Defence Force**
Then Join the **Australian Air Force Cadets!**

419 Squadron's

Open Day

Saturday 18 February, 2017

0900 hours (9am) – 1500 hours (3pm)

110 Sobraon Street Shepparton (Somme Barracks)

BBQ Lunch

For more information on the Australian Air Force Cadets
WOFF (AAFC) Ray Bolton OAM ph: 0407 247 916 email: co.419sqn@aafc.org.au
www.aafc.org.au

Celebrate Attendance

Hints and Tips No 1: Responsibilities



Parent/s or caregivers are required – by law – to provide a written or verbal explanation to the Principal within seven days of any absence as to why their child was not at school.

It is important that the school receives a written or verbal explanation because:

- (1) It is a parent's legal obligation to explain their child's absence within seven days
- (2) It is a requirement that the school investigate all unexplained absences
- (3) It avoids the school and the School Attendance Officer from making unnecessary investigations
- (4) It is the way the school knows that your child was legitimately absent and not truanting from school

If you have any difficulties in providing a written explanation for your child's absence, please contact your school principal.



Missing school leaves gaps in your education

Celebrate Attendance

Hints and Tips No. 2: Teaching good habits



It is important for parents to make attending school a priority.

Allowing children days off for birthdays, to look after younger children, to go shopping, to keep you company or because they were tired from a late night, not only sends the wrong message to your child, it is also against the law.

Children who get used to having days off school for these kinds of reasons develop an attitude that their attendance at school is not very important. This can become a big issue as a child gets older.

Teach your children that being on time is important. Children that are often late to school miss the part of the school day when the teacher explains new activities. The beginning of the day is also when many students are freshest and can concentrate better.

Students that are late on a regular basis may become the target for comment by other students and often as a result isolate themselves from their peers.



Missing school leaves gaps in your education

Celebrate Attendance

Hints and Tips No. 3: Writing notes



Parents or caregivers are required by law to provide an explanation to the principal to say why their child was absent from school.

A note of explanation should contain:

1. Date that the note was written;
2. Child's name;
3. Days/dates the child was absent from school;
4. The reason the child was absent;
5. The signature of the child's parent or caregiver.

If more than one child from the same family has been absent a separate note for each child should be written.

A note should be brought to school on the first day the student returns to school after an absence. Your school is required to investigate all unexplained absences (where a child has been absent and no explanation has been received) within two days.

Did your child give the note to their teacher? This can sometimes be a problem with younger children.



Missing school leaves gaps in your education



Expressions of Interest

Swimming and Track & Field Athletes, Prospective Qualified Coaches & Head of Delegation

Closing date for Expression of Interest: 31st March, 2017

2018 International Children's Games – Jerusalem

The City of Jerusalem is hosting the International Children's Games in July 2018. For children aged 12 years to 15 years of age the ICG is the largest multi-sport youth games in the world and a member of the International Olympic Committee. Swimmers and track and field athletes must be no older than 15 as at the 31st December 2018.

A team of swimmers and track & field athletes, respective qualified coaches and Head of Delegation are being sought for this amazing sporting and cultural experience.

Berrigan Shire has been invited to send a team of swimmers and track & field athletes. We are seeking youth who live in and/or attend school in the Berrigan Shire who are interested in trying out for this once in a lifetime experience.

Interested swimmers and track & field athletes, respective qualified coaches & Head of Delegation are encouraged to be competing over the summer months and keep copies of their events and times/distance for the purpose of future selection.

Please lodge your expressions of interest at berrigan.icg@gmail.com



GET FIT WITH MARTIAL ARTS!



- ▶ Karate
- ▶ Boxing
- ▶ Kickboxing
- ▶ Boot Camps
- ▶ Self Defence Course
- ▶ Personal Training
- ▶ Fun for all the family

FIRST CLASS FREE!

Ask about our **FREE** uniform to new members

Age specific karate classes held weekly at:

Finley High School (MPR)
Tocumwal Street, Finley NSW 2713

Tuesday nights

Karate Children 3-6yrs, 7-9yrs, 10-12yrs	4:30pm
Karate Teens & Adults	3:30pm

Book NOW for Term 3
Enrolments close soon!

All classes run as per school terms, with a **FREE** trial class for all new members.

Limited places available so **BOOK NOW!**

All instructors are accredited, have police clearances & first aid qualifications

Benefits are:

- Improved Self Esteem
- Improved Self Confidence
- Improved Self Discipline
- Improved overall health & fitness
- Increased energy, stamina & endurance
- Increased muscle strength & flexibility
- Improved co ordination
- Reduced stress & anxiety
- Body fat loss / weight loss

AllStars
Self Defence Centres
www.allstarsdefence.com.au
nsw@allstars.net.au

Bookings and Enquiries:
(03) 5881 5511



SCHOOL TRIP SUBSIDY CHANGES



Transport
for NSW

What's happening?

From 20 December 2016, the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy will be progressively phased out and replaced with the new School Drive Subsidy.

This change will make it fairer for everyone who drives their children to school or to the nearest public transport location.

If you're a parent or guardian currently receiving the PVC subsidy, you can choose to stay on it or switch to the new School Drive Subsidy after 17 January 2017.

What are the main changes?

If you're driving one or more eligible students from the same household to the nearest public transport pick up point or to school, the new School Drive Subsidy will be paid 'per trip' (for the complete school trip). This 'per trip' payment is different from the current PVC subsidy, which is paid 'per student'.

Other differences include:

- A flat per kilometre rate (indexed annually to the cost of living) will apply under the School Drive Subsidy, unlike the flat payment per distance band in the current PVC subsidy.
- The requirement to do a special return trip each morning and afternoon will be removed.
- The 300km per trip payment cap will be removed.
- The limit of eight trips per year for distance education students to attend mini-schools during term time will be removed.
- The PVC subsidy rates will remain at 2017 levels in 2018 and beyond.
- Payments to third parties will stop (e.g. payments to a bus operator hired by parents from pooled PVC subsidy payments).

Note, you can't be on two schemes at the same time.

If you add new students after 17 January 2017, **all** eligible students will automatically go onto the new School Drive Subsidy, including existing PVC subsidy students.

How do I check which scheme is better for me?

Check the comparison calculator at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

What do I need to do?

If you want to stay on the existing PVC subsidy, you don't need to do anything.

Assuming the school trip doesn't change, your payments will continue for all existing students until they leave school or until you need to re-apply because a student is moving up to Year 7 at high school.

If the school trip changes because you move homes or the student changes schools, you will need to re-apply under the new School Drive Subsidy.

Remember, you can't re-apply for the PVC subsidy after 20 December 2016, but you can switch to the new School Drive Subsidy at any time after 17 January 2017.

If you want to switch to the new School Drive Subsidy, apply online at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Just like the PVC subsidy, payments will be made twice a year, around August and February, based on the student's school attendance for the preceding semester.

The online application process only takes about 10-15 minutes to complete.

If you don't have access to the internet, feel free to call **131 500** for assistance.

After you've applied and been approved for the School Drive Subsidy, payments will be made automatically into your bank account twice a year.

You won't have to re-apply until a student reaches the end of Year 6, or until you next update any details — such as a change of school, school trip or address.

What happens if I stay on PVC now but want to add a new child later?

For new eligible students, you can either:

- Add the new student into the new School Drive Subsidy and also switch the existing students to the new scheme, or;
- Stay on the current PVC subsidy where existing students are covered, but not add any new students and not receive any additional subsidy.

What are the distance requirements under the School Drive Subsidy?

School year band	Minimum distance to school/TAFE	Minimum distance to the nearest public transport pick up point (where available)
Infants and Primary students (Years K-6)	More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance	More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance
Secondary students (Years 7-12)	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance
TAFE	More than 3.2km walking distance	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance

You can read about these changes in more detail at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Frequently asked questions

Which will be better for me – PVC or School Drive Subsidy?

It depends on:

- How many children you have on the scheme.
- The type of school they attend (boarding school, day school or mini-school).
- The distance you need to drive.
- If you have children to add to your school trips in the future.

You should consider staying on the PVC subsidy if you're receiving a PVC subsidy for more than one child.

We suggest you check which scheme is better for your individual circumstances by using the online comparison calculator at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

What are the School Drive Subsidy rates?

You can find the latest rates for the School Drive Subsidy and the PVC at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

The deadline for new applications for the existing PVC subsidy is 20 December 2016.

Keep in mind, if you stay on the current PVC subsidy, you won't be able to add new students after 17 January 2017 without switching **all** the existing PVC students to the new School Drive Subsidy.

Need more information?

Find out more, including examples of school trips, at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive or call 131 500



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