



Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mrs H McRae

Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

1st February 2018

KEY DATES

February

5 - 7	Year Seven Camp to Howman's Gap
5 - 6	University of Wollongong Discovery Day Excursion
15	Finley High School Twilight Swimming Carnival
16	NO SCHOOL Day off in lieu of swimming carnival
20	Years Seven, Ten and Eleven vaccinations
22	Zone Swimming

Principal's Report

Welcome

I would like to welcome back students and staff to Finley High School for the start of another exciting year of learning – both in and out of the classroom.

I extend a very special welcome to Year 7 students and any new students to the school. I hope you enjoy making new friends, accept the new challenges of learning at Finley High School with a determined and positive mindset and that you get involved in all the learning opportunities that the school offers.

New Staff

This year, we are welcoming several new members of staff, some of whom are replacing teachers who have moved on, and some who we are employing to ensure our curriculum is able to meet the needs of as many students as possible.

Our new staff members are:

Ms Amy Baxter, Ms Maria Hurd, Mr Jye McGuire – Human Society and its Environment

Mr Alex Smyth – Special Education

Ms Lesley Sheldon – English

Mr Dane Maxwell – PDHPE

Mrs Tanya Thompson – Administration Staff

Mrs Vance, Mr Richards - TAS

I would like to welcome back Ms Jessica Laxton who is returning to the English faculty from Maternity Leave as well as our ongoing casual teachers who are continuing to fill positions around the school while some teachers are on leave.

I congratulate Mrs Braybon who is commencing her 40th year of teaching at Finley High School this year. This is an amazing achievement from an outstanding teacher who remains current and dedicated to her students achieving their very best. I wish her well for 2018.

School Upgrades

Over the holidays, there have been some upgrades around the school. Externally, buildings have been painted and prepared to receive new roofs in the coming months, and new carpet has been installed in several rooms, including the library. Signage was installed at the end of the year to indicate the purpose of different buildings and we hope that this will help new parents and students to navigate the school.

Third Party Software for school management

Each year, Finley High School use software programs to produce timetables for students and teachers, write student reports and record progress of students across the school. The software programs that we use are EDVAL for the timetable and Millennium for student reports and achievements.

These software packages are used by schools across Australia, and are considered extremely secure.

Should you have any concerns about these programs or any questions about how they are used, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

People and Policies

The start of the school year often is an anxious time for parents and students, especially those who are new to the school.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Below is a list of Year Advisers for each year group. They are often an appropriate point of contact if you have any concerns regarding the health and wellbeing of your child. Keep this list handy and do not hesitate to let us know if you are concerned in any way about your child.

Year 7 - Simon Clark

Year 8 - Di Sexton

Year 9 - Sarah Infanti

Year 10 - Tom McCarney

Year 11 - Jessica Laxton

Year 12 - Daryl Bird

If you have a concern in a particular subject or faculty area, please feel free to make an appointment with your child's teacher, or contact the school to speak with the Head of Faculty for that subject. Below is a list of the Head Teachers at Finley High School.

Head of English

Head of Mathematics

Head of Science

Head of PDHPE

Head of HSIE (History, Geography, Commerce etc)

Head of TAS (Food, Textiles, Wood, Metals, Technology)

Head of Special Education (acting)

Veronica McNaught

Nicholas Campbell

Michael O'Leary

Ellen Downey

Matthew Whitty

Robyn O'Leary

Michael Tooke

I have also attached some relevant policies for you to read:

Anti-bullying Plan

Discipline and Welfare Policy

In future newsletters, I will attach policies and procedures which may be helpful.

Year Seven Camp

Next Monday, Year Seven students will embark on their next adventure at Finley High School..... the Howman's Gap Camp.

Students are asked to be at the school by 6:30 am as the buses will leave at 7 am sharp.

This is always a fabulous excursion, giving students the opportunity to make new friends and challenge themselves with the many activities on hand.

Mr Clark has done an amazing job organising the camp and I am sure that all who attend will have a wonderful time.

Twilight Swimming Carnival

Finley High School has a twilight swimming carnival to beat the heat.

This year's carnival, at the Finley Swimming Pool, will be held on the evening of Thursday 15th February.

Students will come to school and have classes as normal for Periods 1 - 4. They will have a short lunch and walk to the pool at the start of the second half of lunch (approximately 2 pm) where the 50m events will commence. The carnival will then continue into the evening, finishing between 7 – 7:30pm.

Each student needs to bring \$3 for pool entry or their Berrigan Shire season pass (to be shown on the day). Students are encouraged to wear their house colours for the entire day; however, clothing needs to be appropriate for school and suitable for any practical lessons, this includes fully enclosed footwear. It is advisable that they also bring a hat, sunscreen and water bottles. Parents are welcome to come to the carnival and enjoy the activities. There will be a BBQ and kiosk selling food and drinks.

On Friday 16th the school will not be operating for normal lessons; therefore, students are not required to attend.

Should you have any questions about the carnival, please do not hesitate to call the school.

Mrs H McRae
Principal

School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS)

Does your child travel on a bus?

Will your child need school bus travel in 2018?

Have you moved house or has your child changed schools?

Have you changed your phone number?

These are all reasons to update your details or apply for school bus travel.

It is a simple online process that needs to be completed and approved prior to using the bus.

If you need to update details please use the following link <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/updateDetails>

If you are putting in a new application please use the link below

<https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/howToApply>

What is the Skoolbag App?

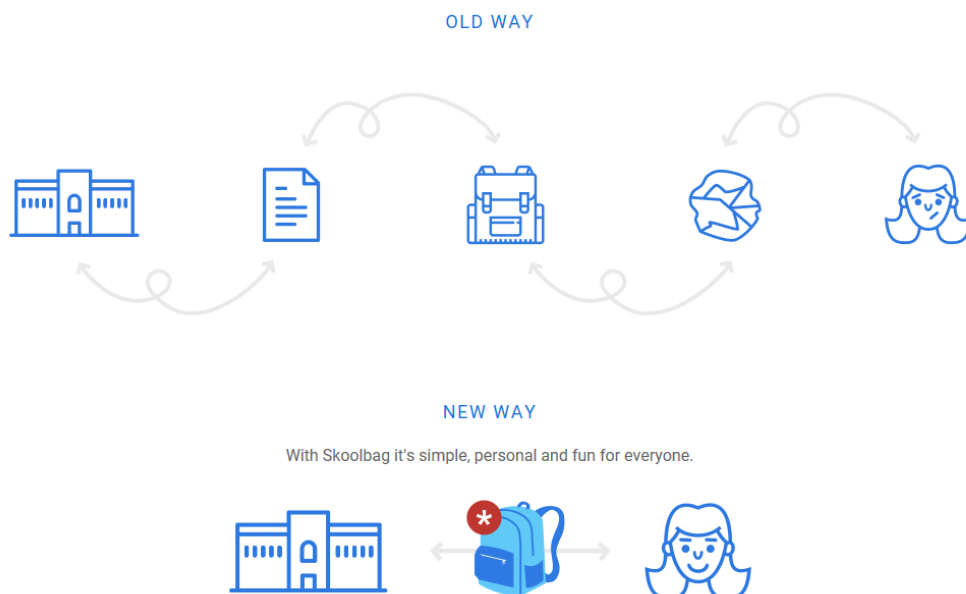
Skoolbag is one of Australia's most trusted school apps, empowering schools to engage parents through a simple and central communication platform. The easy-to-use mobile app streamlines all aspects of organising school life, from newsletters and events to student attendance and documentation.

Cost: Free

How to download: See instructions at the end of the newsletter

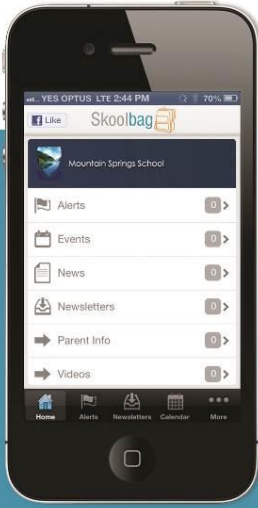
What can you use it for?

- **Absentee notes**
- Access, complete and return digital forms such as absentee forms, change of details and media releases quickly and easily on your phone.
- Stay up to date with the calendar and alerts of upcoming events.
- When emergencies occur you can be alerted instantly with an instant alert.
- **When you download the Free App sign up to the listed groups to receive special alerts just for those groups eg: Year 12 or Year 7.**
- Access and read your school newsletters.



Skoolbag

We have just come on board with the Skoolbag app. If you wish to download it to your smartphone follow the instructions below.



Skoolbag



Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

iPhone & iPad Users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps"; your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook! 

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



CANTEEN ROSTER

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

February

5	M Read
6	F Aull
7	R Sharp
8	J Burdon
9	T Clarke
12	M Kleinschmidt, S Congram
13	R Lockhart
14	T Doohan
15	S Barlow
16	NO SCHOOL

Finley High School P&C Meeting

Wednesday 14th February, 2018
7pm in the staff common room
(administration building)

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

fhspandcassociation@gmail.com



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

FACS Scholarships



Will you be studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 in 2018?



If you are living in social housing or on the NSW Housing Register, you may be eligible.



Applications will open in mid January 2018.



Find out more at www.facs.nsw.gov.au/education





Family and Community Services Scholarships 2018 - Information for applicants

FACS is offering scholarships to help students enrolled in education or training to complete their studies. Successful applicants will receive \$1,000 to help with school expenses.

How much is the scholarship?

Each scholarship for the 2018 academic year is \$1,000 (GST exempt). You can apply again each year for up to seven years to help you complete your studies.

Who can apply for a scholarship?

You are eligible to apply if you are:

- living in social housing (which includes public, community or Aboriginal housing), on the NSW Housing Register, receiving FACS private rental assistance, living in crisis/supported accommodation, or living in out-of-home care
- studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE, completing a school based apprenticeship or traineeship, or studying a VET subject at school in 2018
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- not earning an income higher than the NSW social housing eligibility limits (if earning an income).

If you have previously been awarded a FACS Scholarship, you can still apply for the 2018 academic year. You will receive an email providing the details of how to apply again in 2018.

When can I apply for a scholarship?

Applications open at 9am on 22 January 2017 and close at 5pm on Friday 23 February 2018.

We cannot accept late applications.

How can I apply for a scholarship?

It's easy to apply online. You must have a valid email address to register and receive communication about your application. The link to FluidReview will be provided when applications open early next year.

To apply, you should:

1. Visit our online form to set up an account and create a password.
2. Complete the eligibility questions and all relevant sections of the form.
3. Provide evidence of your social housing status
4. Upload a School Reference from a staff member who will support your application. This could be your teacher, careers advisor, year advisor, welfare teacher etc.

5. Provide details of a staff member from your school or TAFE who can tell us about what you're studying and who will administer your scholarship money if you are successful.
6. Make sure you complete the Application Declaration and Media Consent form. You should ask a parent or guardian to do this for you if you are under 18 years old.

You can also choose someone to help you fill in your application. To do this you will need to provide this person's email address and choose the level of access you would like to give them.

How will I know if I'm successful?

We will send all applicants (and anyone that assists you to complete an application) an email once we receive an application. We will send another email to all applicants and their schools in May 2018 advising of the outcome of your application.

What can I use the scholarship for?

If your application is successful, you can use your scholarship for educational expenses like textbooks and course fees, or to help pay for practical supports like medical needs, child care and internet. You will be able to keep anything you buy with the scholarship.

What can't I use the scholarship for?

You can't use your scholarship to pay for items provided through other financial assistance programs offered by your school or TAFE.

How will I receive my scholarship funds?

FACS will pay the scholarship directly to your school, which will help you to decide how to spend the scholarship money and give it to you. Each school might have its own process for how it will pay you, which they will explain to you.

How will you assess my application?

A panel made up of staff from FACS and other organisations like Aboriginal housing providers, community housing providers and NSW Education will assess applications against priority criteria. Decisions made by the panel are final and cannot be appealed.

Where can I find out more?

Email: education@facs.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/education