



# Finley High School Newsletter

Principal: Mr J Ward

Deputy Principal: Mrs P Jackson

14<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## KEY DATES

### December

- 18** Presentation Night  
6:50pm in the school hall
- 19** Breakfast Club

### January 2019

- 28** Australia Day
- 29** Staff Development Day
- 30** Years 7, 11 and 12 return to school
- 31** All students return to school.

## Year Ten Work Experience

In Week 8, Year Ten students participated in their second week of work experience. This involved the students organising a workplace which interested them and perhaps was a career they could pursue.

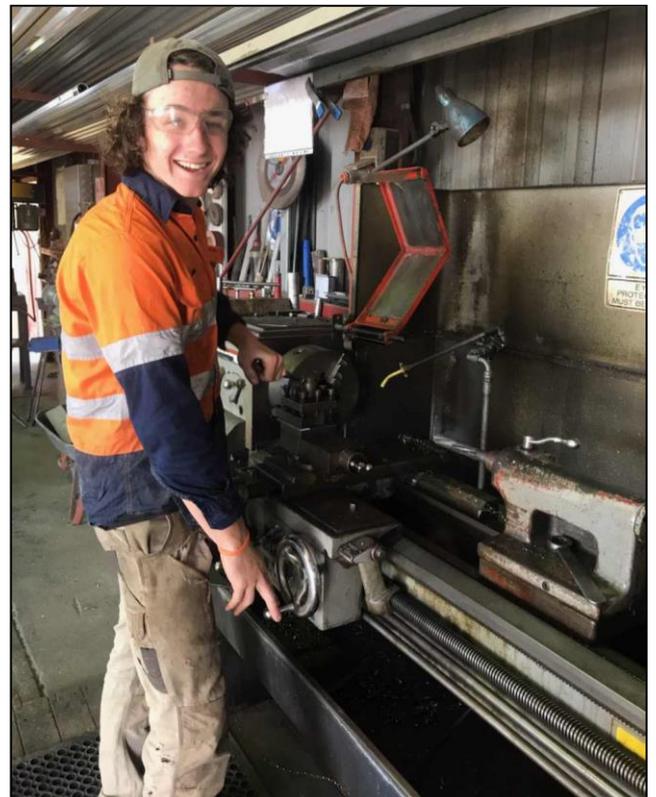
The students chose a wide variety of occupations and work places. For some it was a reinforcement that they wanted to follow that particular path, for others the complete opposite! That's what Work Experience is all about!

A huge thank you to the many businesses and industries who support our students, your time, generosity and patience is very much appreciated. The Work Experience program couldn't run without the support of our many local businesses and establishments.

Jenny Philpot



Above: Vamos Patu learnt the subtle art of macaroon making at the Country Club in Finley



Above: Alistair Bear loving his time at Vanderhoek Engineering



Jaden Morgan was kept busy at Woody's Motors in Berrigan



Bailey Thornton enjoyed his week at the Berrigan Bakehouse. The early mornings were a bit of a challenge!



Thanks to Hutcheon and Pearce for hosting Harry John



Above: Gabby Taylor-Tran looks really professional at Rustie's Hairdressing in Tocumwal

## Principal's Report

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to the students, staff and our community for their efforts in 2018. I chose to be a teacher with an aim to make a positive difference to our future generations of students. In the end though, it is the students who motivate myself and the other staff here at Finley High School. Each of them has tremendous potential to be an educated and a caring citizen of the future. As the conclusion of the year rolls in, I would like to say well done to all for your work and achievements. It has been a wonderful year where you have achieved so much.

### Work Experience

A tradition that never seems to grow old is year 10 work experience and we had students travelling as far as Newcastle to experience this. Working in a variety of fields the reports from employers was extremely positive and the students should be immensely proud of what they achieved. I had the pleasure of speaking to a number of employers who all spoke highly of the students. Can I thank all the businesses and organisations who took on our students and Mrs Philpot and Mrs White for their excellent co-ordination of the week.

### Orientation Day

Year Six Orientation Day occurred on the 5<sup>th</sup> December and was well attended. The day started with a number of key staff speaking and welcoming everyone to our school. This was the last taste of high school before the students start in 2019. Thank you to our Year 7 Advisor 2019, Ms Archinal, and Mrs Brown for all their hard work in making this a very successful transition. We look forward to welcoming our Year Six students into Year Seven in 2019.

### Peer Support Training

Can I also extend a well done to Mrs Archinal and Mrs Brown on running a very successful peer support training program for Years Nine and Ten. At the conclusion of the training the students continue as peer support leaders for the incoming year 7 class of 2019. The main aim of peer support is to help students develop the understanding and skills needed to have a safe and happy lifestyle. The peer support program helps Year Seven students build self esteem and self awareness. This program is invaluable in helping to make the transition to high school a smooth and enjoyable experience for our students.

### Rewards day

It was an absolute pleasure to join approximately 100 students and 7 staff on a PBL rewards excursion to Albury on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>. This excursion was organised to reward students who had achieved outstanding behaviour in 2018, following in the PBL mantra of respectful, responsible learners. Many of the students took the opportunity to shop, enjoy a nice lunch with friends, relax in the cool and tranquil gardens or catch a movie. Thank you to Miss Philpot for organising such a great day.

### Staffing update

Congratulations to Thomas McCarney, who has been appointed as the Head Teacher of student Welfare in 2019, and Amy Baxter who was successful in gaining a permanent position in the HSIE faculty.

I would also like to wish Kate Allan–Georgas all the best on her transfer to Corrimal High School, starting in 2019.

The conclusion of a school year also means that we will farewell staff. I thank the following staff and wish them all the best with their future careers, many have contributed so much to the school and will be missed.

Dane Maxwell, Toni Campbell, Belinda Everingham, Josh Renn, Mark Richards, Rhiannan Maxwell and Zoe Stephens.

### Executive planning day

The school executive came together on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December to plan for 2019. It was a successful day as we planned for a number of effective changes that will support our school in making positive change to the learning of our students. I look forward to sharing these in 2019 and the impact they will have.

## Presentation evenings

It has been an absolute pleasure to represent Finley High School at a number of local presentation day and night ceremonies. To see so many students achieve success through hard work and perseverance is what we value in education. It certainly is a highlight of my year to see proud parents taking photos and embracing their children. Thank you and congratulations to students at the following presentation events I was invited to. Apologies to Blighty PS who clashed with Jerilderie PS.

Monday 10	Finley TAFE
Tuesday 11	Finley PS & Tocumwal PS
Wednesday 12	Berrigan PS
Thursday 13	St Josephs Jerilderie
Monday 17	Jerilderie PS

The Finley High School presentation night is Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> December. I congratulate all students who will be receiving awards and thank all those involved, most notably Mr O'Leary and Ms Marten, all the special guests and those who donated awards. Thanks to Miss Geeves who oversees the musical program for the night. Finally, thank you to all the office staff for putting together the programs and certificates.

## P & C

I would like to thank our hard-working P & C Association which has maintained consistent support for the school in so many ways. Many of our learning aids, resources, support and assistance comes from our P & C. Without their help, time and good-will we would not have access to many of the things we take for granted. Thanks to those on the P & C who leave us at the end of the year and especially thank our executive led by President, Paul Jones. I would also like to thank our canteen staff, Kaylene Dawe and Bernadette Brookes, and all the parents and friends who volunteer in the canteen; for some still years after their own children have left the school.

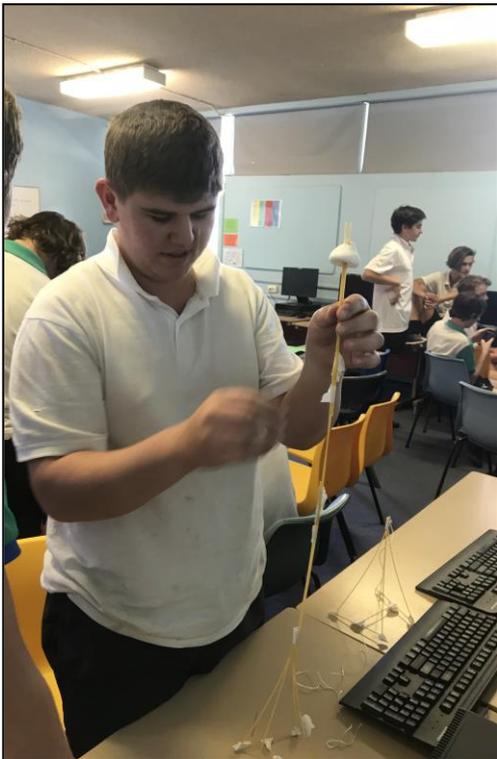
In finishing, as I say to our staff regularly, we must put our students at the heart of what we do, we are here for the students, nothing makes us prouder than to see them achieve and become wonderful citizens and human beings. We must seek to inspire a passion for learning. We want to make learning as engaging and stimulating as possible. We want our students to question, be curious and be able to critically evaluate and meaningfully participate. For our school to continue to grow I challenge all our staff and students to improve and strive to be the best. I'm looking forward to the Christmas break but am equally excited to return in 2019 to new challenges and to ensure we continue to see Finley High School flourish and improve.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe holiday period. School will resume on Wednesday 30 January, 2019 for Years 7, 11 and 12. The remainder of students will return on Thursday 31 January 2019.

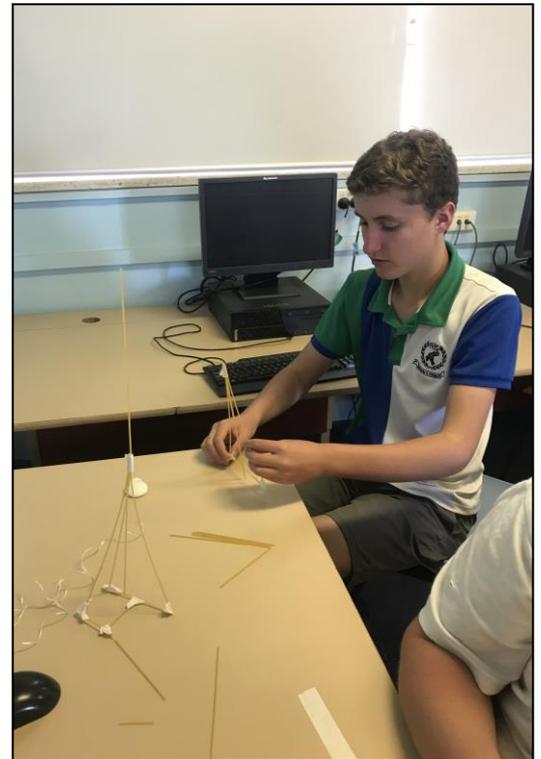
Jeff Ward  
Principal

### Year Nine Investigating Employment Related Skills

Year Nine Students have been working towards preparing for work experience next year. As part of this unit they have been investigating the various employment related skills employers are seeking in employees. Problem solving and critical thinking is one such skill. This week students attempted to, in a race against the clock, work as a small team to build the tallest tower using only 20 pieces of uncooked spaghetti, 1m of tape, 1m of string and a marshmallow – which had to rest unchanged in form on the top of the tower. The objective of this lesson was to follow steps for problem solving, to be able to think critically and creatively to come up with a plan and to use their strengths to work as a team. Further to this students got to explore structures and investigate what methods and shapes can make the tallest and strongest structure. Students were encouraged along the way to test, alter and rebuild their designs to ensure that the structure would hold their marshmallow, giving an insight into the real-life processes of testing, redevelopment and prototyping that engineers and scientists use.



Left: Blake Barry making a spaghetti and marshmallow tower.



Right: Jai Armstrong also making a spaghetti and Marshmallow tower.



Left: Lochie Lawrance and Mitchell Spinner working together to make a spaghetti tower.

## My Work Experience

This year I was given the opportunity to do my work experience at Sydney's Taronga zoo. I was placed in the marine division where I worked with the seals and penguins for the week, observing the everyday jobs that need to be done. As a work experience student I was unable to handle any of the animals, however, I could still get up close and personal with them. Part of my duties included preparing feed buckets for the animals. I was able to enjoy interacting with the animals, watching the seals perform their show and the penguins fumble around their enclosure. I had one cheeky penguin come up to me and try to untie one of my shoelaces.

This was a fantastic opportunity for me, which I cannot recommend highly enough for anyone who has the slightest interest in the care of animals. I was not the only student doing work experience in that week. There were four other students from different parts of the state who, whilst working in different divisions to me, I got to meet and interact with.

Being selected to go to Taronga Zoo was a great opportunity and proves a student from any region in the state can be selected to undertake work experience there. I would recommend anyone from Finley high school who has the slightest interest in animal care or if they just want something different for their week, to apply to Taronga zoo to be considered for their work experience program.

Picture right: Myself with pepper the seal.

Natasha Jones



## Nursing Home Visit

On Wednesday a group of Year Eight students made the day a little brighter for many of the residents at Finley Regional Care. The Year Eight Food Elective class has been working on a café based unit, and as part of this baked Yo-Yo biscuits to take and share with the residents. We were also fortunate to listen to the sweet sounds of the Finley Public School Stage 2 Choir sing several Christmas carols.

It was great to see many smiling faces as students shared the joy of the festive season.

Right: Shae Fennell and Ruby Russell.



Above: Students enjoying the carols.

## Hour of Code

Students from Mathematics classes 7A, 7B, 8O and 8R participated in the Hour of Code on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code" and to show that anybody can learn the basics. Coding helps to nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. Skills that will give students the competitive edge in any 21st-century career path. Year Seven students completed the 'Minecraft: Hero's Journey' activity and Year Eight students completed the 'Ice Age Play Lab activity'.



Left: Students participating in the Hour of Code.



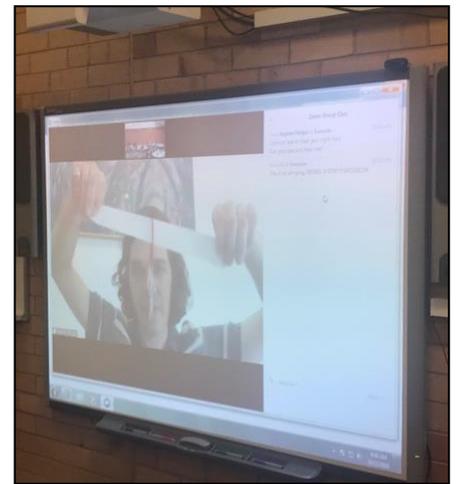
Right: Zac Johnson and Shannon Neilson



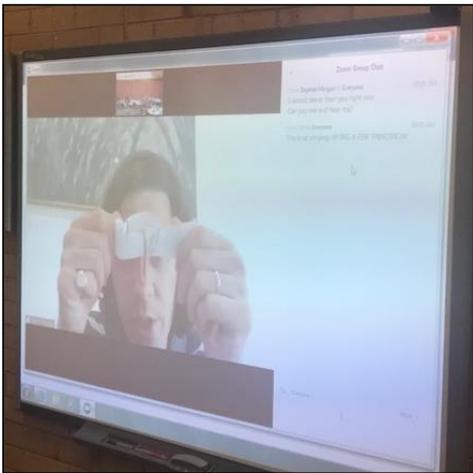
Left: Lachlan Simpson and Levi Webster

## Year Ten Maths Virtual Visit

Year Ten students who have chosen Advanced Mathematics and Extension 1 for Year Eleven in 2019, participated in a Virtual Visit hosted by Stephen Morgan, who is the Senior Science Communicator for Mathematics and Statistics, and for Psychology at the University of Sydney. During this virtual tour, Stephen spoke about what Mathematics is like at University. We discussed what the course requirements are for a variety of uni degrees, what is involved in these courses and how they are assessed. We also discussed the new generation of math related careers involving statistics and data analysis being formed due to technological advances. We then explored some basic mathematical principals through a variety of hands on challenges. We had to predict what the outcome could be to several experiments and then conduct the experiment to see whether our prediction was true or not. It was through these problem-solving tasks, that Stephen wanted us to try and see patterns between concepts, to make predictions, that its ok to be wrong, and he spoke about the real-world applications these mathematical theories have. Thank you to Mrs Campbell for organising this tour and to Mr Tessier for his tech support.



Meg Marsden, Year Ten.



## STEM Primary School Visits

Over the term some Finley High School students have been visiting our feeder schools to run STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) sessions. The sessions focused on clay-motion, taking still image pictures and merging them together to give the illusion of movement. The students helped Mr Maxwell deliver the hour long session to the primary schools, some discovering an interest and passion in the education sector. We were able to visit Finley Public school, St Joseph's Catholic School Finley and Tocumwal Public School. We look forward to visiting more schools next year as we ran out of time to get around to everyone.

Pictured right: Chelsea Singleton with Abbey Marshall



Left: Alison Kleinschmidt.

Right: Finley Public School students, Mikayla Culhane and Charlotte Hurlstone with Finley High School students, Mia Neessen and Cassidy Reynolds.



## Where Are They Now – Josie Thomas

1. Where are you originally from?  
Finley

2. What years were you a student at Finley High School?  
2004 to 2009

3. What was your Tertiary Education / Training?  
Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Laws and Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice

4. What is your current position / vocation?  
I am a lawyer currently employed as a Senior Policy Analyst by the National Transport Commission.

5. How would you describe your pathway from Finley High School to this position?  
After Finley High School I attended university and studied a Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Laws and Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice. During university I gained experience working in law firms, volunteering to assist disadvantaged women, nannying and working for a child psychologist. After I graduated I pursued a career in state and federal government in policy and legal roles as I wanted to help people and have a positive impact on the community. I am now a government lawyer with policy, legislation and transport expertise. I am currently working on reviewing the Heavy Vehicle National Law and developing best practice legislation for the future of Australia.

6. Where have you lived since High School?  
Geelong, Melbourne and Sydney

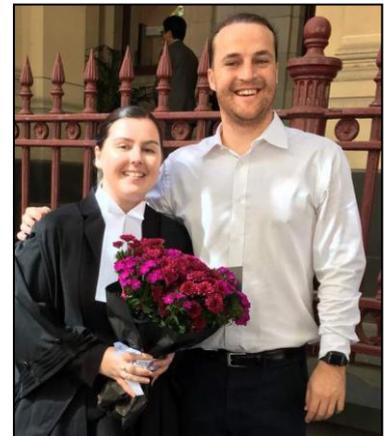
7. What are your favourite memories of Finley High School?  
Year 10 excursion to Tasmania, Maths Challenge Days, Fashion Extravaganza and spending time with my friends in the Common Room.

8. Greatest achievements so far?  
Being admitted as a lawyer to the Supreme Court of Victoria after six years of study and celebrating with my family. Getting to work on important policy and legislative changes everyday.

9. Other relevant life experiences you have had?  
During university I completed an exchange to the Czech Republic and studied International Law and Human Rights. I love travelling and have explored the United States, Canada, South East Asia, Mexico, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Europe. Outside of work I volunteer as a homework tutor for disadvantaged children in my community.

10. Tips or advice for our current students.

- Use your country upbringing as a point of difference when applying for jobs and networking. Be proud of where you are from.
- Life doesn't 'start' once you finish high school, you are living some of the best years of your life now. There's no finish line, so just enjoy your journey.
- Good things will come to you if you work hard and be kind to people.





**Royal Geelong Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc.**

79 Breakwater Rd East Geelong VIC 3219

Office 03 5221 1707

[www.royalgeelongshow.org.au](http://www.royalgeelongshow.org.au)

[www.facebook.com/royalgeelongshow](https://www.facebook.com/royalgeelongshow)

29 November 2018

Patricia Jackson  
Finley High School  
Tocumwal St  
Finley NSW 2713

Dear Ms Jackson,

The members of the Royal Geelong A & P Society Inc. cattle committee would like to thank the Finley High School for supporting the cattle section of the Royal Geelong Show.

The committee members were impressed on the way the students presented and handled the cattle during the event and commend them on their professional manner, presentation and conduct.

Brian and Jenny run a great programme with the students and their cattle and the committee look forward to seeing them at the 2019 Royal Geelong Show.

Kind Regards

Don McDonald  
Cattle Committee Chair Person  
Vice President  
Royal Geelong A & P Society Inc.

Come dressed in  
all things  
Christmas

**CHRISTMAS  
DRESS UP  
DAY  
& CAKE  
STALL**

**TUESDAY THE 18TH  
WEEK 10!**

## School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) 2019 Applications Now Open

School student applications for 2019 are now open.

Students progressing to year 3 and year 7 **do not** need to re-apply if they:

- Are continuing at the same school
- Are residing at the same address
- Have not been send an expiry notification from Transport NSW.

Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2018 to ensure student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2018, the system will automatically cancel a card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator. NOTE: Some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students should check with their operator for more information.

For further information please visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts>

### Finley High School P&C Meeting

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019

The P&C meet the second Wednesday of the month.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

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

### CANTEEN ROSTER

Canteen Contact and Number

Mrs Kaylene Dawe 5883 1105

....LADIES, please note 10am start....

#### December

17 D Jewell  
18 S Robinson  
19 C Moloney

#### Jan 2019

29 PUPIL FREE  
30 P Neessen  
31 L Bryce  
1 C Moloney  
4 M Read  
5 C Alexander  
6 T Bauer  
7 J Turner  
8 T Clarke

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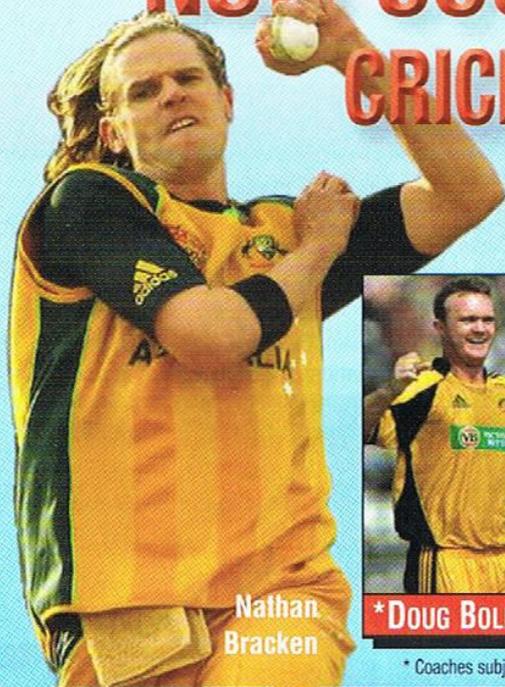
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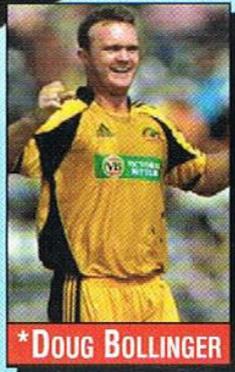
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Jerilderie Cricket Club

Jerilderie Cricket Club are hosting the Shaun Brown's Cricket Coaching Clinic in Jerilderie on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

All enquiries to Ted Nugent  
0408209326