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Newsletter Week 9, Term 4, 2020

Key Dates

Date:	Event:
December 11	Interest Based Learning Program – All students
December 16	Last Day Term 4
January 29	Year 7, 11 & 12 Return to School
February 1	All Students Return to School
February 1 - 3	Year 7 Camp - Bus departs @ 7.30am Feb 1, Returns @ 5pm Feb 3



Principal's Report

This is the last newsletter for 2020, it has been a year we will never forget but we persevered and we never lost focus on what is important: the students at Finley High School. I would like to wish all our students, staff and their families a Merry Christmas, stay safe over the break and I look forward to seeing everyone again in 2021.



Staffing updates

I would like to congratulate Mr Matt Whitty who was successful through an EOI process to relieve as the Deputy Principal in 2021 and early 2022. Congratulations goes out to Mrs Madeline Jackson who will relieve as the Head teacher HSIE at the same time. I know both staff members are excited and looking forward to the challenge of these two positions.

Welcome Mrs Bird in 2021

I would like to welcome Mrs Nicole Bird to the teaching staff in 2021. Mrs Bird was successful at interview in filling the vacant Special Education position. She comes with extensive experience as an assistant principal, learning support teacher and special education teacher. Mrs Bird has spent time at Lithgow Public School, Barooga Public School and Savernake Public School.

Language classes

I was privileged to be invited to our Year 7 French classes by Mrs O'Bryan. During these lessons, Year 7 performed mini skits in French. I was very impressed by the tone and expression used by the students, everything was in French and the performances were outstanding. Merci beaucoup Year 7.

Orientation day

We recently hosted our last official visit by our incoming Year 7 cohort of 2021. The students attended our school assembly before engaging in activities and lessons around the school. Once again thank you to the staff who took lessons and Mrs Brown, Mrs Dempster and Ms O'Bryan for their organisation. We look forward to welcoming them all in 2021.

PBL rewards day

We have had an extremely successful year promoting the PBL values of respectful, responsible learning. To the PBL team, I thank you for your efforts in ensuring this is promoted, for the weekly awards and the term activities. Our final rewards day was won by the Year 8 cohort who will enjoy an afternoon out at the Finley pool.

Aqua Island, Moama

Year 7, 8 and 9 enjoyed a wonderful day out at the Aqua Island in Moama. This was a reward day for all those students who exhibited our PBL values. I was fortunate enough to enjoy this day with the students and staff and from the laughter, screams and smiles on students faces a great day out was experienced by everyone.

Be Better in Berrigan project

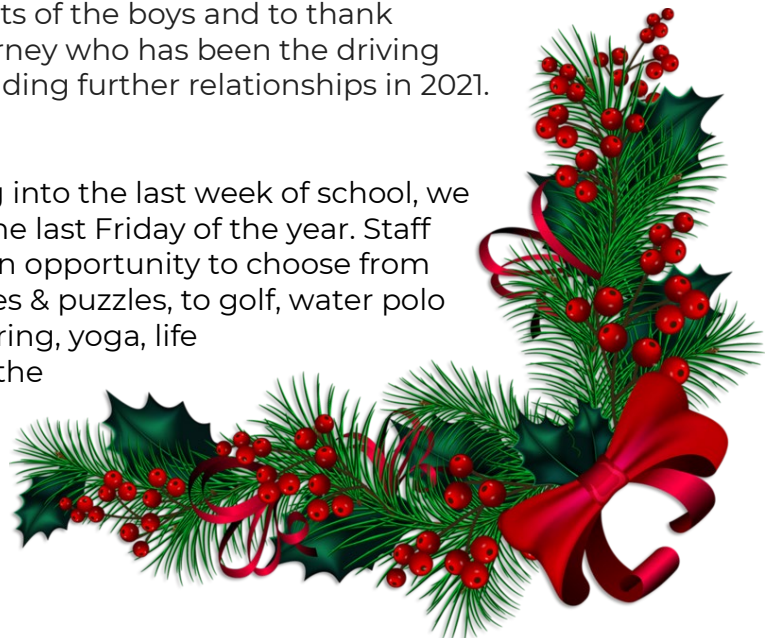
Our first group to participate in the Be Better in Berrigan project finished up this week. Special thanks to the Berrigan Shire, 2712 Fitness and the Be Better Berrigan group for their involvement and support of the boys who completed the program. A morning tea was held at the Berrigan CWA hall to reflect on the achievements of the boys and to thank everyone involved. A special thanks to Mr McCarney who has been the driving force at the high school. We look forward to building further relationships in 2021.

Interest based learning day

To try and add some fun and real world learning into the last week of school, we are running an interest based learning day on the last Friday of the year. Staff have offered a skill and the students have had an opportunity to choose from a variety of activities. Activities range from games & puzzles, to golf, water polo and fishing, Christmas paper craft, cricket umpiring, yoga, life drawing and auctioneering. These are only half the choices, some tough decisions to make in selecting from some wonderful activities.

Tocumwal Lions Club Donation

Thank you to the Tocumwal Lions Club for their generous donation towards our weekly Breakfast Club.



Basin Community Panels Pilot Program

I have been invited to sit on the Basin Community Panels Pilot Program. This MDBA pilot program is about exploring the innate drive and determination of rural and regional Australians and trying to harness it to invigorate local communities. Through these panels we hope to help capture and leverage the spirit of each community and, possibly, provide a catalyst for a more successful future, whatever that might be. Life in the Basin can be very fulfilling but is not without challenges. Much of the Basin's prosperity depends on successful outcomes from farming and farm services where success depends on managing in a biological system with a large number of variables, many beyond direct control. Communities across the Basin have largely learned to live with the variability that this creates but pressures from a changing climate and drought particularly, have tested the resilience of many of us.

Final P & C meeting

The P & C enjoyed a final meeting and Christmas dinner at the Colony Inn in Jerilderie. This was an opportunity to thank those parents and friends who regularly attend meetings and give the school all their support. Thank you to the P & C executive led by Paul Jones, the canteen committee and all the volunteers. It was a tough year for fund raising with COVID restrictions, as well as the added pressure of bringing in a new uniform; however, there was never a complaint as the group persevered.

Mr Piggin

I would like to wish Mr Marty Piggin all the best as he takes extended long service leave, leading to his possible retirement. Mr Piggin first started teaching at Finley High School in 1986 and by the show of hands at our last assembly has taught at least half the parents of our current student body. In summing up Mr Piggin, I have rarely heard a complaint about him, he is an outstanding teacher of mathematics and still teaches the old way through chalk and talk. We will miss Mr Piggin and wish him all the best as he attempts to lower his golfing handicap and extends his passion for reading.

Christmas spirit

Congratulations to the SRC on their wonderful initiative of a competition for decorating a staff door with a Christmas theme. I had no idea how well this would be embraced and the length staff and students went to decorate the doors. What a wonderful idea to lift the Christmas spirit in the school. As we draw closer to Christmas the SRC also proposed that students come in green and red on the last day. They are also holding a number of activities to celebrate Christmas.

Jeff Ward, Principal



The CAPA/TAS faculty has had the pleasure of hosting Jessica Upton, a prac teacher from the University of Newcastle. Jessica has been with us for 4 weeks and has taught years 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory with great success.

Finley High School wishes her the best of luck with her teaching career.





Farewell Mr Piggin

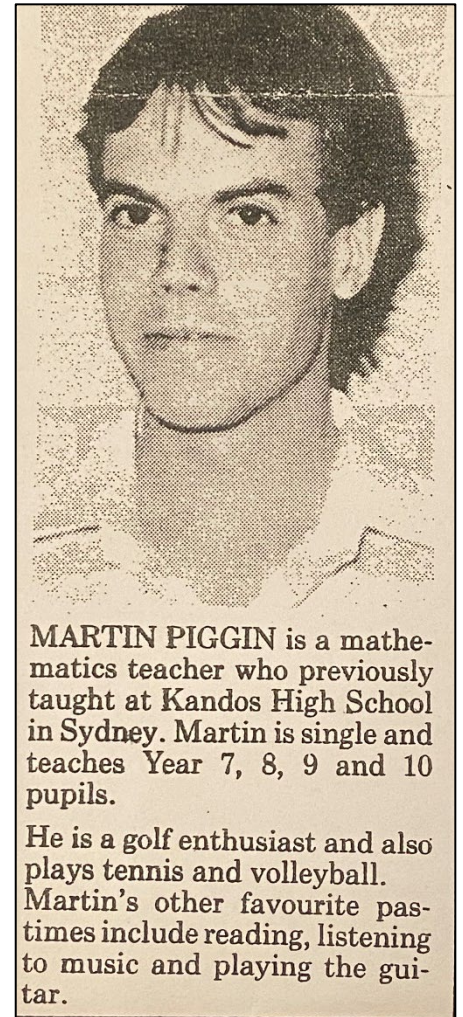
Marty Piggin is going to be very much missed by the Finley High School community when he leaves us at the end of this year to begin his journey to a very well-earned retirement.

Marty has taught Mathematics at Finley High School for longer than most of us can remember. He has taught parents of current students – both generations valuing his no-nonsense, thorough approach to teaching.

His professionalism, teaching practices and integrity have been highly respected by students, parents and staff for many years. Marty has continued to use tried and proven teaching methods, never relinquishing his chalk board for the technological bells and whistles that have become so popular with and essential to most other staff. While he maintained routine and discipline during lessons, he also made opportunities to get to know his students and showed a genuine interest in their interests. Many times over the years we have heard the comment that “Mr Piggin was the best Maths teacher I ever had.” There can be no greater accolade for a teacher.

Marty has always been held in high regard in the Mathematics staffroom. He has willingly shared his painstakingly hand-written worksheets and readily offered assistance and sound advice to colleagues. Many young teachers have valued the chance to observe and endeavour to model his teaching style.

Marty is now ready to spend more time pursuing his interests outside of the classroom - he is especially keen to improve his golf and catch up on his reading.



MARTIN PIGGIN is a mathematics teacher who previously taught at Kandos High School in Sydney. Martin is single and teaches Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 pupils.

He is a golf enthusiast and also plays tennis and volleyball. Martin's other favourite pastimes include reading, listening to music and playing the guitar.

Above is a news clipping from the Southern Riverina News from February 1986

I have taught with Marty since he arrived at Finley High School and know that his shoes will be very difficult to fill. I will miss his sometimes unusual advice about teaching, his sometimes quirky conversation and his always down-to-earth and rational commentary on change.

As do all staff members and students at Finley High School, I wish you very well in your retirement. I know you will enjoy life without bells and whistles.

Anne Braybon.

LOST PROPERTY

There is a large number of school uniform items in lost property. If your child is missing items please have them check lost property located in the photocopy room.

Remember to label all items.



Careers News

TAFE Nursing

For the past month several students in Years 9 & 10 have been attending an Introduction to Nursing course at Finley TAFE as part of the YES Program. Throughout the course students were introduced to some of the aspects they would encounter should they study nursing. They completed practical tasks from bandaging injuries, to providing CPR, through to managing patients with dementia. The students covered an array of theoretical concepts and had the opportunity to do a hands on walk through of an ambulance. Finley High School would like to take this opportunity to thank Finley TAFE Campus, especially the class teachers Susan Carmichael and Alison Leulf for their informative and thorough instruction. We would also like to thank Phil Matheson for bringing the ambulance in and allowing the students to get a hands on feel for what it contains. Finally thank you to Nola and the TAFE team for the organisation and provision of lunch each day. The students certainly have a much clearer understanding and a deeper appreciation of what nursing involves and certainly some of them now have a new career pathway to consider.



Year 10 Work Experience

A huge thank you to all the local businesses and establishments who support the Finley High School Work Experience program. The program would not function without the ongoing support which we receive.

The cancellation of Work Experience in Term 2 and the late notice which we were given to proceed added extra strain on families to organise suitable placements. Having two consecutive weeks also added to the strain. I appreciate parents' help in this process.

From all reports, most students found Work Experience to be an educational and useful exercise. Whether it be something a student would love to pursue as a career or not makes it worthwhile! Placements included the Northern Territory to southern Victorian and all in between. Overwhelmingly employers and administrators were very positive in their feedback. Thank you to all. Jenny Philpot, Careers teacher.



What's Been Happening at Finley High?

Did you Know? We have a new App **SENTRAL**

Skoolbag is no longer available. Get on board so that you can see your child's school reports, newsletters, send notes and more.

For more information call the school office, download the App or access the portal through our website.



School book packs are now available at your local newsagents. For a full list of books/equipment required for Year 7 – 10 please visit our website on the link below

<https://finley-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/notes-home.html>





CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

WINNERS

1st Place: Library

Equal 2nd Place: CAPA/TAS & HSIE

4th Place: Timber classroom

Most Effort Award: Chloe Treacy (Textiles Room)

Most Grinchiest Award: PD/H/PE

The SRC would like to wish everyone a Merry Chistrmas and a happy new year!

CANTEEN & UNIFORM SHOP

Canteen Contact -
0473 946 683

The Canteen/Uniform Shop is open from
8.30am – 2.30pm Monday to Friday

December	January 2021
14 L.Walsh	25
15	26
16 C.Moloney	27
17	28
18	29 C.Lawton

Uniform shop will be open outside of school time
for Sales on
Thursday 17th December 8.30am - 12.30pm,
Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th January
8.30am – 12.30pm.



JUNIOR TRAINEE ADMINISTRATION OFFICER - FINANCE

Are you a driven individual keen on pursuing an opportunity in an office environment, or a career in Local Government?

Berrigan Shire Council is seeking an enthusiastic and motivated person interested in starting a career in office administration to join our dynamic team as our new Trainee Administration Officer – Finance.

This is a great opportunity to gain valuable experience within a corporate environment, while working towards attaining a nationally recognised certification. You will work closely with our Customer Service and Finance teams, building your knowledge and working as part of a great team focused on delivering a quality and friendly service.

You will be provided with support and guidance in the workplace, and through NSW TAFE as you work towards the completion of your qualification. This two-year traineeship has the potential to lead into a permanent position in our team.

The position is classified as Grade 1 in the Council's salary structure - \$45,036 per annum plus 9.5% statutory superannuation. Conditions are in accordance with the Local Government NSW (State) Award 2020.

All applications must include a cover letter, resume & completed application form. A copy of the application form and position description is available on our website or by phoning Sam Armer on (03) 5888 5100. If you wish to discuss this position further, please contact Tahlia Fry, Finance Manager, on (03) 5888 1000.

Applications will be received, up to 9:00am on Thursday, 17 December 2020. Applications should be marked "Confidential"- Junior Trainee Administration Officer – Finance, PO1062021 and forwarded to:

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The General Manager
Berrigan Shire Council
56 Chanter Street
Berrigan NSW 2712
Or to: jobs@berriganshire.nsw.gov.au
Berrigan Shire Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer. School Leavers are encouraged to apply.



DO YOU LOVE CRICKET?

HAVE YOU PLAYED BEFORE?

**WOULD YOU LIKE THE BEST SEAT IN THE
HOUSE?**

LOOKING FOR SOME EXTRA \$\$?

THE MURRAY VALLEY CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

Is looking for Umpires

Training is free and a meal is provided at every training session.

Contact:

Col Smith—0418 358 632

Matt Whitty—0429 300 412

murrayvalleycricketumpires@gmail.com



BALDWINS BUSES

GET READY FOR 2021



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Children who live in NSW and who are in Kindergarten – year 2, regardless of distance from school.
- Primary School Students who live in NSW and live greater than 1.6km from the school as the crow flies or walking distance is greater than 2.3km to the school.
- Secondary School Students who live in NSW and live greater than 2km from the school as the crow flies or walking distance is greater than 2.9km.

HOW TO APPLY.

- To apply for your child to travel on the services that are provided go to the following website. <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/applyNow>
- Please note that the link will not work on a phone.

CODE OF CONDUCT.

- When applying you will be required to tick a box that states you have read the code of conduct for your child. These rules should be read to your child, we follow these guidelines strictly and any breach will result in disciplinary action which may result in a suspension or termination of travel privileges.
- If you have already registered your child and have any questions about the code of conduct the link is as follows
<https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/studentCodesOfConduct#scrollTarget1>

UPDATED BUS STOP POLICY

- Baldwins Buses have implemented a new policy in regards setting children down on the roadside. If a parent is not present at a stop and the driver feels the stop is unsafe for the child they are to wait up to 2 minutes, if no parent or guardian turn up to collect the child, the driver will notify the office and keep the child on the bus for the remainder of the run, the office will make an attempt to contact the parent/guardian if no success the Police are called to collect the child/children from the depot when the bus arrives back at the end of the service.

Any questions please contact the office on 03 5874 3355

