



World Teachers' Day

29 October 2021

28th October 2021 | Finley High School

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Newsletter Week 4, Term 4, 2021

Key Dates

Date:	Event:
October 29	World Teachers' Day
December 2	Presentation Day – Students Only
November 9 - December 3	HSC Exams
December 16	IBL (Interest Based Learning) Day – All Students
December 16	Last Day of Term 4 – All Students
December 17	Last Day Term 4 - Staff

A word from Mr Ward

Thank You to our Teachers

This Friday 29th October, we celebrate World Teachers' Day. I want to thank all the teachers at Finley High School for what they do each day to ensure every student is valued and cared for. I know many of these teachers work long hours into the evening and on weekends, marking, reporting and preparing quality lessons. The last two years have really brought out the best in our teachers as we endeavour to improve learning outcomes during the challenges of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

School Captain Elections

This year in order to conform with Covid restrictions, we held our captains' speeches and elections in a completely different format. Each of the nominees presented in the library to their cohort whilst being live streamed around the school to classrooms where the students and staff viewed proceedings. Once the speeches concluded students logged on to a device and cast their votes. The process of self-nomination, a speech, voting and an interview ensures the nominees have been given every opportunity to present themselves and what they stand for and is in proportion with the responsibility of the leadership team. Thank you to Ms Tobin and Miss Geeves who spent considerable hours setting up and coordinating the entire process. They also formed the interview panel with myself and Charlotte Hurlston in Year 9.

Congratulations to our 2022 Leadership Team



School Captains

Archie Mason & Shae Fennell

Vice captains

Madison Kleinschmidt & Olivia Cicolini

Transition Days

In the last two weeks we have welcomed students from our local primary schools to a meet and greet and tour of the school. It has been fantastic to welcome students to the school and in particular my office for a Q and A session. I have been very impressed with the students' enthusiasm and excitement in joining us in 2022. Thank you to Mr Webb, the 2022 Year Advisor, and Jodi Brown for their organisation and coordination of the visits.

Principals Meeting



Last week the principals from Deniliquin High School, Barham High School, Hay High School, Tooleybuc Central School and Balranald Central School met in Finley for a meeting focusing on leadership, wellbeing and professional sharing. It has been six months since a meeting of this nature has been organised and was able to fit within Covid guidelines. The Mental health of leaders, staff and students was a focus area and the strategies we need to implement to take care of ourselves and others.

Staffing Updates

I would like to welcome Daniela Gargaro to our School Administration Support Staff. Dela has only just completed her HSC year and sought out a position with our admin team. After completing the necessary checks and an interview we are excited to offer Dela a part time position working alongside all our admin staff in a variety of roles. We are very excited about this opportunity, and this is supportive of the departments commitment to creating a workplace that is diverse, inclusive, and reflective of the whole community. A very deserving appointment.

The next couple of weeks will see some significant changes in staffing at Finley High School. I would like to take this opportunity to wish two of our wonderful staff all the best as they head off on maternity leave. Mrs Jackson will be replaced as the Head teacher of HSIE by Mrs Baxter, whilst her year advisor role will be taken on by Mrs White in Careers and Miss Treacey in TAS/CAPA. Ms Laxton will be replaced by Miss Wadsworth in English. We wish both Mrs Jackson and Ms Laxton and their families all the best at this very special time.

ROAR Program at Intereach

A big welcome to Paul Stevens to the ROAR team at Intereach. Paul worked in a youth mental health residential program, working his way up to senior program worker. He is incredibly passionate about supporting youth with their mental health and is excited to work within the ROAR program and supporting the youth of our local community. Paul is based in the Finley office and works Monday – Thursday. If you have any questions or are interested in making an individual, group or community engagement referral – please don't hesitate to contact Paul directly Paul.Stevens@intereach.com.au.

Thank Your Cleaner Day

A special call out to our wonderful cleaning staff, whom we thanked on the 20th October. Sally, Kath, Brent and Kelly do a wonderful job and we appreciate your efforts in making our school look great everyday. Thank you.

Covid Update

During the last week in light of recent COVID-19 precautions taken at Finley Public School and St Joseph's Jerilderie, please be assured that Finley High School also are always in communication with both NSW Health and NSW Department of Education to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our staff and students is being always adhered to.

Jeff Ward, Principal

Careers News

The Year 11 Mock Interviews took place on Tuesday 26th October amidst a few disruptions with an employer and seven students impacted by current covid restrictions.

Thanks to the local employers who continue to support Finley High School. Thanks to the Finley Country Club Hotel and Motel, Finley TAFE Campus, Biralee Preschool, Elders, McNaught's Transport, Finley RSC and Hutcheon and Pearce. The feedback I have received has been overwhelmingly positive. Some students were offered positions or told to contact the employer when they were seeking employment! Surely there is no greater compliment to an interviewee! The students also wholeheartedly agreed that the process was very worthwhile. They each now have an up-to-date resume, have written a cover letter and experienced the somewhat nervous experience of being interviewed. I want to commend the Year 11's on the manner in which they approached this task and the energy they applied to their preparation. Thank you to Mrs White for her assistance with the whole process.

Jenny Philpot.



TAFE Automotive Studies



SRC 2022

Congratulations to the following students who will represent their year group on the 2022 Student Representative Council.

Students will start in their new role this term and work in conjunction with the newly appointed captains and vice-captains.

Year 8 2022 - Ella Baldwin and Remi Pyle

Year 9 2022 - Dan Eldridge, Ryan Nelson, Charlotte Rafferty and Rosie Steel

Year 10 2022 - Sarah Bauer, Hailey McLean, Erica Nicholls and Faith Vidler

Year 11 2022 - Travis Lawton, Jebidiah MeyerVale and Dakota Pyle



Canteen Roster

CANTEEN & UNIFORM SHOP

Contact - 0473 946 683

November

1	M. Read	8	J. Orro
2	G. Ferguson	9	
3	T. Bauer	10	T. Beaver
4		11	
5	E. Hurlston	12	K. Dawe

The Canteen/Uniform Shop is open from

8.30am – 2.30pm Monday to Friday

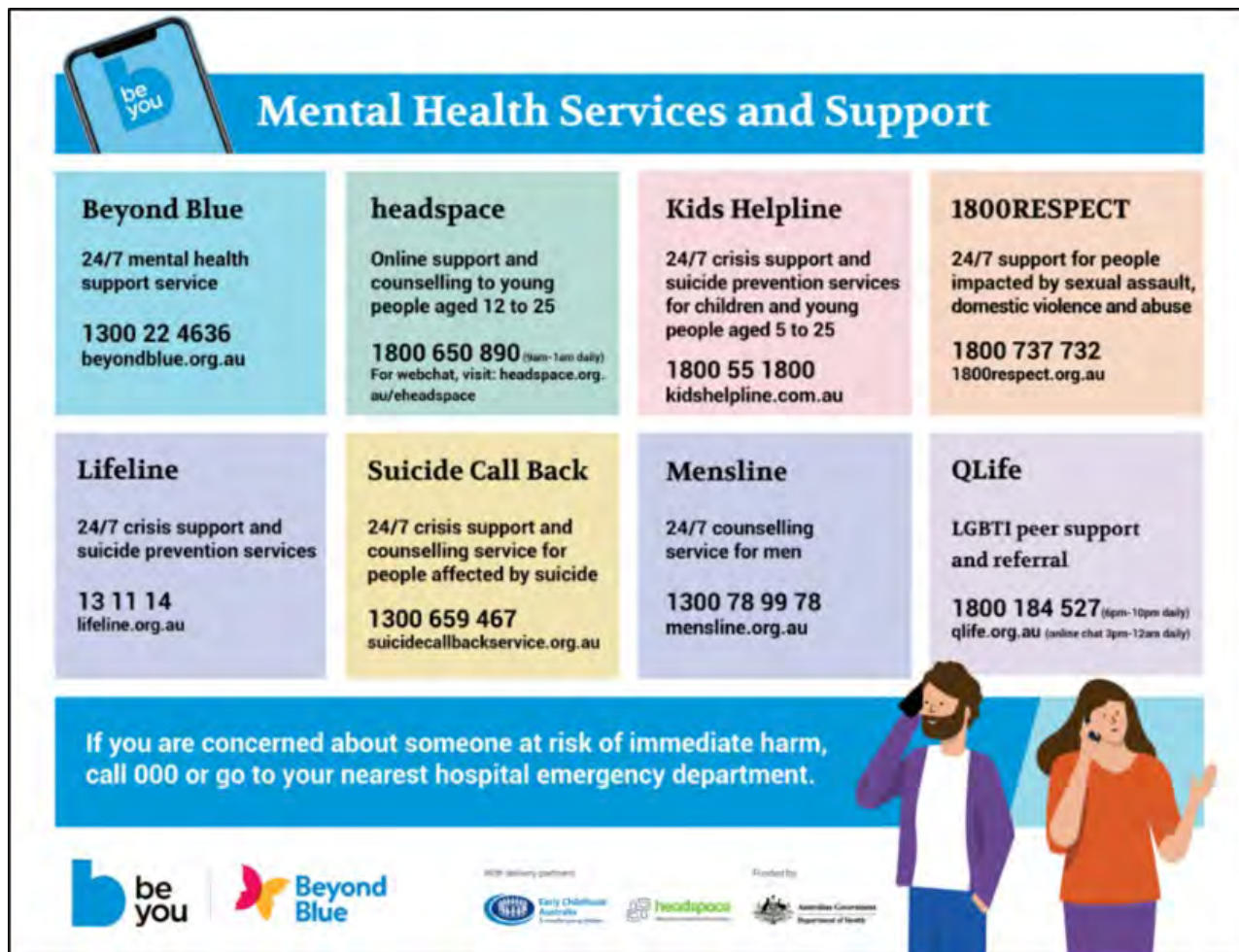
If you cannot fill your rostered day or you swap please notify the canteen on the phone number above.
Thank you.

Wellbeing Check In

Our communities have experienced difficult times recently. Therefore, it is important that we work together to ensure each other are safe and supported. Remembering that in this process we need to also be kind to ourselves.

Not everyone will respond to a traumatic event in the same way. People all experience grief differently, there is no right or wrong. It is important that those who are grieving know there are supports available to them. If you are concerned about someone, we encourage you to reach out or let a trusted adult know.

We encourage parents and caregivers to walk alongside their children in their grief, help them understand and navigate their journey. Provide a supportive, safe place to talk and encourage them to ask questions. If you are unsure how to support your child, a loved one or even yourself please reach out to a professional.



Mental Health Services and Support

Beyond Blue 24/7 mental health support service 1300 22 4636 beyondblue.org.au	headspace Online support and counselling to young people aged 12 to 25 1800 650 890 (9am-1am daily) For webchat, visit: headspace.org.au/eheadspace	Kids Helpline 24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services for children and young people aged 5 to 25 1800 55 1800 kidshelpline.com.au	1800RESPECT 24/7 support for people impacted by sexual assault, domestic violence and abuse 1800 737 732 1800respect.org.au
Lifeline 24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services 13 11 14 lifeline.org.au	Suicide Call Back 24/7 crisis support and counselling service for people affected by suicide 1300 659 467 suicidecallbackservice.org.au	Mensline 24/7 counselling service for men 1300 78 99 78 mensline.org.au	QLife LGBTI peer support and referral 1800 184 527 (9pm-10pm daily) qlife.org.au (online chat 3pm-12am daily)

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.

Logos: be you, Beyond Blue, NPS, Early Childhood Australia, headspace, Australian Government Department of Family Services, Flooded Bay.

Dear Jeff,

I wanted to say a big thank you to Mr Gary Webb and Ms Jodi Brown for taking the time to meet with Finley Public School students to provide some extra transition visits. The students really enjoyed their tour and orientation program yesterday. All their questions were answered and I was very impressed with the amount of support available for students at Finley High School. It is always a delight to visit FHS and see your students working hard in their classrooms. Your staff are always welcoming and professional when our students visit. Our students are very excited about their next visit to FHS and their transition to secondary school. Thank you again to Mr Webb and to Jodi for their amazing efforts!

Kind regards

Jocelyn Robinson

Principal | Finley Public School



YEAR 11 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY



FREE CHOICE PROJECT



FINLEY FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB

is conducting a
JUNIOR NETBALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

for 8 - 14 year olds
over six weeks
starting on Thursday 11 November
from 5:00 - 6:00pm
Venue to be confirmed

to register go to
finleycats.com/juniornetball
or contact
SHANIA BENTLEY
0448 179 763



THE BURN

A dystopian narrative by Charlotte Hurlston (9B)

During the online learning period this year, Year 9 students wrote dystopian narratives to demonstrate their understanding of the 'Dystopian Worlds' unit studied in English throughout Term 3. To showcase some of the excellent stories received, the English Faculty wish to share some of these with you all...

The sharp crack of the blinds snapping shut wakes me. I shoot upright and blink away the tears blurring my sight. When I alleviate my panic and draw my breathing to a controlled pattern, I attempt to suppress the nightmare I have just experienced. These nightmares have been happening for weeks; unexplainable sights that leave me filled with dread. Whilst these nightmares scare me, the thought of The Majority finding out about my defective thoughts causes an intense fear to ripple throughout me.

I dress in an all-white bodysuit with a thick zip down the front and grey sections running down the sides, from my wrists to my ankles. I twist my face into a generic smile, acting fulfilled, and present this facade to my fellow Accepts and The Majority.

I glide across the cream, marble floor and take my place in a pod and begin work. The assured safety of the glass pod brings me peace. I lean back, the pod moving as I am until I reach a horizontal position. My hands find the familiar touchpads and I begin, rapidly moving my fingers.

As the morning blurs into the afternoon, I leave the pod and swiftly sweep into the common room where A7 and A63 are waiting for me. I greet them and we break into a hushed banter, cut short by an announcement from The Majority who appear on the

television screens above us. They bring to attention the restlessness of the Excepts and the caution we must take to ensure the safety of Accepts and the prevention of an invasion from their world. The Majority drone on about problems which do not apply to me. I block the monotone rambling until an unfamiliar, severe silence replaces it. The Minority. A single monstrous woman stands before us, her shoulders wide and masculine, her legs large and long. Her expressionless stare creates an icy atmosphere, the silence broken with a hoarse bellow.

"It has been indicated that defective thoughts have been detected within the Accepts." Every word is pronounced with extreme clarity. Every word amplifies my fear.

My chest has a panicked pressure. My breathing becomes quick and shallow. My head spirals out of control. I keep my physical composure, imitating the mass of confused looks, attempting to control the chaotic emotions inside. Five of The Majority march down two sets of thick, metal staircases. They reach my table and surround it. Heat rises into my face and a harsh dizziness overcomes me. I plaster a sure look upon my face, hiding my intimidation from one of The Majority's faces, possessed with a steely glare. I brace myself for whatever is to come...

Relief floods my body as my muscles fall limp from the adrenaline previously rushing through me. The man opposite me – A88 – is in the clutches of The Majority. Not able to mask his resentment, he resists and violently thrashes about. The rest of us are dismissed and advised to move away with haste.

As I break into a brisk walk, I skim my eyes around the dome above me, the tall white dome protecting us from the outside burn, a

light so powerful it destroys everything. Apparently the Excepts treated our natural world so poorly that the barrier protecting us from the outside burn broke down, leaving us unprotected. The thoughtless actions of the Excepts drove us into hiding from the outside burn as only they could survive it.

I ponder for a moment: what would the outside burn do to an Accept. Melt us? Set us on fire? Or would it just instantly dissolve us, remove us? I silently chastise myself for the thoughts, for allowing myself to delve into curiosity, for –
"They are already here! You can't hide!" The man being hauled out by The Majority screams with an uneasy certainty.

My attention is broken from my thoughts and I stare into the eyes of the man, his emotion filled eyes give me a sense of danger, a thrilling feeling of risk that I am familiar with. I unintentionally edge toward him. Guilt starts to consume me but this is soon overruled by the immense curiosity flourishing inside me. I move towards him with a newfound courage, then the lights covering the dome flicker.

A disturbing, mocking laugh, escapes the man's throat and I stop dead in my tracks, watching in terror as a large crack forms in the top of the dome and creeps closer and closer to the floor. The whole room falls silent and a chilling suspense floods the room as the crack lines spread quickly across the entire dome.

Light suddenly surges through the fractured ceiling and the piercing screams leave me paralysed. I watch as Accepts desperately scramble to shade, and those who are touched by the burn are turned to an ashy black dust. Distraught Accepts who have found safety stare at me with an immense fear and begin to point; they point with accusation, disgust. Still in absolute shock I skim my eyes desperately from person to person when a wave of realisation crashes over me. I'm an Except, the burn doesn't affect me. I look at my hands trailing up to my arms then down to

my legs. Tears sting my eyes and a gasp escapes me. My skin is different – it's now a deep brown. The colour must have been masked by the lights in the dome.

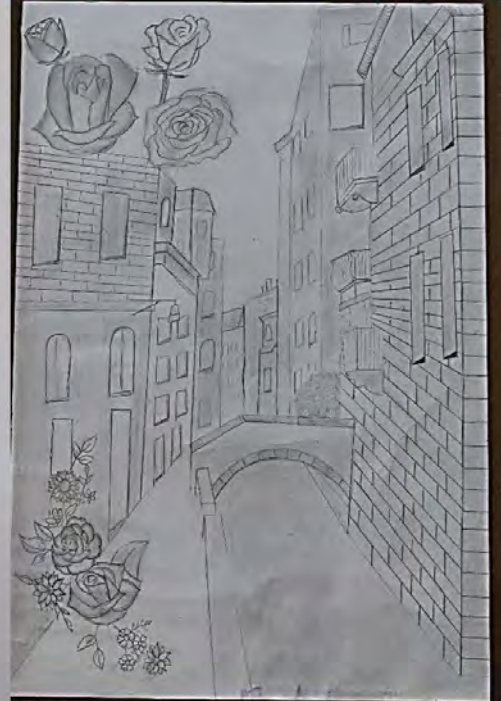
I spot the man who was taken. He tumbles down the rubble and flees, his skin dark like mine. Suddenly, a flight craft emerges from the remains of the dome, and in it, The Minority. The threatening woman hurls toward me, knocking me off my feet but the impact spins her out of control. Adrenaline re-enters my body, I rapidly push myself to my feet and clamber over the dome's rubble, then break into a sprint. The desperation to escape, to live, overcomes me so I run further into the Excepts world.

The man taken by The Majority appears ahead of me. He has slowed to a walk and his breathing becomes louder and heavier as I near him. I startle him but he soon relaxes, laughing and sweeping his hand over my shoulder.

"I'm Max. And you're free."

My mind is overwhelmed with thoughts. The rapid escalation of the previous events has left me baffled, and how this Max man is so calm is beyond me. I span my vision across the vast sight before me, taken aback by intense familiarity. My mind's racing stops and is replaced with my now peaceful nightmare – a dream. The dream was this view: a wide, vibrant green blanket covering the ground, an expanse of iridescent colours, stealing my full attention. This was my world, and my mind knew all along.

HSC VISUAL ART 2021





HSC Visual Art 2021 (Body of Works)

Will Johnson, Billie Matheson, Jennah Maraldo, Will Anderson, Emma Vidler, Sydnee Matthews, Hannah Aughtie, Jemma Coombs, Lillian Kernaghan, Lilly-May Rogan, Jade Selwood, Dela Gargaro, Mickeely Cole

Teacher: Mr Sharman

