



Gratitude helps us to see what is there instead of what isn't. - Annette Bridges

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Newsletter Week 10, Term 3, 2021

Key Dates

Date:	Event:
September 17	Last Day Term 3
October 4	Labour Day – Public Holiday
October 5	First Day Term 4

A word from Mr Ward

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for their efforts this term. It started relatively well for us in the Riverina but things certainly changed on the 14th of August as we went into lockdown. I sincerely thank parents and carers for your continued efforts supporting student learning. I also thank our teachers and SLSOs who went above and beyond to ensure students had the necessary resources and support they needed to learn from home. Finally, I extend a big thank you to the students for their engagement and resilience.



Year 12

Principals are advised that the last official day for Year 12 attendance will be Friday 17th September. However, we have a moral imperative to do everything we can for our Year 12 cohort and have put the following program together to support them leading up to their HSC exams on the 9th November.

Pictured: Year 12 2021

Year 12 Program

Week 1 (5th – 8th October). In class preparing for trial exams

Week 2 & 3. Trial exams, we strongly encourage students to sit these in preparation for the HSC exams

Week 4. In class, gathering feedback from teachers and final preparation

Week 5. Continued learning with the possibility of farewell activities depending on Covid guidelines

Week 6. Teachers will be available on the 8th November. HSC exams start on the 9th November

Week 9. HSC exams end on the 3rd December

It has been a tough couple of years for our Year 12 students and I thought I would share an extract from my letter to them.

As we come out of lockdown and enter what is technically your final week of Year 12, I would like to commend you for your perseverance and tenacity during what has been two years of uncertainty. When I think back to Term 4 2019, when I was fortunate to spend the week with you in Sydney, who would have thought what was around the corner.

During 2020 your preliminary HSC year, you endured lockdowns, watched on television, and read in the media as people around the world began to suffer significant health concerns, even death. People lost jobs, businesses closed and travel even locally grew to a halt. Many of you had those things we love taken away from us, like weekend sport.

Bring on 2021 and just as it seemed to be improving, we went back into lockdown during what is your most significant and final term of schooling. The weekend before the trial exams, school closed and we went back into remote learning along with the removal of all the freedoms we take for granted.

This final week of your secondary education is usually a time to celebrate with mock assemblies, formal assemblies, fun activities and a graduation. Unfortunately, these are not possible under current government Covid guidelines so we need to look to the future and what can we do to best prepare you for your HSC exams starting on the 9th November.

Principals are advised that the last official day for Year 12 attendance will be Friday 17th September. If you choose to finish on this day, we wish you all the best in all your future endeavours and thank you for everything that you contributed to our wonderful school.

The health and wellbeing of students remains the department's and NESAs priority. All our students in Year 12 will continue to have the support of their teachers, year advisor, school counsellors, student support officer, careers advisor, deputy principal, and myself during 2021 and beyond.

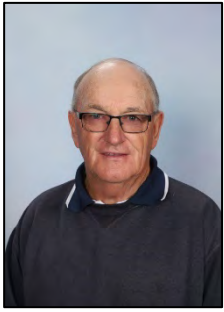
We hope that you and your families stay safe and well. We understand all the associated stress and uncertainty you are going through, and you have all worked extremely well this last year and have the necessary skills to get through this.

I will finish with this quote which is one of my favourites from the Dalai Lama "If it can be solved, there's no need to worry, and if it can't be solved, worry is of no use".

We are here for you, please reach out if you need extra support.

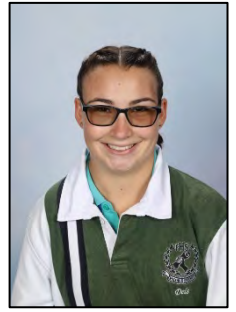
Minister's and Secretary's Awards for Excellence - Brian O'Hora & Dela Gargaro

It is much pride that we acknowledge Brian O'Hora who received a Secretary Award for Excellence in Education and Daniela Gargaro who received a Minister's Commendation for Excellence in Student Achievement in the 2021 Ministers Awards. The ceremony is usually held in Sydney with the Minister of Education, Sarah Mitchell, presenting these. Due to Covid restrictions a presentation will take place next term at school.



Mr O'Hora has been the General Assistant at Finley High School for 27 years and I'm hard pressed finding anyone who does not applaud Brian's efforts in ensuring our school looks and feels fantastic. No job is an issue for Brian and his work with the Dairy Show Team is commendable.

Dela is currently completing Year 12, she is a leader in so many ways overcoming many adversities to thrive in the classroom, on the sporting field and in life. Dela is a role model for us all.



Laura Gorman

I would like to thank Laura Gorman for her time here at Finley High School, Laura leaves us at the end of the term to start a new adventure in Darwin. We wish her all the best and again thank her in so many ways for what she has done here at Finley High School in such a short period of time.



Karen Andrews

It is with a heavy heart that I have to inform our school community that Karen Andrews, one of our school counsellors is leaving us permanently to move to Deniliquin High School. Karen has been with us for 5 years and has built up wonderful relationships with our students, staff and parents. In the time that I have known Karen I have found her a wonderful source of information, support and confidant. Karen also has a wonderful sense of humour and I will miss her dropping by on her scheduled days for a laugh and touch of her sarcasm. Karen is going to come in one day next term to farewell many of the students she has worked with at Finley primary and high schools.

Term 4

School commences for Term 4 on Tuesday 5th October. Enjoy your school holidays, stay safe and healthy.

Jeff Ward
Principal

Staying Up to Date

At this time, it is important that you are kept up to date with the latest developments on how the Department of Education (DoE) is continuing to support schools, students and families. There are regular meetings between the department, NSW Health, the Government and a range of other agencies. The department has been advocating strongly for staff and students to have access to vaccinations, to seek clear information on how we can help to keep our communities safe, as well as up to date with relevant information. The department's [COVID-19](#) page is constantly being updated, and outlines the restrictions in our schools as well as other useful information and resources to keep you up to date and supported.

Careers News

Congratulations to our Year 12 students that received early entry university offers this week.

Jackie Sharp-Shorney received early entry to Federation Uni - Criminology / Criminal Justice

University of Wollongong has offered the below places:

Jemma Coombs – Bachelor Psychology, Bachelor Journalism

Emma Vidler - Bachelor Criminology, Bachelor Creative Writing

Ally Barlow – Bachelor Business & Bachelor Economics & Finance

Lily Sharp – Bachelor Nursing & Bachelor Medicine & Health Science

Special congratulations to Emma Vidler - she has recieved 6 early offers - CSU, Latrobe, UoW, Fed Uni, ACU and Photography Studies College. A fine effort.



Year 12 Metal Major Projects

Oliver Knight, Justin Lawton, Ben Chesworth, Alex A'Vard, Max Cameron, Rory Knight, Mitchell Spinner and Taylon Cardwell submitted major projects on September 2nd, Week 8. This group of students arrived together and worked as a team to assist with the heavy lifting and storage duties. The boys have been working on their projects at home to finalise for the due date. Well done boys! Mr Harding



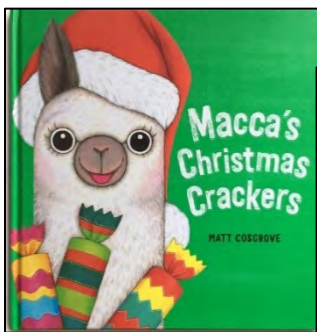
Year 12 Work Studies

Work studies would like to thank Brian O'Hora for his effort and encouragement this semester in bringing the Enterprise project to fruition. The project was completed on 16th September perfectly timed with Mr O'Hora's expertise.



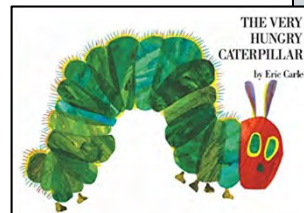
Library

Year 7 students were asked during lockdown to "Bake a Book". They had to choose any book and represent it in cake/edible form. These two were very creative.



By Ella Gane

By Bethany Loughridge



From the Ag Plot



With the cancellation of the 2021 show and with the school in lock down and now operating under restrictions, we spoke with Nathan Everingham and decided that we would sell our steers when they were market ready. Nathan, Mr Webb & Mrs O'Leary determined that we would sell five of our Royal Melbourne Show steers at last week's Finley Cattle sale. The steers, Rusty, Ross, Teddy 2, Inky and Speckles sold extremely well. Evan Spence from Evan's Butchery in Berrigan paid top dollar at \$6.00/kg for Teddy 2. This was the top price at the market. Ashley Haynes from Haynes Butchery Finley purchased Ross (\$5.40/kg), Rusty (\$5.40/kg) & Inky (\$5.80/kg). Speckles sold to an unknown buyer for \$5.10/kg. We are so

grateful for the support of our local community and never cease to be amazed by the generosity of those around us.



We will continue to draft off lots of steers to sell as they become market ready, so stay tuned to Facebook for notices of upcoming sales.

During Learning from Home, Year 11 Agriculture carried out some practical activities. They collected soil and carried out soil ribboning and a mechanical analysis practical to determine the texture of the soil. Additionally, they carried out pH testing of soils on their properties to determine the acidity or alkalinity of the soil.



Year 11 Agriculture is participating in the University of New England's Soil Your Undies Challenge. Our undies were buried on the 19th August and we will exhume them around the 12th October. The project aims to look at soil health. A number of investigations have been conducted around our undies, where we have looked at different fibre types that make up the clothes we wear and how these fibres breakdown in the environment. This flows onto how our clothing choices can impact the environment.

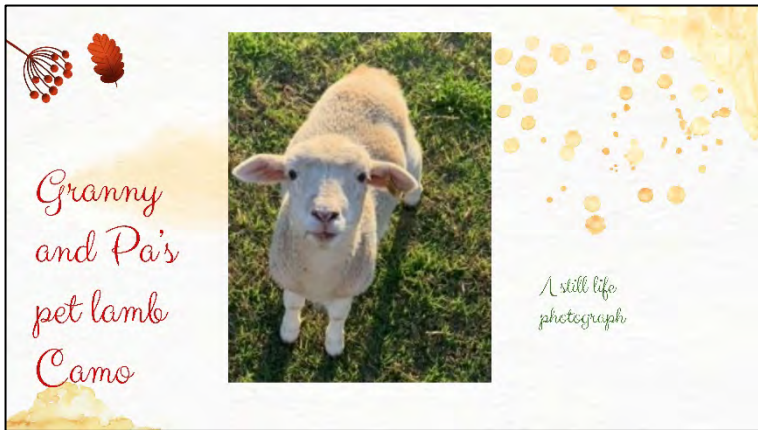
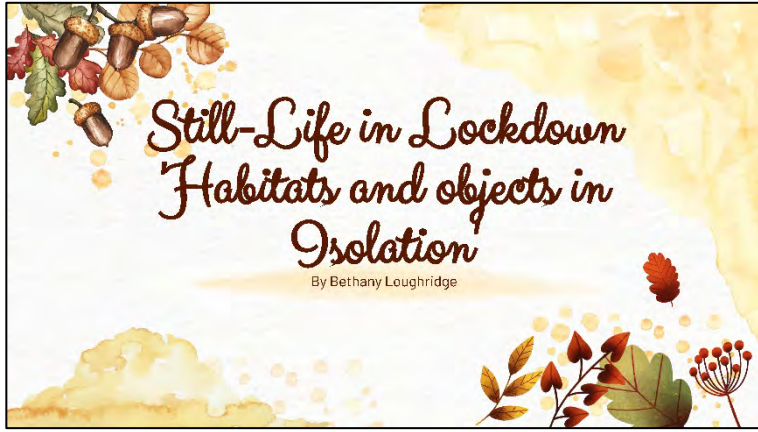


Spring has seen an influx of beautiful little calves into the ag plot. They are delightful to watch as they play around. Only one cow has still to deliver a calf this year, we then have to wait until January for the next lot of arrivals.

We thank Ian Mason for supplying us with hay after we ran out of hay and straw earlier in the term. Thanks also to David Marsden for carting the hay for us.

As we approach what should be a bumper harvest, could you please consider baling some stubble for us. Likewise, if you are making pasture or cereal hay, you might be able to put aside some bales for the school. We are grateful to have very loyal and longstanding supporters; we could not offer what we do to our students nor would we experience the success we do without the access to the hay and straw they provide. But it is time for us to have new members contribute to our team. If you could be that person please call Robyn (0418168695) or Gary (0429359002), we would love to hear from you.



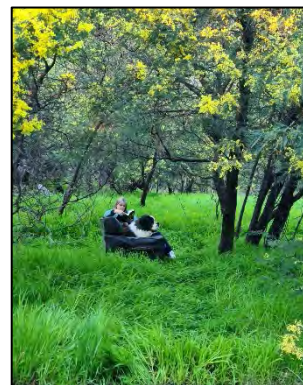


The STILL-LIFE in Lockdown
A few Year 7 & 8 reflections



"Art trains the mind through the eye, and the eye through the mind. As the sun colours flowers, so does art colour life"
John Lubbock - philanthropist, scientist and polymath.

Book Week 2021



Respectful, Responsible Learners

Canteen Roster & Community News

While our staff and students are back on site, we will be operating at **Level 3** which greatly restricts student mingling and puts into place strict COVID-safe procedures such as:

- Mask wearing is mandatory for all staff and students in Year 7 and above indoors and outdoors when at school.
- Enhanced cleaning arrangements remain in place and students and staff are encouraged to continue with good hand hygiene practices.
- Ensuring good ventilation is maintained in classrooms, including opening windows and doors to support airflow.
- Non-essential visitors are not allowed on site. Allied health personnel are among those visitors permitted at this time.
- No assemblies, events, excursions, community use of school facilities, SRE or uniform shops.
- Singing, dancing, choirs, bands and sport (except within PDHPE classes) are not permitted.
- Professional Learning (PL) will continue to be delivered online.
- P&C meetings will continue online.
- All adults are asked to follow social distancing requirements (1.5m) when on site and during daily drop off and pick up.

CANTEEN & UNIFORM SHOP

Contact - 0473 946 683

October

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 4 LABOUR DAY | 11 R. Groutsch |
| 5 R. Lockhart | 12 J. Loughman |
| 6 J. Blackmore | 13 L. Walsh |
| 7 | 14 A. Lee |
| 8 C. Lawton | 15 B.Denny |

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.



FINLEY CRICKET CLUB

are seeking expressions of interest for the upcoming 2021/22 cricket season for our Junior and Senior Teams.

In preparation we ask if you could scan the QR Code and fill in your details



If you have any questions, please contact

Matt Whitty (President)

0429 300 412

Kristin King (Junior Coordinator)

0438 688 301



GOOD ATTENDANCE FOR SUCCESS
Every Minute
in School Counts



When your child misses just ...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...
10 minutes each day	50 minutes each week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks each year	Nearly ½ a year of learning
20 minutes each day	1 hour and 40 minutes each week	Nearly 2 ½ weeks each year	Nearly 1 year of learning
30 minutes each day	2 ½ hours each week	4 weeks each year	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning
1 hour each day	1 day each week	8 weeks or nearly 1 term each year	Over 2 ½ years of learning

Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day

Congratulations and all the best for the future - Class of 2021!



Back Row: Mitchell Spinner, Cooper Burke, Brad Aylett, Oliver Knight, Bradley Norton, Rory Knight, Zander Griffin, Max Cameron, Zander Nash, Marlon Webster, Aidan Fennell
3rd Row: Alexander A'Vard, Emma Vidler, Jacob Gow, Will Anderson, Robbie Hamann, Will Johnson, Taylon Cardwell, Justin Lawton, Jade Selwood, Connor Crowley - Thompson, Jasmine Ackers
2nd Row: Jackie Sharp-Shorney, Mickeely Cole, Cassandra Renneberg, Lillianrose Hay, Chancelline Tradukunda, Taymyn Jones, Hannah Aughtie, Billie Matheson, Charlotte Mason, Daniela Gargaro, Allyssa Thornton
Front Row: Jennah Maraldo, Sami-J Campbell, Sydnee Matthews, Ally Barlow, Jemma Coombs, Lily Sharp, Rose Chamberlain, Brooke Whelan, Annabel Middleton, Karla Nicholls
Absent: Ben Chesworth, Emma Gardiner, Eboni Hucker, Lillian Kernaghan, Lilly-May Rogan