



15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 | Finley High School

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*Some Christmas mayhem at Finley High*

## Key Dates

## Newsletter Term 4, Week 10 2023

Date:	Event:
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Students Last Day
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December – Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Development Days
<b>2024 ~ Term 1</b>	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	School Uniform Sale days – <i>more info back page</i>
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Staff Development Days
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Students in Years Seven, Eleven and Twelve return
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Students in all Years return
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year Twelve Retreat

## A word from Mr Whitty

Welcome to the final edition of the Finley High newsletter for 2023. As the academic year draws to a close, students bid farewell today, while our dedicated staff conclude their exceptional efforts on the 19<sup>th</sup>. This year has proven to be nothing short of extraordinary, marked by remarkable achievements across sports, the creative and performing arts, academia, and student leadership.

Our student body can rightfully take pride in their accomplishments. As I peruse the student reports, the notable prevalence of attendance percentages exceeding 90%, a complete absence of negative incidents, and the praise from teachers underscore the remarkable journey our students have undertaken.

This collective success would not have been possible without the unwavering commitment of our exceptional staff. Mr. Ward and I feel fortunate to collaborate with a group of outstanding educators who consistently go above and beyond to ensure our students receive unparalleled support in every aspect of their lives. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our teachers, student support staff and administrative personnel—it is truly a pleasure working alongside you. Without your dedication, my role would undoubtedly be more challenging. A special acknowledgment goes to our Executive Team; your exemplary leadership and steadfast support have played an integral role in our achievements this year.

The culmination of our efforts was celebrated last night in a splendid evening that showcased the incredible talents, accomplishments and success stories of our students. The hall was abuzz with special guests, families, and friends, creating a memorable occasion. My sincere thanks to Mr O'Leary and his team, whose hard work throughout the term ensured the seamless execution of the event.

As we bid farewell to those staff, students, and parents embarking on new journeys in 2024, I extend my best wishes for success in your new schools, places of employment, or travels.

In the spirit of the season, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

***Matthew Whitty* – Relieving Principal**

## **Formal Assembly**

In Week Eight the final formal assembly for 2023 was held. Many students were recognised for their efforts. Year Ten were absent due to their work experience placements.

### **Year Seven**



### **Year Eight**



## Year Nine



## Year Eleven





Jack, Paige and Arabelle were recognised for their trip at the tenpin bowling state final in Sydney.

Mrs Jackson is pictured (right) presenting Year Eleven student Mikayla McDonnell with her certificate acknowledging Mikayla's successful application for the NSW Premier's ANZAC Memorial Scholarship (PAMS)



Elliott Loughridge (above) and Aiden Hopkins (right) performed musical items at the assembly



## Schools Spectacular

Matilda Burton, Taralee Graham, Erica Hammond and Lacy Turner recently travelled to Sydney to participate in the Schools Spectacular.

This prestigious event is celebrating 40 years and had over 5,000 Department of Education students performing in it. Taralee performed in the D'Arts category while Matilda, Erica and Lacy performed in the Aboriginal Dance Ensemble. Congratulations girls on this wonderful achievement.

The Schools' Spectacular was televised on Channel 7 last Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> December.

*Miss Tanea Bower*  
Coordinator



*Taralee, Erin, Lacy and Matilda are pictured left with Miss Bower*



## LOTE – French Cafes

Year Seven LOTE (Languages Other Than English) have finished their topic on 'Eating and Drinking' by participating in a classroom café, speaking in French as customers and shop assistants.

*Mrs Jacqui O'Bryan*  
HSIE Teacher



## Year Ten Work Experience



Georgia Mitchell at  
Jerilderie Vet  
Clinic



Ava Belling and  
Miley Conn at  
St. Joseph's Jerilderie



Chelsea Singleton at  
Jerilderie Vet  
Clinic



Shikaya Hall  
at Hair 4 U Studio  
in Jerilderie



Dan Eldridge  
at David Hercus  
Electrical Jerilderie



Lindsey Matheson  
at Biralee Preschool  
Finley

## Year Seven English Picture Book Exhibition

On Friday, Week 9, Ms Porter hosted a picture book exhibition to showcase the outstanding picture books produced by students in 7A this term. Students and staff from across the school viewed the books at lunch and voted for their favourite. The book creators then presented their stories, reading them aloud to the audience. Congratulations to the following winners of the award categories:

Winner - People's Choice Award

"Downtown Playground" by Darcy Sutton,  
Joshua Singleton and Logan Peasley

Runner Up -People's Choice Award

"Toby and Tom" by Ava Schlink and Bella Rourke

Best Educational Story

"Animals around the World" by Jordan Dean and  
Max Knight

Outstanding Team Work

"All I want for Christmas" by Piper Pyle, Maisie Armer  
and Milly Hanmer

Best Original Character  
Outstanding Visual Design

"The Midnight Clicker" by Addie Baker  
"Tommy" by Matilda Burton

*Miss Jess Laxton*  
*Head Teacher English*



## RDA 2023 Christmas break up.

Finley High students are very fortunate to have the opportunity to attend Riding Develops Abilities. Riding works both sides of the body independently and students enjoy interacting with the horses and the volunteers at Cobram RDA. Students participate in a variety of activities each session.

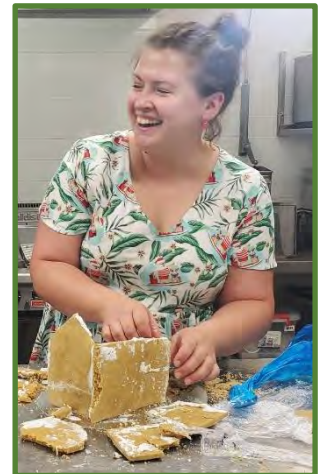
Pictured are Kade Buckley and Addie Baker enjoying the Christmas break up. Special thanks to Cobram RDA.

*Mrs Sally Marsden  
Coordinator*



## Year Eight Technology Mandatory – Christmas unit

Year Eight Technology Mandatory students finished up their Christmas unit on Monday with gingerbread house construction. Lots of fun in the kitchens! Thanks, Mrs Maxwell for the photos.



## SRC Report

The SRC has had a very successful month fundraising for Movember, raising over \$4000 for men's mental health. Thanks to everyone who contributed, through growing a mo, participating in the physical/personal challenge or donating to our Finley High School team page.

We also launched the annual Christmas door competition this term, getting into the seasonal spirit and allowing some of our teachers and staff to display their creativity. Congratulations to the 2023 winners!

First Place: CAPA/TAS Staffroom

Second Place: Art Room 51 - Miss Perry

Third Place: HSIE Staffroom

The SRC also had the pleasure of helping with the Art and Design Exhibition on the 20th of November - serving drinks and testing out the newly purchased popcorn maker. We also assisted with the Year 6 Orientation Day this term by organising a scavenger hunt to help the new students get to know their way around.

On Thursday the 14th of December, the SRC encouraged students to dress up in Christmas attire and bring a non-perishable good or toiletry item for the local St Vincent DePaul hamper drive.

Finally, the SRC would like to thank the school, students, families and friends for supporting us this year. We look forward to making more improvements and planning some exciting activities for you in 2024.

## Christmas Door Competition

In the lead up to Christmas faculties have been very busy creating Christmas themed door decorations. Some very, very clever people have been at work.



## Premier's Sporting Challenge

Last term, Finley High School students undertook the Premier's Sporting Challenge. The aim of the 10 week challenge is to motivate us all to get more active, more often.

Year Seven students are pictured, proudly displaying their well-earned certificates at the end of the challenge period.



## Alumni News



Ex Finley High and current Charles Sturt University student, Rose Chamberlain has been successful in her bid to study on the western pacific island nation of Palau.

Rose is currently studying a Bachelor of Science at the CSU School of Agricultural, Environmental and Veterinary Sciences. This opportunity has arisen when she was offered a New Colombo Plan (NCP) Scholarship.

Rose commented in a recent interview: "My time in Palau will be exceptionally valuable to my degree as Palau has some of the most diverse ecosystems in Micronesia both on land and underwater. Coming from a non-costal, regional background with limited opportunities for overseas travel, I am overwhelmingly grateful and determined to delve into this experience with ambition, appreciation and a passion for biology." Rose will begin her placement in August 2024.



## Year Ten South Coast Excursion

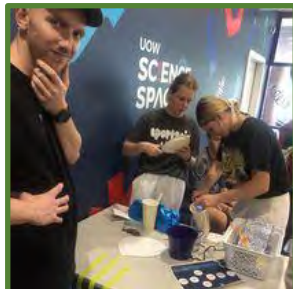
Last week Year Ten ventured to Wollongong and the South Coast for their end of year excursion. After a lengthy bus trip we managed to stretch our legs at the Mount Keira Lookout. From here we could see right along the South Coast. This also gave us an opportunity to orientate ourselves a little.

The first night activities saw us testing our strength and skills with rockwall climbing. This was an activity many of the us have never tried. It also allowed us to develop some trust in one another as we belayed the rope for the person up the wall. We then headed to our cabins to watch a movie before curfew.

The next morning It was then an early start as we headed out for the Kiama Blowhole. We were lucky to see it shoot up a few times. We had a few minutes then to grab a milkshake and the teachers were able to finally get their morning coffee fix. From here we headed to Jamberoo Water Park. Despite the steep hills and mountainous stairs, we rode the rides until we were exhausted. The Storm was definitely a favourite. We also spent some time in the wave pool and lazy river rapids. Some students took on the 5m rock jump and others thundered downhill on the toboggan. After Jamberoo we cooled down a little with a somewhat peaceful rainforest walk through Minnamurra Rainforest, despite us all being rather tired from the day's activities. That afternoon we had a little time where some people played beach frisbee and others had a knee deep swim at Corrimal Beach. That night despite a small detour we headed out to 10 pin bowling and arcade games. A quick stop at 7/11 for some donuts and a sugar fix was then on the cards before we headed back to our cabins for the night.

The next morning saw a few die hards get up at 5 am and head to the beach with Mr Maslen to see the sunrise over the east coast of Australia. For those who went they said it was definitely worth it. After breakfast we packed the bus and headed out to Wollongong. We had a few minutes at the Lighthouse until we were moved along due to a police search happening in the area. From here we strolled along North beach and explored rock pools and pebbly beaches. After the quiet start we next headed to UOW Innovation Campus to the Science Centre. Here we sat in the Planetarium and did a tour through the galaxy and explored all of the planets. We then built flying machines and tested them in a wind tunnel before watching a very cool display of liquid nitrogen tricks. Then it was on to our last stop which was Wollongong Central Mall where we found some lunch and most shopped for a few goodies. Then it was on our way home again. A truck fire caused closure of our road on the way home and so plans changed regularly with our tea stop eventually becoming Wagga. Then finally we were homeward bound after 3 massive days.

### Year 10



## Canteen Roster

### CANTEEN & UNIFORM SHOP

**Contact – 0473 946 683**

Volunteers are asked to be at the canteen by 10am sharp.  
If you are unable to attend, please change with someone else.

#### FEBRUARY 2024

7 <sup>th</sup>	W Doolan
8 <sup>th</sup>	R Groutsch
9 <sup>th</sup>	C Rorato
12 <sup>th</sup>	L Walsh
14 <sup>th</sup>	M Close
16 <sup>th</sup>	T Bauer
19 <sup>th</sup>	S Arthur
22 <sup>nd</sup>	S White
23 <sup>rd</sup>	C Tanner
28 <sup>th</sup>	M Kleinschmidt
29 <sup>th</sup>	C Lawton

## School Uniform Sale Days

School uniforms can be purchased on the following days prior to the commencement of 2024 school year.

Day	Time	Place
Monday January 29 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am – 1:30pm	Canteen
Tuesday January 30 <sup>th</sup>	4:00pm – 6:00pm	Canteen
Wednesday January 31 <sup>st</sup>	10:00am – 12:00pm	Canteen



### Finely High School P&C Major Raffle

Congratulations to our raffle winners:

1 <sup>st</sup> prize: (\$1,000 travel voucher)	Kaylene Dawe
2 <sup>nd</sup> prize: (\$600 IGA voucher)	Carina Rorato
3 <sup>rd</sup> prize: (\$250 Yeti value pack)	Maxxy Orr

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Thanks everyone for your support!!