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## Key Dates Term 1

## Newsletter Term 1, Week 9 2024

Date:	Event:
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Forensics Day – Year Six
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March – Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Good Friday Public Holiday/Easter Monday Public Holiday
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Parent/Carer/Teacher Interviews in the Finley High School Hall 4pm-6.30pm
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	P & C meeting, Finley High School staff common room at 7pm
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Formal Assembly
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of Term One

### A word from Mr Ward

We concluded Week Eight with Harmony Day, where we celebrated our diversity as a nation bringing everyone together to support inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging. This year we again ran workshops celebrating different cultures, held a luncheon of foods from different countries and finished the day with a colour run. I was so proud of everyone for the way they embraced the day. Special thanks to Mrs Parr and Mrs Tobin along with the SRC and all those students, staff and community members who coordinated a workshop or prepared a dish. Sensational!

### Open Night, Welcome BBQ and School Visits

We held a very successful Open Night for students and families looking to attend in 2025 and 2026. Followed by a welcome to our 2024 families and students. Once again, the school was on show with a vast array of opportunities and classrooms available. Whilst just this week, Jodi Brown, Mr Maslen and I concluded our school visits to Jerilderie Public School, St Josephs Jerilderie, Berrigan Public School, St Josephs Finley, Finley Public School, Tocumwal Public

School, Barooga Public School and Blighty Public School. The students were fantastic and thank you to those schools for hosting us. We are already excited for 2025.

### **Rice Field Day Excursion to Jerilderie**

The Rice Field Day in Jerilderie was a massive success and the students got so much out of it, thank you Mr Webb. The field day focused on sustainability in the industry, technology advancement and future development. It was particularly pleasing to see so many of our past Finley High School students attending and presenting as industry professionals.

### **Finley Under 14's Cricket**

Congratulations to all those students who played in the recent Murray Valley Final for Finley. Unfortunately, they lost by 5 wickets, but your efforts in that game and year should be celebrated. You did your school proud with the majority of the team attending Finley High School.

### **P & C AGM**

Thank you again to our wonderful P & C who come together every month to support the school at the recent AGM the following positions were filled:

President: unfilled (Paul Jones to assist at the next meeting)

Vice President: Jodi Brown

Vice President: Chelsea Tanner

Secretary: Cath Rorato

Treasurer: Angela Urquhart

Thank you to Carmen Lawton who stepped down after four years as the Treasurer.

P & C have approved funds to support the following:

\$5000 Ag Shed

\$500 towards the hire of the memorial hall for sport

\$350 Picasso Cow

The P & C recently raised \$2500 for the school at the canteen at the Sheep Dog trials in Jerilderie which was a terrific effort. If you want to help the school, please attend P & C meetings and remember we are continually looking for volunteers for the canteen.

### **RSL Sub Branch Donation**

The RSL sub branch has donated \$250 towards the hire of the War Memorial Hall at a cost of \$750.

### **Science Workshops**

Mr O'Leary recently ran science workshops for the local Catholic primary schools. This was a great initiative and huge success. Thank you for supporting our local schools.

### **Reunion for the Class of 74'**

It was a pleasure giving a tour for a large contingent of ex-students on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of March. To hear their stories as they reminisced about life at Finley High School was wonderful.

### **Year Ten Information Evening**

Thank you to Mrs Dempster and Mrs O'Bryan for running a very successful information evening recently. Thank you to those families who attended. If you were unable to make the meeting, please contact Mrs Dempster or Mrs O'Bryan for more information. Key messages related to expectations, work experience, planning for senior Years Eleven and Twelve and the awards excursion to the South Coast in December.

### **Careers News**

Finley High School Year Twelve student Lyle Ackers recently completed his flight training and



took me up for a joy flight. Taking off from Tocumwal airport we headed along the Murray River turning at Tuppal station before heading back along the Riverina Highway over Finley before returning safely to Tocumwal. Lyle did a terrific job, giving an insight into the workings of the aircraft whilst cruising at 2000 feet. Apart from a few bumps along the way it was the perfect flight with a textbook landing. Lyle has ambitions of completing further flight training, and hopefully one day flying for one of the commercial airlines. Well done, Lyle.

*Jeff Ward* — Principal

## Harmony Day

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Finley High School celebrated Harmony Day 2024, with the theme 'Everyone Belongs'. It's a celebration that recognises Australia's diversity and brings people together from many different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone. We celebrated cultures from Japan, Italy, Greece, Persia, Germany, the Philippines, Spain, Latin America, Indigenous Australia, USA, France, New Zealand and Ukraine. Students enjoyed delicious pizza making in Italy, Belly Dancing in Persia, Maraca making in Mexico, and wrapping mummies in Egypt, just to name a few. Thank you to Mrs McNamara, Mrs Maxwell and Years Eleven and Twelve Hospitality team who put together the amazing food for lunch, Mrs Tobin, Mrs Parr and our SRC members for organising the day and all our wonderful volunteers. Students and teachers finished the day with a spectacular colour run across the oval and a competitive school soccer game.







Respectful, Responsible Learners



## Year Seven Camp Awards

*Back row: Campbell Reynolds, Tye Irvine, Joel Fitzell, Luke Cullen and Harrison Warenycia*

*Front row: Bionee Ward, Emelie Smith, Miley Palmer, Eloise Harris, and Emily Mansell. Emilee Sneddon, Jason Hay, Jordan Swann, Archer Chellew, Sophia Morgan and Harrison Bodey also received an award but were not pictured.*



## Principal's Award Recipients



*Back row: Roree Wallis, Thomas Marshall, Ryan Bauer, Charlotte Rafferty, Lindsay Mattheson, Monet Vinecombe, Lucas Denney.*  
*Front row: Miley Palmer, Adam Chellew, Jordan Dean, and Abbey Lucas.*

## Ag Team Volunteers

*Back row: Erica Hayes, Ryan Bauer, Nick Chesworth, Lindsay Matheson, Charlotte Rafferty, Katelyn Tilley*  
*Middle row: Ruby McFarlane, Gemma wise, Jordyn Meloury, Claire Ingram, Lucy Mueller, Ava Schlink, and Indie Matheson.*

*Front row: Erin Baird, Sara Hayes, Erica Hammond, Cheyenne Tucker, and Adam Chellew.*



## Peer Support Volunteers

*Back row: Matilda Anthony, Charlotte Flemming, Katelyn Tilley, Arabelle Taylor*  
*Front row: Ruby Neeson, Remi Pyle and Monet Vinecombe.*



## Wellbeing Hub

Student wellbeing is at the forefront of everything that we do here at Finley High School to ensure that every student is known, valued, and cared for. Whether it be running wellbeing programs, checking in with students or assisting with learning plans tailored to helping students meet their learning outcomes.

The wellbeing team is comprised of our Senior Executive, Mr Ward and Mr Whitty, who support all staff and students by supporting programs and dealing with a range of student needs. Head Teacher Welfare, Mr. Hay, and our wonderful Student Support Officer (SSO) Jodi Brown, who can be found in the Wellbeing Hub to support students who need some time out from class for a flexible learning space. Our wonderful Year Advisors do a great job in supporting students with the day-to-day rigors and ensuring that students are prepared for the dynamic nature of high school life. We encourage all students to seek out their Year Advisor at any time for support. Our Year Advisors include:

- Mrs Bird – Year Seven
- Ms Perry – Year Eight
- Mr Webb – Year Nine
- Mrs O'Bryan and Mrs. Dempster – Year Ten
- Mrs White – Year Eleven
- Ms Archinal – Year Twelve

This year we are also fortunate to have Bridie Williams join us as school counsellor who is available at Finley High School on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday's. Students can self-refer to schedule a time to meet with her or ask a trusted adult to advise for a referral.

*The Wellbeing Team*

## Riverina AFL Trials

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of March three Finley High School girls travelled to Lavington to try out and gain selection for the Riverina Secondary Girls AFL team. Pip Bain, Maddy Price and Milena Sneddon, pictured right, were all selected to be a part of the Riverina side and will now play in the State Championships in Albury in May, what an achievement, good luck girls!





On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March six Finley High School boys, Logan Eldridge, Will Frost, Cooper Gurciullo, Ashley Hines, Jackson Tooke and Lachlan Whelan, pictured right, travelled to the Albury Tigers AFL ground to try and gain selection in the Riverina AFL team. Over sixty boys attended the trials and they all played two games prior to the selection of thirty-eight boys playing again in a 'possibles versus probable's' game. Logan, Jackson and Lachlan were selected to play in this game.

A final team of twenty-two players were selected. Jackson and Lachlan both made this team. They are now required to travel to Broken Hill and play a number of games in the State Competition between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Good luck boys!



## 2024 School Swimming

The Zone Swimming Carnival was held in Hay on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> of February. Finley High had the largest number of swimmers for our area, and many performed to the best of their ability throughout the day. The students had to finish first, second or third in individual events, or in the first two places for a relay, to qualify for the Riverina Carnival in Leeton. A qualifying time was also taken into consideration. We ended up having swimmers qualify for twenty-seven individual events as well as six relay teams.

The Riverina Carnival was held on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March in Leeton. There is usually a significant step up in competition at this level. Our students had to race against some swimmers who train at least ten times per week. There were many great performances, on what was a very hot day. The highlight of the day was the thirteen years boys who qualified to represent the Riverina at the State Carnival at the Sydney International Aquatic Centre between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of May.

All of the students who have participated in a swimming event in one way or the other should be very proud of themselves. We wish Jordan Swann, Angus Urquhart, Jason Hay and Archie Chellew, pictured top right, the best of luck at the State Carnival.

Mr Tooke  
PDHPE Teacher





## Open Boys & Girls Basketball Gala Day

The annual Basketball Gala Day was held in Deniliquin on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of March. Schools representing Barham High, Hay High, Balranald High, Deniliquin High and Finley High were in attendance. Each school team played each other once in the draw. Deniliquin High School was the strongest team on the day by some distance. This was always going to be the case as they are involved in regular, year-round basketball competitions at their local indoor stadiums. The Finley High team acquitted themselves very well. Especially when you consider that they were thrown together quite quickly, only one week before the Gala Day took place.

The boys' team, pictured top right, played four games. They had a draw with Hay High, a win against Balranald High, a very close loss to Barham High and a loss to Deniliquin High in their final game. For a group who do not get much exposure to competitive basketball on a regular basis (only in PDHPE lessons or intra-school sport), they performed extremely well. They travelled to and from the venue with the Open Girls' Squad, pictured middle right, on a twenty-four-seater hire bus and a regular highlight of such sporting trips was a stop in Deniliquin for Macca's or Subway, before making our way back to school.

Both squads, Boys and Girls, represented the school extremely well, on and off the court. Their support of each other, their interaction with students from other schools and their respect for the officials on hand was first class. "Makin Memories" should always be the theme for such inter-school adventures. It definitely underscored the genuine camaraderie between all the students involved. Our school, their families, and the local community in general, can be very proud of the way they presented themselves and it is a credit to each of them, that they competed so well and acted so admirably. Regardless of results, they started and finished the day with winning smiles!!

Mr Noonan

PDHPE Teacher



Open Boys & Girls Basketball Squads 2024.  
Left to right: Marko Bonic, Josie Coombs, Brock Bear, Tess Middleton, Jordan Sykes, Stevie Bateman, Nathan Brown, Erica Hammond, Aiden Hopkins, Erica Nicholls, Roree Wallis, Lucy Blacker, Sam O'Hora, Faith Vidler and Daisy Daniel.



## Years Nine and Ten Sport – Fishing

The Years Nine and Ten sport group have been venturing up the channel each week to try their luck without much success, until recently. It all started with a fish following up and hitting the lure of Heath Mansell. This is when Jack Robinson, pictured right, showed off his fishing skill, hooking up and landing a nice-sized Yellowbelly, great work Jack. It has been a great opportunity to take the students up the channel and watch them fish each week with great enthusiasm, and while up until this point they had not had much luck, fingers crossed this is the first of many more fish to be caught by the students. The fish was released and swam away healthy.

*Mr Johnson*

*Mathematics Teacher*



## Science Workshops

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of March, St Joseph's Jerilderie and Sacred Heart Tocumwal joined with St Joseph's Finley to have a combined schools wellbeing day. As part of the day, all 170 students participated in a 45-minute science workshop that was facilitated by Year Ten students from Finley High School. The Year Ten students ran four sessions. Kinder's, Years One and Two, Years Three and Four and Years Five and Six. Each session involved four workshops that were completed in a rotation by all students.

The four workshops had the themes, 'How it Rains', 'Air Pressure', 'Acids and Bases', and 'Using Magnifying Lenses'. I was very impressed with the way our students adapted their presentations to cater for the range of age groups. All Kinder to Year Six students were engaged and very interested in the activities, with lots of questions and excitement.

The students involved were Lilly McNamara, Gemma Wise, Remi Pyle, Bethany Loughridge and Katelyn Tilley.

*Mr O'Leary*

*Head Teacher Science and Agriculture*



**Wishing all our Finley High School families a Happy Easter, we hope you have a lovely, relaxing long weekend spent with friends, family, and of course chocolate! Week Ten will commence on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, and it is a White Week.**



### **Parent/Carer/Teacher Interviews**



Parent/Carer/Teacher interviews are scheduled for Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April in the Finley High School Hall from 4pm-6:30pm for all year groups. Online Sentral bookings opened on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March at 9am and close on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March at 5pm. This is the only time parents and carers will be able to access the online bookings.

Wendy Coates will be available on the night to discuss any additional learning needs for students. Bookings with Wendy are not necessary just catch her on the night.



**Finley High School  
P & C Meeting  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm  
in the Finley High School staff common room.**

**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.

**2024**

April 4 <sup>th</sup>	S White
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	A Williams
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	K Dawe
May 1 <sup>st</sup>	R Groutsch
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	C Tanner
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	S Arthur
May 9 <sup>th</sup>	A Lee

**P & C Mother's Day  
Fundraiser**

P & C member Chelsea Tanner has organised a scentsational fundraiser this year for Mother's Day! Please scan the QR code to place your order. Orders will close Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April. All funds will go directly back to our lovely Finley High School!

2024 SCENTSATIONAL

*Fundraiser*

FUNDRAISING NEVER SMELT SO GOOD!



**Fragrance Flowers  
for Mothers Day**



Complete your order form online by scanning the QR code. Get a gorgeous gift, and help raise funds for our school.

**ORDERS CLOSE: FRIDAY APRIL 12th**

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SCAN ME

# Mow Down MND

Woz and his team are on a Journey from Toolleen, VIC to parliament in Canberra, ACT.

Woz has decided to dedicate the last of his strength and energy towards his mission to Mow Down MND. That is, to ride his lawn mower from his home in Toolleen, Victoria to Parliament House in Canberra in order to ask the government to make MND a Notifiable Disease.

Why? Because if MND were a Notifiable Disease, more research could be done into the causes of it which would ultimately contribute towards finding a cure.

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

### 1 SIGN THE PETITION

Meet us at one of the signing locations OR print out copies of the petition from the Mow Down MND Facebook group, gather signatures in your local area and express post it to: *Warren Acott c/o Pavillion on Northbourne, 242 Northbourne Ave, Dickson, ACT 2602* by Monday 18th March.

### 2 MAKE A DONATION

Make a donation to help cover the cost of the trip via PayPal (email: [belindaacott@outlook.com](mailto:belindaacott@outlook.com)). Any leftover funds will be donated directly to MND Australia.

### 3 MEET IN CANBERRA

Be one of the 800 people to meet us in the public assembly area in Canberra on Friday 22nd March @ 11AM.

[WWW.HOWDOWNMND.COM.AU](http://WWW.HOWDOWNMND.COM.AU)



Donate here!



## Jerilderie Holiday Youth Program 2024

At the Jerilderie Race Course and Showgrounds

22-24 Apr 2024 For students in years Kindergarten to Year 12.

### Who?

The Jerilderie Uniting Church Congregation is hosting the Wesley International Youth Group 'DIGJC' from Sydney to experience country life and to run the holiday youth program. DIGJC are an inspirational and talented group of young Christians who want to share their time, their faith, and their gifts with the young people from our region.

### Who can come?

Years K-12 Monday-Wednesday:  
The program will run from 9am till 4:00pm each day. Students K-12 are welcome to arrive from 8:50am. Please be prompt when picking up your young people at the end of the day.

### What to expect

Activities may include:

- A variety of sports
- Cooking
- Art and Craft
- Live Band
- Singing/Bible stories
- Guitar workshops
- Piano workshops
- Canoeing
- And more!
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

### Cost

\$10 per child per day (max \$20 per family per day). No child excluded due to family hardship.

Payment on the day with registration form

or by EFT to Jerilderie Uniting Church BSB 633000

ACC: 164881997

Email receipt names to

[kelscomputers@bigpond.com](mailto:kelscomputers@bigpond.com)

### What to bring

- Wear appropriate clothing
- Enclosed shoes (preferably sport shoes)
- A drink bottle.
- A hat.
- Spare set of clothes (just in case!)
- Any donations of cakes or slices for morning and afternoon teas will be gratefully received.
- Registration forms must be returned and signed.

### For more information and registration forms contact:

Jacqui Robertson:

Ph: 0491 183 557

[jacquirobertson58@gmail.com](mailto:jacquirobertson58@gmail.com) or

Lorraine Comber

Ph: 03 58 861576

[lcomber@bigpond.com](mailto:lcomber@bigpond.com)

### Evening event

Parents / Caregivers and family are invited to join us at 6pm for a BBQ and evening activities on Wednesday night.

You will get an opportunity to see what your young people have done and be entertained.





**Murrumbidgee**  
COUNCIL

## Autumn

### Youth Activities

April 15

**Read the Play**  
**Jerilderie**

April 17

**Youth Week Paintball**  
**Bus trip to Wagga**

April 22

**Read the Play**  
**Coleambally**

April 24

**Youth Roller Disco**  
**Darlington Point**

## Youth Week

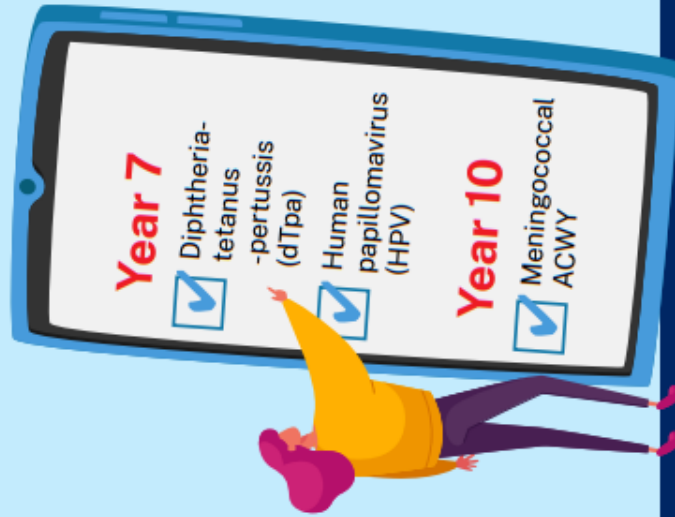


**Scan for more**



## Is your child in year 7 or year 10?

Provide your consent for routine  
school vaccinations online



Scan the QR code to  
give your consent now



To provide online consent visit:  
<https://engage.health.nsw.gov.au/engage>

For more information visit:  
[health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination](https://health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination)

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