



# St Finbar's Primary School

Levy Street, Glenbrook, 2773 P.O. Box 187, Glenbrook, 2773

Phone: 4739 1796

Fax: 4739 8153

[www.stfinbarsglenbrook.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stfinbarsglenbrook.catholic.edu.au)

School Principal: Ms Donna McFadzean

Parish Administrator: Fr Jolly Chacko MS

School Community Newsletter

Edition 2

17th February, 2016



Dear St Finbar's Community,

A big thank you to all the parents that joined us for our *Parent Information Evening* last week. It was fabulous to see so many parents sitting in their child's classroom, finding out all about the exciting learning our wonderful teachers have planned for them this year. The teachers at St Finbar's are dedicated, enthusiastic and knowledgeable professionals who have each and every child's learning at the top of their priority list. As mentioned last Tuesday night, we also understand that we can not help your child reach their full potential without your involvement and support. The partnership between home and school is one we hold with high regard and therefore we strongly encourage you to make an appointment to come and sit with our teachers for the *Family Learning Conferences* next week. This is a fabulous opportunity for you to share with the teachers all that you know about your child and how they best learn. The interview bookings will close on Sunday night so get in now to ensure that you don't miss out.

Thank you also to all those who attended our *Welcoming Mass* yesterday. It was a beautiful celebration, in which we acknowledged and congratulated our Year 6 leaders for 2016 and welcomed our little Kindies, who have had an amazing start to their school life. Fr Jolly spoke so beautifully about God being our *father* and that just like our fathers, He is strong and full of love for us. Most importantly, He shows us mercy with out question and asks us to do the same for one another.

For your information:

- We have made some changes to our morning assemblies and lining up routines. We will now only assemble for messages and prayer on a Monday morning. At this assembly we will pray together, raise our flags, sing the National Anthem and share news for the week. Tuesday through to Friday the students will assemble at the bell and will then move straight to class with their teacher to begin the learning. Of course the students will pray together once in the classroom. We

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*

were finding that it was taking longer and longer to get to the classrooms, particularly in the morning and valuable learning time was being lost.

- We also had a visit from Mr Stuart Ayres last week to present St Finbar's with a cheque for \$20,000 to fund a Before and After School Care Facility on our school grounds. This will be of great benefit and service to our community and we thank him for his contribution. The COOSHC (Catholic Out Of School Hours Centre) is scheduled to open in 2017.
- Finally congratulations to our students who received an award at our Whole School Assembly last week. The students demonstrated how they could be Safe, Respectful and Learners within our community. A list of these worthy recipients follows.

“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.”  
- Jane D. Hull

God Bless,  
Lisa Samojlowicz  
Assistant Principal

\*\*\*\*\*

## P & F Family BBQ

You are warmly invited to the



P & F Family BBQ  
on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February  
*after Sunday morning Mass.*

All are very welcome!  
Bring along your picnic rug and some drinks and join in the fun!  
Can't wait to see you all there!

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*

## News from the Library



What a busy start to the year we've had in the library! It has been wonderful to see so many of our students borrowing books, getting excited about books and reading.

**This year, every class has borrowing on a Thursday.**

Books are loaned out for two weeks. However, it is good to get your child into the habit of returning their books each week so they can change their books regularly. K-2 can borrow up to 2 books while Yrs 3- 6 can borrow up to 3 books.



For the diary:

I am pleased to announce that we have an exciting event coming up this term. In lieu of Book Club, we will be holding a book fair. Book fair will coincide with Catholic Schools Week in week 7 (7<sup>th</sup> March – 11<sup>th</sup> March). Save up your money and come help us celebrate a love of Catholic Education and a love of reading!



### Premiers Reading Challenge

Permission notes for participation in the 2016 Premier's Reading Challenge can be found on our Skoolbag App. If you have trouble accessing this App please ask your child to come and see me in the Library and I will give them a note.



Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*

The challenge runs from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 to 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2016. Please remember that all student reading records are submitted on line. Type NSW Premier's Reading Challenge into your search engine and you will find the site. Students can enter books as they read them and books may be read independently or with an adult.

Our library has a great range of PRC books. Each challenge level is easily identifiable by the coloured tape on the spine. Pink (K-2), Orange (3-4), Green (5-6) and Blue (7-9).



### **Author Visit**

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of February we had author Deborah Abela come and speak to all the students about writing. She spoke about her own journey into writing and how she develops each book to tell a story. It was fantastic to listen to someone who is so passionate about their craft. What a privilege to host such a well-acclaimed author!!

To read more about Deborah, visit <http://www.deborahabela.com/site/Welcome.html>

## **Get Active – Eat Healthily**



### **Water**

Tap water makes the best drink!

Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here's what water has to offer:

- it is cheap and readily available
- it doesn't contain any kilojoules or sugar
- it encourages optimal function of the body

We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.

### **Cancer Council NSW's – Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop**

The Cancer Council NSW have asked if we would be interested in hosting a component of their 'Eat It to Beat It' program. If enough interest is shown then the program will take place either during Term 1 or Term 2.

**Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop** is a 90 minute interactive small group workshop for around 15 parents (minimum 4 parents and if there is lots of interest they can deliver more than one workshop). They show parents how they can save time and money making healthy meals the whole family will enjoy. Parents that attend also receive a **free recipe book**.

They cover:

- Food budgeting
  - Menu planning
  - Making healthy recipes
  - Strategies to cope with fussy eaters (which is a particular concern for most parents)
- If you are interested please can you contact the Office to record your name as a possible participant.*

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*

### SCHOOL ASSEMBLY AWARDS - TERM 1 WEEK 3

<i><b>Be Safe</b></i>	<i><b>Be Respectful</b></i>	<i><b>Be a Learner</b></i>	<i><b>Living our Faith in Daily Life</b></i>
K Nathan Penny	Lara Crameri	Abigail Stanford & Gus Berben	
1. Edward Walker	Brooklyn Tickner	Ruby Wilson & Kian Loughman	
2 Bronagh McKeown	James Donnelly & Louis Pauling	Zoe McKenzie	
3.	Samuel Casha	Matilda Geelan	Ashlee Cremona
4. Phoebe Hinchliffe	Holly Wye & Dylan Apps	April Darby	
5. Nathaniel Cariolato	Connor O'Leary	William Alexander	
6 Eden Turl	Shane Hunt	Eddie Chung	

#### SCHOOL FEES

Please note Term 1 School Fee accounts have now been sent out. If you do not receive your statement in the mail please contact the office. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Denham in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays if you have any questions or concerns.

Term 1 Fees due **Monday 7 March 2015**. Thankyou

#### PASTORAL CARE

A big thank you to all those people who helped last year. We shall keep you on our list! Please don't hesitate to notify us if your circumstances have changed. Attached is a letter to be filled in and return to the school office if you would like to help with this very important ministry to our community. Thank you

**MUSIC LESSONS WITH MR RUSSEK AND MRS BRAY.** Thank you once again for Mr Russek and Mrs Bray coming to our school each week to teach our children. If you have not yet handed in your permission note to attend classes could you do this **ASAP**. Extra copies can be obtained from the office. Just a gentle reminder...if you do not wish to continue with the classes we **MUST** have a note from the parent regarding this. It makes it easier for the teacher to prepare classes and if another child wishes to join we know exact numbers to be able to fulfil requests. Tuition Fees for Term 1 are due **Friday 26 February 2015**. Thank you.

#### PROJECT COMPASSION

The Project Compassion Boxes that were sent home during last week are to be delivered to the Parish Church/Office at the end of Lent. Thank you in anticipation for your generous donations.

#### **SECOND HAND UNIFORMS - HELP**

The second hand uniforms will be moved up stairs to the Music Room and we require help to achieve this. If you could help with this move and the sorting of uniforms please contact the office. Thank you in anticipation.

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### Healthy Harold's First Family Fun Day

**When:** Sunday 21st February 2016, 10AM-3M

**Where:** 10 Hewitt Street Colyton [Life Education NSW]

**Come and enjoy the fun - Special guests, Interactive sessions in our vans and classrooms, Prizes, Face Painting, Craft Activities, Food Stalls and Entertainment!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONCERT FOR CAMBODIA Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 7-30 PM St Finbar's Hall, Levy St., Glenbrook**

**The fabulous Raffle Prizes are:**

1. Two night Mid-week Patonga Views Escape (5 star B and B at Patonga)
2. A collection of beautiful Cambodian Handicrafts
3. Kylie Kwong 'Lotus' pattern tableware, created for Oxfam by one of Oxfam's Fair trade producer partners, Mai Vietnamese Handicrafts. Hand made in Vietnam using non toxic paints and glazes. Dishwasher and microwave safe
4. Original Aboriginal Painting, (unframed) from Central Australia
5. Annabel Crabb's Kitchen Cabinet Recipe Book, from the ABC shop
6. \$40 voucher from Glenbrook Butchery
7. \$20 voucher from Glenbrook Bakery
- 8.

**The raffle will be drawn on 12/3/16 at the concert Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5**

This is a wonderful night of musical entertainment in support of The Bush School, Siem Reap, Cambodia. The school was founded by local Blue Mountains residents in 2010, and is a project of Winmalee Lions. It supports and educates some of the very poorest children in Asia. Your attendance will help guarantee the continuing success of the project.



\*\*\*\*\*

### **Solo Parent Services:**

Post-Separation Recovery Program, Stepping Beyond (Support Group) and Younger Widowed Support Group. Contact Solo Parent Services Ph: 8822 2222 or [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

\*\*\*\*\*

**BMX Australia** sign on day Ferris Lane, Lawson Sunday 21st February

This is a day where interested riders can come and try BMX racing for the first time. Date: 21st February, Time: 12pm – 3pm.

For further details: Phone: Myles 0407 434 276 or Graham 0414 399 323 Website:

[www.bluemountainsbmx.com](http://www.bluemountainsbmx.com) Email: [bluemntsbmx@outlook.com](mailto:bluemntsbmx@outlook.com) Facebook: Blue Mountains BMX Club

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*



## My AIS Swimming Carnival by Hunter Kelly

In December my family and I headed to Canberra for a swimming carnival at the Australian Institute of Sport. I was representing Glenbrook Swim Club. The carnival was massive with 59 clubs present.



I was so excited about swimming in the same pool as some of my heroes. I was blown away when I walked into the swimming complex and saw the photos of Olympics champs like Michael Klim, Kieren Perkins, Ian Thorpe and Susie O'Neil. It was soon time for my first race to start and I was ready.



This is me swimming the 50m freestyle. I am currently in 2nd place but what happened next shocked me. When I touched the wall I looked up and I was very surprised. My time was still going! Finally the officials realised that I had already had touched the wall and stopped the clock. I finished 4th in my heat. With a bonus PB time. I was so happy with my first race.



The picture below is my time for the 100m freestyle. I was stunned, I couldn't believe my name was on the electric board.



I had a fantastic time at the carnival. I finished with 3 personal best times which put me through to qualify for my next big event, the Speedo Sprint Series in the Olympic Pool at Homebush in March.



*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*

# St Finbar's Primary, Glenbrook

## Term 1 at a Glance

We live by our School Motto:

Living our faith in daily life,  
Seeking truth in our relationships  
and building our knowledge

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Week 4</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup> Welcoming Mass Time: TBC	17 <sup>th</sup> P & F Meeting 7pm – **Postponed	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup> Dance Fever Gymnastics	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Week 5</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> Family Learning Conferences	23 <sup>rd</sup> Parish Mass 9.00am Yr 4  *Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival  *Family Learning Conferences  *Captive Primary Music Choir Rehearsal Captive String Orchestra Rehearsal	24 <sup>th</sup> *P & F Meeting 7pm –  *Family Learning Conferences	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup> *Diocesan Swimming Carnival  *Dance Fever Gymnastics  *Family Learning Conferences	27 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Week 6</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> Assembly 2.10pm – Parish Hall	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Dance Fever Gymnastics	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>

### DATES in ADVANCE

#### Please note change in dates:

Staff Development Day: Term 2: 26/04/2016

Staff Development Day: Term 3: 18/07/2016

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*



# Pastoral Care Welcomes You to 2016



Pastoral Care is a very important aspect of our school, and you too can help in some small way. Our Pastoral Care team will supply meals, cakes and provide general support for families in need. Maybe there has been an illness in the family, or a new baby has been born, or perhaps the death of a loved one, it is then we offer support to these families.

If you would like to support this committee by making a meal, or baking a cake, then please complete the form below and return it to school. Usually, you are only asked once or twice a year to help out. Foil containers will be available from the office, or if preferred, the meals can be put in ice cream containers. Minimises the returning of dishes – of course this can also be facilitated.

It is a very rewarding feeling to know that you are showing members of our community that they're cared for.

Please feel free to approach us in the playground or phone us if you know of anyone who would be in need of this support.

*Current co-ordinators are:*

Liz Keast – 0404 874 269

Roberta McKenzie – 0412 360 631

In anticipation of your support – a sincere thanks!

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

☐

I am able to help with a meal

☐

I am able to cook a cake

Preferred days to Cook

☐

Mon

☐

Tues

☐

Wed

☐

Thurs

☐

Fri

☐

Any day

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*