



# St Finbar's Primary School

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

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[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 8 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016

Dear St Finbar's Community,

## How do we ensure a quality education at St Finbar's Glenbrook?

St Finbar's Glenbrook is a faith filled learning community. We are fortunate to be part of a dynamic system of schools known as the Parramatta Diocese.

All Catholic Schools in Parramatta follow a common Religious Education curriculum called "Sharing Our Story". This is based on the shared praxis model. This is further enhanced through our relationship with the Parish.

We follow the syllabus as outlined by The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES)

BOSTES was created by the NSW government in 2014 to sustain and improve the already high standards of achievement in NSW schools.

BOSTES brings together the curriculum, teaching, assessment, registration and policy functions previously provided by the Board of Studies NSW, and the NSW Institute of Teachers.

At St Finbar's Glenbrook, we work collaboratively to provide for the needs of each of our students. The classroom teacher works with a team of professionals, which could include their Stage partner, teacher's aides, Learning Support Teacher, Librarian, Reading Recovery Teacher or EMU Specialist teacher. We are also fortunate to have specialised Creative Arts Teachers and tutors. We also have a school counsellor who visits our school on a weekly basis.

The Leadership Team supports every class in the school. This starts at the planning stage and can also include team teaching, triads (where teachers seek specific feedback on students or strategies used in the classroom). The Leadership Team may also take small groups to work within the class. Case Management also involves a meeting of these professionals to plan future pathways for a child's learning.

In all Parramatta Diocese Schools, additional support is provided for students with specific learning/behaviour needs and for classes larger than 30. There are support teams from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) that can be called on if further support is required.

Our teachers are supported with remaining up to date with current research on pedagogy through Professional Development. The CEDP support us in this area by providing opportunities that will assist us in achieving our Implementation Plan Goals. All professional development opportunities are accredited by BOSTES and link to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

As parents, you also contribute to a quality education when you support the work of the school. This is achieved through open communication and respect shown to teachers.

St Finbar's Glenbrook is a rich learning environment and we are fortunate to be members of this community.

Yours in Christ

Ms Donna McFadzean

Dear Parents and Friends,



### **Grandparent's Day**

A massive thank you to all the parents and especially the Grandma's and Grandpa's that came up to school yesterday and shared in our celebration of Grandparents. I think the quote included on the reflection slideshow was perfect, it went along the lines of: God knew he couldn't be everywhere, so he created Grandparents! And what an AMAZING gift they are to all of us. It was lovely to see the Grandparents reading their grandchildren stories and then their grandchildren reading them stories. The love and excitement in the eyes of the children was priceless. What a wonderful community we have here at St Finbar's - we all need to cherish and continue to share this love that surrounds us.

### **Week 6 Whole School Assembly**

Congratulations to those students in our community who were acknowledged at this week's assembly, for being Respectful, Safe, Learners and filled with Faith. They are listed later in this Newsletter. We have been focusing on ways we can be Respectful over the last few weeks and we continue to discuss this with the children and investigate the simple ways that we can show respect for adults and each other. It is so important for our children to see the adults in their lives living out this respect in all interactions they have, in order for them to then interact with others in the same respectful way. It would be great for you to have a conversation over dinner tonight of the different and simple ways we can be respectful to one another and of course to acknowledge when your beautiful children do exactly that - show respect for others - especially with their siblings!

### **Hot Reads**

Mrs Stenning and Mrs Southern shared their Hot Reads with us this week - what are your Hot Reads from over the past couple of weeks - we'd love to hear about them!

### **Meeting with Teachers**

At St Finbar's, we always encourage parents to make contact with their child's teacher at any time. We do provide formal opportunities for this to occur, with the next formal opportunity coming at the end of this term after Semester 1 reports go home. But we understand that things come up and need to be discussed and we believe 'the sooner the better' - do not let things get too much! All we ask that you understand that these meetings need to occur at appropriate times that suit both yourself and the teacher. Often teachers are unable to meet either right before school or right after due to their duty of care to the students in their class. Once the students are walking into class the teachers are focused on the students and their learning and cannot be distracted by parents wanting a 'quick 5 minutes'. In these cases please walk to the office and speak with Mrs Mulhall and she will arrange for another time for you to meet with the teacher as soon as possible. We appreciate and value your conversations and thank you for your understanding and support.

A few notices and some reminders:

- Our Kindergarten Interviews for 2017 begin in Week 7. If you know anyone with a child starting Kindergarten in 2017 please let them know, it is not too late to get their enrolment package from the office. Interview times are now available please contact the Office.
- Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> June is the Queen's Birthday Public Holiday!

God Bless,

Lisa Samojlowicz  
Assistant Principal



School Assembly Awards  
Term 2 Week 6 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2016

<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 Axeli Kilpikoski	Abigail Stanford	Edmund Cameron	
1. Mitchell Cremona	Hailey Crameri	Milo Tucker	
2. Jack Ambrosoli	Alyssa McFadden	Katia Apps	
3. Anthony Grima	Julian Dawes	Jed Berben	Christopher Gott
4. Mya Pockran	Ella Boyer	Christopher Martland	
5. Anna Santoro	Daniel Tioukavkin	Bailey Heyman	Scarlet Jurd Sophie Keast
6. Kieran Naklaus	Nicholas Likely	Shane Hunt Lachlan Monaco	Rachael Doughty Eden Turl

**SAFE USE OF TECHNOLOGY: GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS**

By taking responsibility for your children's online computer use, parents can greatly minimize any potential risks of being online. Make it a family rule to:

- If your child is young consider being with your child when he or she is on the Internet.
- Warn your child not to give out identifying information.
- Get to know the services your child uses.
- Never allow a child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without parental permission.
- Remind your children to never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening, or make them feel uncomfortable.
- Remember that everything you read online may not be true.
- Set reasonable rules and guidelines for computer use by your children. Sit down together and create a family computer usage agreement.
- Consider using parental controls but know their limitations.
- Keep the computer in a family room rather than the child's bedroom. A computer in a Childs bedroom does not have to be connected to the internet.
- Supervise and monitor the use of the internet with your family. If issues arise address them quickly

and know who to report problems.

- Encourage and support your family with their use of the internet. Teach them to make right decisions and increase the levels of responsibility as children get older.
- Understand what a device does before you buy. Make sure any device you purchase is appropriate to the age and experience of your child.
- Become familiar with the mobile technologies your children use or are introduced to by their friends.
- Don't give your children mobile phones just for the sake of it – inform yourself of all the risks and benefits before making a decision. Don't use prepaid mobile phone accounts if you need to monitor usage or manage SMS addiction.
- Involve your children in decision-making about internet accounts, mobile phone services and price plans so that they share responsibility for the cost of their activities online.

**Ben Ticehurst**

*Special Projects Coordinator | Learning Technologies*

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**From the P & F**

**ZEBRA CROSSINGS, CANTEENS AND SOME MATHS!**

Our P&F has had a really busy start to term 2, thanks to the efforts of some people I would like to mention. Firstly, Paul Ambrosoli followed up Council about the damaged storm water drain and pedestrian crossing on King Street. Council have now issued a work order to paint a zebra crossing where the current crossing is, add some warning paint and replace a couple of signs. Council replaced the storm water lid while inspecting. Thank you Paul for this.

We have to also thank Neil Evans for his help in cleaning out the canteen and remarking lines in the school yard. Speaking of the canteen, a separate note went out is week about Special Food Days. We are looking for a parent from each Year Group to volunteer to co-ordinate their allotted day. We also need 4-6 parents to help on the day to serve and prepare lunch orders. If you can help please fill out the form on the back of the note. Please contact our Vice President, Janette Ankers, if you have any questions. I also would like to thank Janette for putting this together.

Our May meeting kicked off with a fantastic session ran by Mrs Platt on maths. I found it very interesting and helpful in gaining an insight into how our children are taught maths today and how we can help our children. We've moved a long way from the days of counting rods and the abacus! A lot of effort is put into these sessions and the staff are giving up their spare time to run these sessions. So on behalf of the P&F, I would like to express our appreciation and I would encourage everyone to come along to the next session.

Juliet Hinchliffe has also continued to represent the P&F in relation to the proposed flight paths for the new airport for Western Sydney. This takes up a lot of her spare time and this is much appreciated. The school is also asking for volunteers to do a letter box drop for the new brochures aimed at prospective students. We will put a note on the Skoolbag app as soon as we have collated the brochures. Please let the Mrs Mulhall know if you can help.

It was great to see some new faces at our May meeting. If you have not come along before, I encourage you to attend next month's meeting. It's your chance to meet some new people and have input into your child's school experience. Have a great week!

Andrew Grima

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Seminar - Dealing With The Legal System**

Each year CCSS Solo Parent Services offers an Information night for anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding on how to choose the best lawyer for your situation, how best to deal with Lawyers so as to minimize your legal fees and how to protect your rights regarding family assets. This night is being held on Tuesday 7th June from 7.30pm - 9.30pm at CCSS, 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Guest Speaker: Mr Richard Brading, (Solicitor at Wesley Legal Service)

**Cost: \$7. Registration Essential:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

**Stepping Beyond: Support For Those Separated Or Divorced**

CCSS Solo Parent Services "Stepping Beyond" Support Group, is held on the last Tuesday of each month for those struggling through a separation or divorce. **Next Gathering:** 31st May **Venue:** CCSS Centre, 38 Prince St, Blacktown. **Time:** 7.30 – 9.30. **Cost:** \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 or email: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

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**OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour**

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to discover why a Mercy Education is treasured for Life at our Open Morning Tour on June 6, 2016. Tour the College and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team and get a sense of the rich tradition and cutting edge education at OLMC Parramatta. The College is now enrolling for 2018.

Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) or phone 8838 1222 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

**A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

**Weekend date: 24-26 June at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW**

**Bookings online at [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au) or**

**Bill and Ardell Sharpe on 02 4283 3435 or [wsharpe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wsharpe@bigpond.net.au)**

**Thank you Letter**



THE RETURNED AND SERVICES LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA  
NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH INCORPORATED  
The Price of Liberty is Eternal Vigilance

BLAXLAND-GLENBROOK RSL SUB BRANCH  
PO BOX 18, GLENBROOK  
NSW 2773

President  
Hon. Secretary  
Hon Treasurer

Tony Lowe AM  
Paul Macklin  
Peter Bennett CSC

10 May 2016

The Principal  
St Finbars School  
Levy St  
GLENBROOK NSW 2773

Dear Donna,

Ref: Glenbrook ANZAC Day

Please accept the sincere thanks from the President and all Sub Branch members for the support and involvement of you, your staff and students in making the day very memorable to all who attended.

I trust that it was felt that we "Did the Day Proud" and if so, your teams involvement made that so.

We look forward to ongoing involvement by St Finbars School at our ceremonies.

Your students, once again, were a credit to the school.

Best regards and thank you.

Yours faithfully,  
  
Paul Macklin  
Hon. Secretary

Contact: Mobile: 0411 207 255

E-mail: [secretary@blaxlandglenbrookrsl.com](mailto:secretary@blaxlandglenbrookrsl.com)

**ART CLASSES**

TOTS - TUESDAY MORNING  
3-5 YEARS OLD AND CARERS  
10-11 AM  
MELROSE HALL  
EMU PLAINS

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON  
5-12 YEARS OLD  
4-6 PM  
EMU PLAINS  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

THURSDAY AFTERNOON  
5-12 YEARS OLD  
4-5:30 PM  
EMU PLAINS  
COMMUNITY CENTRE

SATURDAY MORNING  
6-12 YEARS OLD  
10 AM - 12 NOON  
AND  
12:30-2:30 PM  
EMU PLAINS  
PUBLIC SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DATES  
AND PRICES VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[WWW.REACH4STARS.COM.AU](http://WWW.REACH4STARS.COM.AU)

CONTACT:  
NAAMA ATZMON-SIMON  
MOBILE: 0413-694-030  
[NAAMA@REACH4STARS.COM.AU](mailto:NAAMA@REACH4STARS.COM.AU)

REACH FOR THE STARS  
creative art classes

DO YOU HAVE A CREATIVE CHILD THAT ENJOYS ART?

**DREAM**

AGES 3-5 YEARS OLD AND 6-12 YEARS OLD. VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN EMU PLAINS, NSW

**CREATE**

8 WEEKS DURING SCHOOL TERM. FIRST LESSON FREE FOR NEW STUDENTS

**EXPLORE**

REACH FOR THE STARS  
creative art classes

CONTACT:  
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MORE DETAILS AND UPDATES:  
[WWW.REACH4STARS.COM.AU](http://WWW.REACH4STARS.COM.AU)

**The Joan Sutherland Performing Art Centre** and **Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest** this winter have some great fun, stay warm with our winter program filled with shows, exhibitions and workshops.

**The Moon's A Balloon 17 & 18 June**

*The Moon's a Balloon* is a moving and eloquent story that explores childhood play, invention, friendship and connection in a highly visual performance that is beautifully complemented by magical lighting, digital imagery and a stunning soundscape.

**The Little Prince 1 & 2 July**

For more than 70 years this timeless story has brought joy to adults and children alike with its beautiful insights and humour. Join the Little Prince and discover for yourself that those things which are essential are invisible to the eye.

**Snugglepot & Cuddlepie 5 – 7 July**

CDP's *Snugglepot and Cuddlepie* production is adapted from a series of books by May Gibbs. The much loved characters come to life on stage in this funny and charming contemporary adaption of childhood stories introducing today's children to the wonderful world of May Gibbs.

**Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest School Holiday Workshops**

Kids 11 – 14 July & Family 15 July

Kids, come along to our Art Making Workshops in the July School Holidays and have fun using a range of art materials to create colourful animal faces, human portraits and even cartoon 'selfies'. Choose from drawing, cartooning, clay relief sculpture and a fruity, fun, family collage. [penrithregionalgallery.org/](http://penrithregionalgallery.org/)

**The Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre School Holiday Workshops**

Performing arts school holiday workshops will be announced soon, stay tuned [thejoan.com.au/series/school-holiday-workshops/](http://thejoan.com.au/series/school-holiday-workshops/) .



# St Finbar's Primary, Glenbrook

## Term 2 at a Glance

**We live by our School Motto:**

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

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
Week 6	30 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> June	2 <sup>nd</sup> June Stg 3 Soccer Gala Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> June Special Food Day – Yr 5	4 <sup>th</sup> June	5 <sup>th</sup> June
Week 7	6 <sup>th</sup> June CARES Bike Education 9am	7 <sup>th</sup> June	8 <sup>th</sup> June CARES Bike Education	9 <sup>th</sup> June	10 <sup>th</sup> June	11 <sup>th</sup> June	12 <sup>th</sup> June

### DATES IN ADVANCE

<b>Staff Development Day Term 3 – 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2016</b>	<b><i>P &amp; F Meetings</i></b>
<b>Staff Development Day Term 4 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<i>15<sup>th</sup> June 7pm</i>
	<i>20<sup>th</sup> July 7pm</i>
	<i>17<sup>th</sup> August 7pm</i>
	<i>21<sup>st</sup> September 7pm</i>
	<i>19<sup>th</sup> October 7pm</i>
Write A Book in a Day Competition 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	<i>16<sup>th</sup> November 7pm</i>
Athletics Carnival 24 <sup>th</sup> June	
Soccer Gala Day Stg 2 – 30 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>ASSEMBLY</b>
Feast of the Assumption -15 <sup>th</sup> August - Mass 9.15	<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2.15pm (Hall)</b>
Father's Day - Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September - Mass 9.15	
Confirmation – Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>
St Finbar's Day Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2pm-3.10pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> June: Leadership Team at Quality Schools meeting PM)
Swimming Carnival 17 <sup>th</sup> November	3 <sup>rd</sup> June Yrs 3-6 Reading: Mrs Tucker, Mrs Southern-Gale, Mrs Borg, Mrs McFadzean
Feast of Christ the King – First Holy Communion 20 <sup>th</sup> November	6 <sup>th</sup> June: Website Development: Mr Ticehurst and Mrs Platt REC Network Meeting: Mrs Stenning
School Disco 25 <sup>th</sup> November	7 <sup>th</sup> June: Geography Syllabus: Mr Tucker
All Saints Day 1 <sup>st</sup> November	8 <sup>th</sup> June: Kathy Ferrari: Literacy School Visit
Year 6 Graduation Mass – 12 <sup>th</sup> December 12pm	
End of Year Celebration – 14 <sup>th</sup> December	
Last day of School for Children 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2016	