



# St Finbar's Primary School Newsletter

**Be Safe Be Respectful Be A Learner**

## Dates To Remember

- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
Father's Day  
Breakfast & Liturgy
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> September –  
Whole School  
Assembly
- ❖ 14<sup>th</sup> September –  
ES1 & S1 Excursion  
to the Botanical  
Gardens
- ❖ 21<sup>st</sup> September –  
St Finbar's Day –  
Andrew Chinn
- ❖ 23<sup>rd</sup> September –  
Last Day of Term 3

## Contact Us

### School :

Phone: 4739 1796

Postal Address:

P O Box 187

Glenbrook NSW 2773

Email:

stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au

Parish :

**Fr Jolly Chacko**

Address:

46 Levy Street

Glenbrook NSW 2773

Phone: 4739 8928

Dear St Finbar's Community

What an exciting fortnight we have had! We have had our students attend a number of extra - curricular sporting events, we have had a book fair, a character parade, a maths olympic day, we have had over 40 students complete the Premier's Reading Challenge, Voice of Youth Blue Mountains Cluster Competition, where one of our students were selected to go onto the finals and we also received our sensational NAPLAN results! We certainly offer a well rounded education at St Finbar's.

Once again, through the dedication and passion for learning, our students have performed exceptionally well in NAPLAN. The table below is a celebration of our achievement:

### Standards table

	% below NMS	% at or below NMS	% at proficiency					
Years			3 School	3 State	5 School	5 State	7 School	7 State
Reading	0%	5%	0%	7%	4%	6%		
Writing	0%	3%	3%	7%	0%	9%		
Spelling	3%	5%	3%	7%	0%	7%		
Grammar & Punctuation	0%	5%	0%	5%	4%	7%		
Numeracy	0%	5%	3%	6%	0%	4%		

In the % below NMS tab the percentages include exempt students. The below NMS percentages of achievement represent the bottom band of achievement reported for NAPLAN. For example in Year 3 it is Band 1, in Year 5 it is Band 3, in Year 7 it is Band 4 and in Year 9 it is Band 5.

These results would not have been achieved without the professionalism of our teachers. Hours of professional development, cooperative planning, assessment, data analysis, reporting and strategic leadership with a clear focus, went into achieving these results. We would like to thank those families who took the time to contact the school to express their thanks for all the work the teachers have done to maximise their child's potential. As I have previously mentioned in past newsletters, the positive partnership between the home and the school has a direct impact on student achievement, with this in mind we would like to thank you as parents and caregivers for your support.



In our last newsletter we had a particular focus on our school rules. Over the past week I have witnessed students supporting each other with safe play. It has been wonderful to see our students bringing a child to a teacher for attention if they have fallen over or hurt themselves in some other way. As well as being a display of empathy, it is also an example of our students living out our formation goal of bringing to life the scripture in their daily life. As a school we have taken on the mantra of "What would Jesus do?". It is encouraging to see our students living this each day.

Yours in Christ,

*Donna McFadzean*

### Long Service Leave

Over the next month we have a number of teachers going on long service leave. Mrs Shean is currently on leave. Mrs Lewis will be taking leave in the last three weeks of this term. We hope they have a well deserved break and enjoy some time with their families. Before going on leave these teachers spend time with the teacher who is replacing them to ensure learning continues with no interruptions to routines. Mrs Borg and Miss McCarrey will be replacing the teachers on leave.

## From the Assistant Principal...

Dear Parents and Friends,

Can you believe we are now past halfway – oh how time flies when you are having fun! And that is exactly what has been happening in our classrooms – FUN, FUN, FUN!

On Monday dressed as a variety of Australian book characters, every child went with their teacher, for a walk around the school to inspect our NEW 'Writing Nooks'! The teachers were challenged to create a space in their classrooms that would excite, encourage and enthuse their students to want to write! AND that is exactly what they did!

We invite you to find a minute to pop in to your child's classroom and have them share their writing nook with you! We are sure Superman in Stage 2 will shower you with super writing powers and then you can get hooked on writing with Stage 3 and you'll be unable to leave the magical writing room in ES1 and then you can relax on the Writing Island in Stage



## **Week 6 Book Week Parade & Whole School Assembly**



WOW! What an amazing collection of Australian Book Characters we had at school this last Monday! The students looked wonderful and the teachers didn't look too bad either. It was obvious how much planning and effort went into organising and preparing these costumes. The students were so excited to parade around in their costumes and they looked fabulous! Thank you for all you do for your children, they are lucky, as we are too, in having you supporting them and us in their education.

We also congratulated the students in our community who have been: Respectful, Safe, Learners and Living our Faith in daily life. These students received awards at the conclusion of our Book Parade assembly.

### **Dismissal in the Afternoon**

Just a reminder, that students are to be collected in the afternoon, from the bottom playground. The teachers take the children down and they are then asked to sit under the shelter until you arrive. Students are **NOT** to wait for you at the gate, as this area is not supervised. Parents with students in **Stage 3 only**, are able to pick them up from the Levy St gate, but if you are not there when they come out of class, they are to go to the office to wait for you, as there is no supervision up the top. If you have children in other grades as well you must pick them all up from the bottom playground. Thank you for your understanding and support in keeping our children safe! Please note the pedestrian gate on King St is also closed by the Year 6 leaders, straight after the children walk into class for safety reasons and also so that no learning time is missed by any student. Again thank you for your support in leaving the school grounds quickly.

### **Extra Curricula Activities**

We would like to thank Mr Ticehurst, Mrs Platt, Miss Lynch and the wonderful parents that coached and umpired our students at Tuesday's Netball Gala Day. It was a fabulous day in which our children achieved some great results and most importantly had fun and displayed some fantastic sportsmanship.

A HUGE congratulations also goes to our students who participated in the Zone Athletics Carnival earlier this term. It was a very successful carnival for St Finbars with the following students progressing through to the Diocesan Athletics Carnival. Girls Junior 800m - Eloise Lorking 2<sup>nd</sup> & Neve Burns 4<sup>th</sup>; Girls Junior Shot Put - Savannah Buss 3<sup>rd</sup>; Girls Junior Discuss - April Darby 3<sup>rd</sup>; Girls Senior Long Jump - Hannah Stanford 3<sup>rd</sup>; Girls Senior Shot Put - Amity Buss 1<sup>st</sup>; Girls Senior Discuss - Amity Buss 1<sup>st</sup>; Under 12 Girls 100m - Hannah Stanford 1<sup>st</sup>; Under 12 Girls 200m - Hannah Stanford 1<sup>st</sup> and Boys Junior Discuss - Lochlann Kelly. Well Done to all the students who participated in the Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival. No matter how big or small your contribution was, all students showed great strength, speed, courage, patience and school spirit.

We also thank those parents who attended the Parent Workshop on 'The Importance of Vocabulary' at the last P & F Meeting. We shared the importance on taking the vocabulary of our kids to the next 'TIER'. The parents learnt that from the age of 3, children have the ability to learn and comprehend a new word after only hearing it once or twice! Our challenge as teachers and parents is to provide every day opportunities to enhance the vocabulary of our students. Please see your child's teacher for simply ways to make this happen!

A few notices and some reminders:

- **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** – Father's Day Breakfast & Liturgy
- **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September** – Whole School Assembly
- **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September** – ES1 & S1 Excursion to the Botanical Gardens
- **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September** – St Finbar's Day – Andrew Chinn
- **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** – Last Day of Term 3

God Bless,

Lisa Samojlowicz  
Assistant Principal

**Tier 3 words** are low frequency words limited to a specific domain/content area **eg. atom, molecule, sedimentary etc.**

**Tier 2 words** are high utility words, that occur across multiple contexts. These are used by mature language users and these are **the most important to teach eg. hilarious, endure, despise etc.**

**Tier 1 words** are everyday words, typically learned in conversation **eg. happy, see, come, table etc.**

## From Mrs Platt...

### PBS4L Update

What is PBS4L?

PBS4L is Positive Behaviour Support for Learning. It is a school wide positive behaviour support approach that aims to develop social and learning outcomes. As part of this program we provide clear expectations of behaviour.

At St Finbar's our school agreements are, "Be Safe", and "Be Respectful" and "Be a Learner". Students participate in lessons with their teachers to discuss what it looks like, sounds like and feels like when they are displaying the 3 agreements across the school. Students have been earning "Like It" tokens in their learning spaces and on the playground for displaying our school agreements.



Over the next couple of weeks our focus will be on the school agreement "Be Safe". The students will be talking with their peers about the many different ways that they can be safe and keep others safe in the classroom and on the playground. It is for the students safety that we have the mantra "keep my hands to myself" and children are to play games that do not contain contact on the playground.

At St Finbar's we believe that we are in partnership with parents to establish and develop social and learning outcomes. The use of a consistent language at home and at school is a great strategy to develop positive behaviour.

Here are some talking points for you to discuss with your child.

- How can you be safe when moving around the school?
- How can you be safe when playing at lunch time?
- How can we all be safe when leaving the school at the end of the day?

## St Finbar's Maths Olympics

Last Friday, Olympic Fever become alive during maths time. Every grade participated in an outside maths lesson and had to not only participate in the activity but also discuss the mathematics involved and how they solved the problems.

Here is a brief snapshot of each stages activity.

Early Stage 1 - How many times can you go down the slippery dip in a minute? Collect and represent data.

Stage 1 - Using multiplicative skills to add up the score for a Rugby 7's game where a try was worth 5 points and a goal 2 points.

Stage 2 - Who can throw a paper aeroplane the furthest? How can you accurately measure length?

Stage 3 - How can you measure your accuracy rate of basketball shooting practice - using fractions to discuss accuracy.

The children had a great time completing their activity and then sharing their mathematical thinking with the whole school.

Congratulations to the following children who received medals for working hard to explain their strategy and thinking to their maths partner and showing perseverance challenging tasks.

	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
Kindergarten	Alyssa moore	Maiya Edwards	Gus Berben
Year 1	Ellie Taylor	Amelie Bohan	Edward Walker
Year 2	Ethan Cameron	Grace Incorvill	Cooper Monaco
Year 3	Oscar Waring	Xavier Gibson	Jack McFadden
Year 4	April Darby	George Walker	Lara Heyman
Year 5	Sophie Keast	Nicholas Casha	Neve Burns
Year 6	James Pierre Kiersivien	Kieran Niklaus	Mia Burns

A reminder that School Fees were due on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August. If you have any queries in regards to fees or are having difficulty making payment, please do not hesitate to contact me in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday's. Thank you for your continued support !

Kind Regards,

Mrs Denham - Finance Secretary

## COSHC Before and After School Care ...

Commencing in 2017 the Catholic Education Office Parramatta is starting before and after school care on site at St Finbar's Primary, Glenbrook. This is an exciting opportunity for our families and our Community.

This service will cater for before and after school care for primary school age children K-6 in a vibrant, friendly and caring environment, that fully supports the Catholic ethos and the mission of the Catholic Church.

An Information Session will be held in November and Application Forms will be available for enrolment opportunities. Further details will be given closer to the event.

## Fathers Day Stall ...

This years Father's Day Stall will be held this Wednesday 31st of August at 9.00am in the Father Barlow Centre. Children will visit the stall in class groups and have a chance to purchase two gifts for Dad, Grandpa or someone special to them. Prices will range from \$1 to \$5. If there are more gifts still available after all classes have visited the stall then children are welcome to come back and make further purchases. We ask that children bring no more than a total of \$10 each to school. Small change would be appreciated if possible, as it is sometimes difficult to change notes.

We also welcome any Parents or Carers that might like to come along and help serve the children on the day. Toddlers are welcome. The Stall should be finished by 11am.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY for AUGUST !**

Alana Callaghan, Dominik Barrios, Ethan Cameron,  
Briar-Rose Wade, Lara Heyman, Hunter Kelly,

Eloise Lorking, Zara Lewis,

Bronagh McKeown, Isobel Reece, Michael  
Martland, Phoenix Eggins, Ashlee Cremona, Keira  
Vermaak, Samuel Caetan



## REMINDERS

- Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation has commenced. Sessions #3 is Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 4.30-5.30pm or Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August 10.45-11.45am. Session #4 Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 4.30-5.30pm or Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 10.45-11.45am.
- The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

**College Open  
Morning Tour  
Monday  
September 5, 2016**

### **Glenbrook Athletics Centre**

**Family, Fun & Fitness**

**Season 2016/2017 Starts Late September**

**Saturday Morning Competition**

**Tiny Tots (4 at 30<sup>th</sup> Sept)**

**To U20s**

**4<sup>th</sup> + Children are free**

**Registrations: Glenbrook Oval**

**Saturday Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**

**9am – 1pm**

**Proof of Age for New Registrations**

**Visit Facebook or website. [www.glenbrooklac.org](http://www.glenbrooklac.org)**

**Centre contact Matt Andrew**

**0438 357 478 or [glac40th@gmail.com](mailto:glac40th@gmail.com)**