



# St Finbar's Primary School

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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 14 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2015

Dear St Finbar's Community,

As a Catholic school community we believe that every individual is unique and formed in the image of our Lord. We accept that at times we are all sinners who are in need of forgiveness. It is with this belief in mind that we form our interactions with the children in our care. St Finbar's have been involved in a program called PBS4L. As part of this program we provide clear expectations of behaviour. We have three areas that we address every day, "Be Safe", "Be a learner" and "Be Responsible". Over the last couple of weeks the whole school has been focusing on "Being Safe". We have a mantra that the children say to remind them of what this could look like - "Don't be a bystander, be an upstander". We encourage the children to be proactive when interacting with their peers, we ask them to intervene if they see someone treating someone in an inappropriate manner by saying "STOP" and encourage them to go and get a teacher straight away. The school now has a tracking system so that records are kept for incidents that occur. These are called the "blue note". Teachers complete this form and it is passed on to a member of the Leadership Team who always act on these referrals.

## St Finbar's Behaviour Monitoring Sheet 2015

<b>Name:</b> <b>Class:</b> <b>Date:</b> <b>Teacher:</b> <b>Action/Consequences</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Timeout - office <input type="checkbox"/> Time out -general <input type="checkbox"/> Parent phone call <input type="checkbox"/> Conference with student/parent <input type="checkbox"/> Referral to leadership <input type="checkbox"/> In school suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Act of apology <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of play <input type="checkbox"/> Out of school suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Minor Behaviour</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Disrespect <input type="checkbox"/> Defiance/non-compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate language <input type="checkbox"/> Physical contact <input type="checkbox"/> Property misuse <input type="checkbox"/> No hat <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Major Behaviour</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Disrespect <input type="checkbox"/> Defiance/non-compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Abusive language <input type="checkbox"/> Physical aggression <input type="checkbox"/> Property damage <input type="checkbox"/> Bullying <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Location:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Infants Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Toilets <input type="checkbox"/> Library <input type="checkbox"/> Assembly area <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Art room <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese room <input type="checkbox"/> Music room <input type="checkbox"/> Learning centre <input type="checkbox"/> Kids Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Pickup <input type="checkbox"/> Bus lines <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<b>Time:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Before School Time <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Session 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Recess Time <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Session 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Lunch Time <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lunch Time <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Session 3 <input type="checkbox"/> After school Time
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Comments: (Please include possible motivators for behaviour)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Class Teacher) \_\_\_\_\_ (Duty Teacher)

Please be assured that all reported incidents are followed up on. Mr Cauchi or Ms McFadzean collate these forms each week and report back to staff at their briefing meeting each week so that staff can monitor students when on duty or in the classroom.

Part of being a Catholic community requires us to forgive those who make mistakes. This is also compounded by the fact that we are dealing with children who will make mistakes and who are not perfect. We always try to make each incident a learning opportunity. In order to respect the

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dignity of each child in our care, you would appreciate that we would not discuss other children with you - however, we can discuss issues related to your own child.

Our next direction will be to refine the current award system of the bronze, silver and gold awards. We will be seeking feedback from students and parents as to possible improvements on our current system. Once we have developed the new system we will be sure to communicate this to all members of our community.

If you have any further questions that you would like to ask regarding this procedure, please feel free to contact any staff member who would be happy to answer your questions. We thank you for your support of our work in this area and remember that "together we can and do make a difference".

Yours in Christ  
Donna McFadzean



### **NAPLAN**

I would like to congratulate both the students and their amazing teachers on the great results that St Finbar's achieved in NAPLAN this year. As a Staff, we will be analysing the data shortly. We will prepare a detailed report for the community which we will share in a future newsletter. Well done for being such great learners every day.

### **HOMEWORK - LOVE IT OR HATE IT?**




We would love to hear your feedback on the current homework in place for your child. We wish to streamline our approach and update our policy on homework. In order to assist with our policy development, we would appreciate you completing an online survey. Please follow the link below to take part in this survey. We value your opinion.

[Homework Survey:](https://docs.google.com/a/parra.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/1ofDS9Tkg0ZjeOc8Rh_zwetJw-sTa5BLDBwv-AnTdIM0/viewform)

[https://docs.google.com/a/parra.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/1ofDS9Tkg0ZjeOc8Rh\\_zwetJw-sTa5BLDBwv-AnTdIM0/viewform](https://docs.google.com/a/parra.catholic.edu.au/forms/d/1ofDS9Tkg0ZjeOc8Rh_zwetJw-sTa5BLDBwv-AnTdIM0/viewform)



In order to clarify exactly what the uniform policy at St Finbar's is, we are providing pictures and a brief explanation of our uniform code.

	<p><b>Summer Uniform</b></p> <p><b>Girls</b> Summer dress with navy blue socks</p> <p><b>Boys</b> Grey shorts and short sleeved blue logoed shirt</p> <p>School jacket can be worn all year round by both boys and girls</p>
	<p><b>Winter Uniform</b></p> <p><b>Girls</b> Winter culottes with the short sleeved, (girls) logoed blouse or Winter pinafore with the long sleeved, pale blue, blouse and maroon tab tie</p> <p>Navy blue tights, black shoes</p> <p>Long hair neatly tied back, shoulder length hair can be worn out</p>
	<p><b>Boys</b></p> <p>Long grey pants with the short sleeved blue logoed shirt or long sleeved blue logoed shirt</p> <p>Black shoes</p>

## **READING AT ST FINBAR'S**

Over the coming weeks we will be learning about another very important comprehension strategy called INFERRING.

Inferring is being able to 'read between the lines', when the author implies something but doesn't exactly state it. To infer, we need to use both the clues in the text (context, illustrations, etc.) and our own prior knowledge. By using the text and our prior knowledge, we can interpret what we think the author is really trying to say.

We can make inferences at word level too, by using the context of the text and our own prior knowledge to infer the meaning of the word.

Inferring is closely related to predicting.

### **How does inferring support reading comprehension?**

Students develop deeper understanding of the text when they 'read between the lines' to draw their own conclusions by using prior experience. They create their own unique meaning of the text. As they read, these understandings may be revised as the reader is exposed to new information and confirms or adjusts their thinking.

### **Language we use when inferring**

- Reading between the lines, I think . . .
- I would expect that . . .
- I already know that . . . so I think . . .
- In my experience . . .
- I think the author is really saying . . .
- My conclusion is . . . because in the text it says . . .
- The author's clues were . . .
- I think what's really going on is . . .
- I wonder why . . .
- I wonder if . . .

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Kerrie Wasson

(Leader of Learning/Reading Recovery teacher)

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## **FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

### **Helping your child with – counting**

One of the first experiences children have with numbers is 'counting'. Counting starts as learning a pattern of words, just like a nursery rhyme. As children's counting develops, they begin to relate words to a quantity or number of things.

### **How do children learn to count and use numbers?**

Children learn the pattern of counting words by repetition. Initially, this pattern may have gaps where the child leaves out a number in a sequence, or the child may invent numbers. It is common to hear a child say twenty-ten after counting to twenty-nine.

However, remembering the words for each number in the correct order is only part of the process of counting. To 'count' children need to match saying the number words with the correct number of 'things'.

Children should be given lots of opportunities to practice and explore counting groups as well as making groups. Children also need to recognise and name numbers.

In the next newsletter, we will explore what you can do at home to help your children develop early counting skills.

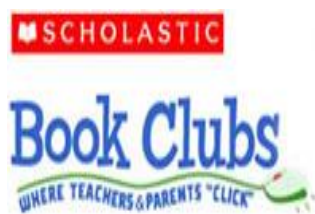
Mr Steve Cauchi  
Acting assistant Principal

### **MATHS PROBLEM SOLVING FUN:**

Erin is thinking of a counting number. She adds 5 to the number. Then, she multiplies the sum by 4. Finally, she subtracts 32 from the product. This result is the same as Erin's original number.

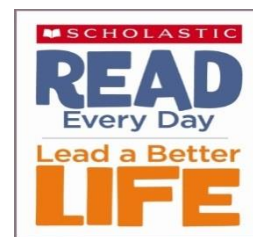
What was her original number? Answer in the next school newsletter

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## **Book Club**

### **Due this Friday**



Our Book Fair was a resounding success. This was all thanks to you – our parents, grandparents, carers and extended family families. Not to mention the beloved piggy bank... It has been wonderful to see our children reading their new 'best, favourite' book in class independent reading times and on the playground, bus lines – everywhere. All our profits go straight into reading resources, so the money you spend helps twice. Book Club went home last week. We sent this home in case you missed out on certain books in the Book Fair. It is due back this Friday so orders can be finalised. (Thanks Mrs Casha and Mrs Farnsworth!).

The easiest way is to order and pay securely on line. Your books will be delivered to school. You may also send your order in to school with your credit card payment details. Please remember we are unable to process ANY cash orders.

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### **Mufti Day Tomorrow - Gold Coin Donation**

*Students are asked to come to school dressed in Mufti clothes tomorrow (Friday 28 August) and to donate a gold coin. This donation will go towards prizes for the chocolate wheel for the fete.*

*Thank you for your support*



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## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Corpus Christi Spring Market:** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 11am – 4pm, Corpus Christi Primary School – 62 Andromeda Drive, Cranebrook.

**Ken Gates Tennis Coaching Academy:** Enroling now, more information Phone 0419 297 237

**Penrith City Library –** September holiday activities. For information contact 4732 7890 or email [bkaur@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bkaur@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au)

**Blaxland PreSchool Kindergarten:** Ladies Shopping Night: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August, 7pm-10pm



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## TERM 3 AT A GLANCE

WEEK	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7			26	27 Mrs Wasson at Reading Recovery	28 Mufti Day	29	30
8 SEPT	31 3 - 6 Reading Meeting 8:30 - 4pm at St Patrick's, Blacktown	1 EMU Course-Miss Lynch at AKC	2	3	4 Fathers Day BBQ 8.15 – 9.30 Special Food Day Confirmation	5	6 Father's Day!
9	7	8 Mrs Wasson at Reading Recovery 11:30 - 3:30pm	9 Netball Penrith Wet Weather	10	11 ASSEMBLY	12	13
10	14	15	16	17 School Concert 5.30pm BBQ followed by Concert 6pm	18	19	20

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# **St. Finbar's Feast Day 17<sup>th</sup> September**

## **Andrew Chinn Concert**

To celebrate the feast day of St Finbar, on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children.

Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow" and "An African Blessing" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada . We have used many of Andrew's songs in our Masses. There will be the opportunity for families to purchase Andrew's CDs, DVDs and books on the night.

On the night we will also have a donation box as we are taking a collection for a disadvantaged school in India. Any contribution would be greatly appreciated as this will help them with books and resources they would otherwise be unable to purchase.

Parents and parishioners are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun. There is no charge for adults. The concert will take place in the Church, at 6.30pm following a Family BBQ at 5.30pm.

Please complete the attached form to indicate if your family will be attending the BBQ and concert. Children will be selected for the special concert choir from this group.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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## **RSVP for Andrew Chinn Concert and Family BBQ on 17<sup>th</sup> September**

### **Please return by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

Our family will be attending the Family BBQ and Andrew Chinn concert on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 5.30pm.

Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's names and classes: \_\_\_\_\_

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No of family members for BBQ: \_\_\_\_\_



Staff and Students of  
St Finbar's Primary School, Glenbrook  
cordially invite you to celebrate

*60 years of  
Catholic Education*  
in the Glenbrook Community



Please join us in celebrating the continuing tradition of  
Josephite education in the Blue Mountains

*Monday 12th October 2015*

9.30am Mass at St Finbar's Catholic Church

followed by

Morning tea and conversation in the Barlow Centre

You are also most welcome to join us for the unveiling  
of our 60th Anniversary Commemorative Wall

•• RSVP: 11 September 2015 ••

St Finbar's Primary 52 Levy Street, Glenbrook 2773  
P: 4739 1796



*We hope you can join us to celebrate  
this wonderful occasion*

**60 Years of Catholic Education in the Blue Mountains**

- ☐ Thank you for your invitation, I accept with pleasure
- ☐ Thank you for your invitation unfortunately I am unable to attend

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of guest attending: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **PRIVACY NOTICE**

### **Information required to determine the *Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA)* for schools**

This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that ACARA has requested your child's school to provide ACARA with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child's gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address, parental occupation and parental education.

This information is disclosed to ACARA under the *ACARA Act 2008* for one or both of the following purposes:

- formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and
- assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.

ACARA will not disclose this personal information to any third party. If you do not want your school to provide this information to ACARA, please advise your school within seven (7) days of receiving this notice.

Further information about ACARA can be obtained from the ACARA website at [www.acara.edu.au](http://www.acara.edu.au).



## Father's Day Breakfast and Stall

It is a tradition at St Finbar's that we host a **Father's Day BBQ Breakfast** on the Friday before Father's Day (**Friday 4th September 8.15am - 9.30am**). At our recent P and F Meeting, it was decided that the children will also be able to have a BBQ sausage sizzle breakfast as well. Dads and Granddads will eat for free, we just need you to fill in the RSVP for catering purposes. Children who wish to place an order will need to place their order in a paper bag along with \$2 per sausage on a roll. We ask that all **orders be placed by Tuesday 1st September**.

In addition to the BBQ, the P and F have also organised a **Father's Day Stall on Wednesday 2nd September 2015**. Children will have the opportunity to purchase a gift from the stall during school time. 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 at recess and make further purchases. We ask that children bring no more than a total of \$10 each to school.

Thank you to the P and F for organising both these events. If you are able to assist with the BBQ on Friday 4th September, could you please indicate on the slip below and return it to school with your rsvp by Tuesday 1st September 2015.

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### **FATHERS DAY RSVP: FRIDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2015**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of guests attending: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent(s), grandparent(s))

I would like to assist with the BBQ Breakfast

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_