From the Principal

It has been a very hectic last few weeks with so many things going on around the school. Our senior students have just completed their Preliminary course exam and all of them have just started the HSC part of their course so a lot of hard work now has to be done. In addition we have many of our students preparing for the MADD Night, as well as many sporting events, debating, preparation for Youth Week and so on. I cannot say loudly enough how much I appreciate the efforts of so many of my staff in their efforts to try and provide for all of our students with as many experiences as possible at our school.

Thank You

This will be my last newsletter report before I go on leave early next term and then retirement. Can I take this opportunity to thank from the bottom of my heart all those connected with Finley High School for their support, trust, honesty and commitment over my time in the school which stretches back to 1990. After being away from the school for over twelve years it has been a great experience and honour for me to finish my career in Finley. I have been so lucky to have worked with some of the very best people both in the school, and in the Blighty, Berrigan, Jerilderie, Tocumwal and Finley communities. This was a great place for myself and Kim to raise our family and was a great place to not just work in, but also to live in. We have made so many friends here and have enjoyed countless great events in that time. I know that we will maintain our connections here forever and will be regularly involved in the community in the ensuing years.

I especially want to thank my staff and the student body that I have worked with on a daily basis. Not every teacher is perfect but so many have a genuine commitment to our students and so many go way beyond what is expected. As importantly, so many of them are easy to work with and genuinely have been prepared to compromise and try to work things out when necessary. We have a great mix of experienced and young staff and I implore all of them to maintain their commitment to our school.
This can be a very challenging job at times but to this day I still get enormous satisfaction from working with our students. Not all are perfect by a long shot, but the vast majority of students that I have worked with here dating back to 1990 have been wonderful people to work with and have made my time here such a positive experience. I have met some memorable characters in that time, some unique characters, and so many who have just been the absolute best people.

I have said many times I have no pretence about being anything other than someone who has loved working with kids, and I have tried very hard to do my personal best. Can I urge everyone in the school community – students, staff, parents and businesses to keep working hard at maintaining this special school. We must all aim to ensure that it delivers quality education to all of our kids and that will continue to happen if people work together with the aim of getting each student to produce their very best. Once again, a huge thank you. I will miss a lot of this, and I will always be grateful for having had the opportunity to work and lead in a very special place.

**MADD (Music, acting, dance, drama –and a lot more) Night**

Pencil in Wednesday 9th April as a night not to be missed. At present we have over fifty students who are working hard at a variety of dance performances, singing, musical items, drama presentations and some public speaking. We hope this is the first of many such nights – a chance for students to showcase their talents and gain in their own levels of confidence to perform in front of an audience.

**Where – Finley High School Hall**

**Date and Time – Wednesday 9th April 7pm - 9pm**

**Tickets – Available from the school -$5 (includes a light supper)**

**Youth Day**

On Friday 11th April (last day of Term One), as has been the case for many years, we will be celebrating Youth Day. The day will be a mix of normal classes and some special activities. We urge all students to come to school dressed in something that starts with Y, O, U, T or H.

**Anzac Day Marches**

Can I urge all student to really make the effort to support their local Anzac Day Marches on Friday 25th April. As this will be in the school holidays we will not be able to remind students immediately before the day. This is just one small way that all of us can thank the many men and women who made huge sacrifices so that we can enjoy the lives that we have today.

Berrigan - 9am start

Jerilderie - 10am start

Tocumwal and Finley - 11am start.

**Term 2 start**

All students, in all year groups return to school on Tuesday 29th April. There is a Staff Develoment Day on Monday 28th April.

**Coming To Terms With Homework – A Few Ideas**

Homework in secondary school serves many purposes. It could be to consolidate or check or extend the learning from the day or prepare for the learning to come in subsequent days. It could be to do with longer term work such as assignments or preparing for tests and examinations. Ultimately it comes back to what school is all about, learning; Learning not just content, but learning and developing skills. At times students feel that the work they are doing at school is not relevant to their lives, however sometimes we need to look beyond the content to the purpose of the
learning exercise. At times the content will be a vehicle to teach particular skills. Much of what we learn in Mathematics develops the problem solving circuits in our brain. When you are analysing Shakespeare you are learning not just about Shakespeare but to think critically and expand your point of view and broaden your experience of the world through examination of different lives, emotions and experiences. The message is that everything you learn at school has purpose and value, even if you can’t quite see it at the time.

So what can you do to manage your homework effectively? Try these top tips:

1. As soon as you get home unpack your bag before you have a break and something to eat. Lay out all the work first. It is easier to get started if you have everything ready to go.

2. Before you start work, write a list of what needs to be done and decide what order you will do it. Focus on what is most important, not just what subject you like best! Also write down how long you think each task will take to do.

3. Keep in your mind that it is all about learning. Try and look beyond the actual content to what type of skill this homework might be developing in you – analysing, critical thinking, writing skills, or problem solving skills for example.

4. Do your work in 20-30 minute blocks with no distractions during that time. So switch off the TV, turn off your phone for that 20-30 minutes. When you just focus on the work that needs to be done you’ll be amazed at how much work you complete. Of course if you are on a roll, you can keep going past the 30 minutes.

5. If there is a task you really don’t want to do then alternate this with a task you enjoy doing. For example 15 minutes on the homework you like, 5 minutes on the homework you don’t like. When you chip away at it you will be surprised how quickly you get through the work.

Learn more this year about how to improve your results and be more efficient and effective with your schoolwork by working through the units on [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) - our school’s access details are:

User name - finleyhs
Password- 54success

Above: Christopher McAllister, Mr Roebuck and Jeremy Robertson with a chicken from the Ag Plot.
Above: Finley High School competing against Deniliquin High School in Girls Soccer.

Bernie Roebuck, Principal

MADD NIGHT
Music, Acting, Dance, Drama and a whole lot more!

Finley High School Hall
Wednesday 9th April 7pm - 9pm
Tickets are available from Finley High School Pay Office for $5
(includes a light supper)
Harmony Day Activities

On Friday 21st March we celebrated our second Harmony Day and our first Bullying No Way Day co-ordinated by SRC students. Students participated in numerous fun and exciting activities and wore orange shirts for representation of harmony.

**Harmony Tree:** We created a harmony tree, using student’s hand prints to create leaves on the tree to display within the school to remind the students of the harmony that unites us as a school.

**Amazing Race:** The SRC students designed an amazing race throughout the school grounds with many multicultural activities such as soccer skills, flag matching and counting skills of German numbers.

Left: students putting the pieces of the puzzle together.

Below: Students doing the Macarena during the amazing race.
Teachers vs Students Soccer Game: At lunch Year Twelve students took on the teachers in a competitive soccer match. Much to Year Twelves disgust the teachers won the match. Year Twelve are eager for a re-match.

Above: Mrs Wright with Courtney Sexton learning hockey skills

Above: Miss Downey demonstrating soccer skills

Below: Teachers Vs Year Twelve in the soccer match.
Career News

Tertiary Tour

Early next term thirty two Year Twelve students will set out to Melbourne to embark on their tour of Tertiary institutions in Melbourne. This is a great opportunity for students to see the different styles and types of tertiary institutions, as well as to attend THE AGE Careers and Employment EXPO at Caulfield. If your son or daughter is involved in this excursion could you please ensure all notes and final payments are made by the end of Week Ten this term.

Future Moves with CSU

Over the course of the year students in Years Nine and Ten will be working with CSU Albury / Wodonga with the hope to building aspiration for tertiary study amongst rural and regional students. The program aims to encourage students to become more engaged in school studies and more confident in considering tertiary study as a realistic option within their career path. The program will see students participating in school based workshops presented by CSU personnel and for some student’s campus visits. The program will look at exploring options and pathways to university as well as identifying perceived and real barriers and ways to overcome them. If you would like to know more about this program please feel free to contact the Careers Staff.

Allied Health Rural Visit

On the 13th of May final year students from CSU’s Multidisciplinary Albury Rural Health Society will be visiting Finley High School to promote rural health pathways and careers. Students involved will get the opportunity to hear what study and university life is like, be informed as to what they can expect from different health career paths and engage in hands on activities such as plastering and using stethoscopes. If you would like more information please contact the Careers Staff.

Berrigan Shire Careers & Employment Expo

The Careers EXPO run by the Berrigan Shire is happening again on Wednesday 9th April. Students in Years Ten, Eleven and Twelve are all required to attend school on that day dressed to impress at an Interview. They will then be involved in a series of presentations and workshops at the Finley RS Club that cover a range of business and employment skills and information.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eight</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Student Research Task</td>
<td>Mr D Bird</td>
<td>8/04/14</td>
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<td>Eight</td>
<td>8B PD/H/PE</td>
<td>In class test</td>
<td>Miss Downey</td>
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<td>Nine</td>
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<td>In class test</td>
<td>Miss Downey</td>
<td>7/04/14</td>
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Community Announcements

Tocumwal Mother’s Day Classic

The MDC is happening again in Tocumwal on Sunday 11th May at the Tocumwal Football Oval. Online registrations will be available soon at http://www.mothersdayclassic.com.au/events/regional.

Come along and spend the morning with family and friends for a walk or run along the beautiful Tocumwal foreshore.

Stay for a coffee and a piece of cake or even a sausage sizzle and face painting.

Dress up in PINK to show your support for cancer research and possibly win a prize.

If your family, group or business would like to donate a small prize for the day, maybe in memory of someone special who has fought the cancer battle, please contact Anita Hunter (0419550096) during March. Please be sure to include the name of the family or group donating the prize so it may be acknowledged on the day. More details will be forthcoming as the event gets closer.

If you would like to be involved in assisting with the organization of the event please contact Anita Hunter on 0419550096. We look forward to making 2014 an even more memorable event than 2013.
**Finley Farmers’ Market**

Buy your seasonal, fresh and local produce from the Finley Farmers’ Market this Saturday 5th April at Finley Lake from 8am to the extended time of 1pm – the market is proud to be a part of the Monster Weekend at Finley.

**Lost Property**

A pair of reading glasses was handed in following the swimming carnival at the Finley Swimming Pool. Please contact the High School front office if you are missing such an item.

**Enrolments at South West Music Regional Conservatorium**

South West Music congratulates our Finley High School students on the progress they have made in their piano and flute lessons this term. Individual lessons are delivered at your school by Delena Gaffney (piano and flute) on Fridays.

Chris Bodey is also available for individual lessons at your school. He is able to teach both adults and children guitar, ukulele, double bass, mandolin and banjo. Chris is in Finley on Tuesdays and he has vacancies on his timetable.

Delena’s timetable is currently full but please contact SWM if you would like to be placed on a waiting list.

If you would prefer to come to our studios in Deniliquin after school, then you can choose from guitar, ukulele, double bass, mandolin, banjo, cello, vocals, drum kit, brass, flute, piano, keyboard, violin (via video conference) and the Young Musicians Club.

Enrol now for term two. The secure a place in any of our programs for Term Two contact our office immediately and request an enrolment package from our office. 03 5881 4736.

**Had your teeth checked lately?**

You can have a free check-up and dental treatment at the Berrigan or Deniliquin Dental Clinic if you are under 18 years old (at school or not) and have a Medicare card. Just phone 1800 450 046
Finley High School Immersion Tour
Thank you Evening

Please join us to hear all about our experiences in East Timor and to ask any questions you may have. We truly appreciate your support in making this trip a reality.

Where: Finley RS Club
When: Friday 4th April
Time: 6:30pm
10am start  
$20ad $12sen $10ch family tickets  
Register online or 9am on day

Participate • Volunteer • Fundraise
Come along for a great family day, music and fun kids activities

4km walk/run, 8km run
Tocumwal Football Oval, Morris St

SUNDAY 11 MAY 2014
Walk or run for breast cancer research

mothersdayclassic.com.au
Mainland Finance & All The Sponsors of The Four Creeks Festival Proudly Present

Banjo & a Bushdance
Saturday the 24th of May
Jerilderie Racecourse
The story behind our unofficial anthem

Waltzing Matilda
“The Man they call The Banjo”
Then get ready to dance & grin with

“Cora & the Crop Boys”

Gates open 5PM. Sunset drinks. Bar available. Seated for 6PM.
Complementary supper 8-9PM. Food & Drink available for sale at dance.

Only $50 Both Events

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BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY
Great Family Night. Children U5 Free
Banjo only - $35
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Call Direct: 0409 029 564 or 03 5886 1379
www.eventbrite.com www.fourcreeksfestival.com
Griffith Connections & Griffith Regional Art Gallery
Present

Easter Holiday Workshop with Sydney artist
Nana Ohnesorge

"Family-Fun Portraits for Teenagers"

Wednesday, 16 April 2014

Time: 9.30 am – 4 pm
Location: CWA Hall next to Griffith Regional Art Gallery
Duration: 6 ½ hrs
Cost: $ 15 includes lunch & materials

The Family-Fun portraiture workshop aims to recognise and communicate the positive aspects in our relationships with family members in a creative, fun and memorable form.

The term family includes members of the immediate family, as well as the wider family of friends and community.

Students will be introduced to the overall project and design options, learn about proportions of the face and composing a painting. Students will also be instructed in the use of an overhead projector to trace outlines of a face onto an A4 sized canvas. The traced image will then be further developed into a portrait painting by using acrylic paint and permanent pens with the option of adding text. Free-style portraiture can also be used in this workshop.

Please wear old or protective clothing

IMPORTANT: All students need to bring:
A standard-size (10 x 15 cm) printed photograph
1 A4 size b/w copy (of that photo) of the face of the person they want to paint

All students are invited to exhibit their portraits at an exhibition at Griffith Regional Art Gallery in October 2014.