12th June, 2014

**KEY DATES**

**June**
- 11-13 Holbrook Sheep Show
- 13 College Mid-course HSC Exams
- *Riverina Cross Country* – *POSTPONED until 17th June 2014*
- 16 College Mid-course HSC Exams
- 17 *Riverina Cross Country*
- 16-20 Year Ten Work Experience
- 17 ICAS Spelling Competition
- 18 ICAS Writing Competition
- Year Six into Year Seven Parent Information Evening, 5pm in the school hall.
- 24 Riverina Athletics
- Formal Assembly, 10am in the school hall.
- 25 Year Nine and Ten Future Moves CSU campus visit
- Year Nine Health talks
- 27 Last day of Term 2

**July**
- 14 Staff Development day
- 15 Students return to school
- 18 Year Ten student information day
- 21 Year Ten parent and student information night.
- 21 – 25 VET Work placement week.

**Principal’s Report**

I am writing this report in Week 6 as I will be away during Week 7 at the NSW Secondary Principal’s Conference in Bathurst. This conference will give me the opportunity to catch up on the latest trends in educational philosophy, policy and teaching and bring back new ideas which may be suitable for our school. I will present a report at the July P&C meeting.

**Reports**

By now all students in the school should have received their reports. We are using a new reporting system this year and a lot of effort has gone into making them look terrific. I would like to thank Veronica McNaught for co-ordinating the reporting process and the Year Advisers and Head Teachers for their many hours of reading, checking and rechecking. I hope you enjoy reading these reports. I encourage you to email me with any comments – good and bad – you have about the reports.

**Junior Social**

The junior social was a huge success. All the students who attended had a terrific time and want to have another by the end of the year. At this stage we will look at Term Four and see what we can do. Thanks to the SRC, Senior Leadership group, Mr Singsam, Miss Turner and the staff who gave their time and effort to ensure the social was a success.

**Year Eleven and Twelve Exams**

The senior school will sit for their HSC Mid-Course exams on Thursday this week (Week Seven) and Monday next week. I encourage them all to ensure they are thoroughly prepared and to do their best. Good Luck!
Drug Forum

The drug forum held in the school Hall last Tuesday evening was not only informative and interesting, but provided the opportunity for parents to have many questions answered about alcohol, drugs and safe partying. Approximately fifty parents and community members were there to listen to Sonya Karras from “Whole New World” and a panel of local experts from the NSW Ambulance, Police and local psychologists and youth workers. All had important information to impart on local and national issues. Parent responsibilities related to holding parties and supplying alcohol at those parties was a hot topic, with many issues being clarified.

All who attended appreciated the opportunity to have these frank discussions and all walked away having learned some important information about how to talk to their children about these social issues.

On Wednesday, Sonya returned and gave the senior students an informative and thought provoking session on risky behaviour surrounding partying, drinking and taking drugs. The general comment from the students was that it was very informative and worthwhile.

I would like to thank our Student Support Officer, Jodi Brown for organising these events, the P&C for the delicious supper they provided and Intereach for sponsoring both of these important sessions.

National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with a Disability Survey

Last week, all parents should have received a letter from me about the National Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with a Disability Survey. This is a survey of how teachers have adjusted their teaching and students work so students can achieve to their best at school. It does not involve interviews with any student. It is a collection of evidence to show that teachers are following their obligations by catering for the broad range of needs in the classroom, in the playground and on extra curricula activities.

It includes information on how they change their teaching for a wide range of students – from those with diagnosed disabilities, those who teachers have identified that need extra assistance, those who are working with learning support teachers, those who have ongoing medical needs or even those who need ongoing assistance coping with the anxiety attached to being a teenager.

The collection of data is anonymous but will be helpful for the government to allocate resources for the support of students in our school and determine future policy on support of students with learning needs in our schools.

I have attached the letter at the end of this newsletter. Please contact me if you have any questions, or you wish your child’s data not to be included in the survey.

Coming up

Good luck to all students participating in the Riverina Cross Country on Tuesday the 17th June.

I remind parents of Year 6 students that we will hold a parent information evening on Wednesday, 18th June starting at 5 pm in the school hall. I encourage parents (and their children) to be on time as a tour of the school will commence at 5pm sharp as we need to be back in the hall before dark.

Mrs H McRae
Acting Principal
Junior Social

The Junior Social was held for the first time, and it was a great success. There were lots of junior students who attended and had great fun. Thanks to the junior social we have now raised lots of money for the school.

Thank you to the teachers for supervising, also the Year Twelve leadership group for being the DJ's throughout the night. The photographers for the night were Macie Close, Tayla Boyd, Tayla Cicolini and Miss Tobin.

Above and below: students enjoying the junior social.
Student Medical Details

Parents are reminded to update the records at the school if there is any change in a student’s medical needs, this is important should your child need medical attention at school. This also includes the school having current contact details for the people listed as emergency contacts.

Year Seven students will be issued with a medical form next week which is to be completed and returned to their roll.

P & C News

The FADAMS production is coming up on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th of June at 7pm. This is a major fundraiser for the year.

Helpers are needed at the school and the hall to prepare meals and wash dishes over the four evening performances.

Please contact Robyn Mott: robyn@moggosborne.com.au or 58832366 if you can assist in any way.
**Community Announcements**

**Lost Suit Jacket**

Taken by mistake from the Finley Debutante Ball 31st May. 1 slim fit suit jacket, black with a fine grey stripe. Distinct blue checked lining, brand name “immortal”. If found please return to the high school or call Bern 0417897462

**Canteen Roster**

Canteen Contact and Number
Mrs Kaylene Dawe 5883 1105
….LADIES, Please note 10am start….

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**Finley High School**

**P&C Meeting**

Wednesday 13th August 2014
7pm in the staff common room.

Finley High School P&C meet the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm in the staff common room. We look forward to seeing you there.
Dear Parent/Caregiver

Finley High School has volunteered to participate in a collection of data on students with a disability called the National Consistent Collection of Data on Students with Disability.

Data will be collected on the adjustments, accommodations and programs we have implemented to assist students at Finley High School.

This data collection process will not involve any interaction with the student. It is merely a collection of information about what teachers are doing in the classroom, in the playground and with extra curricula activities to support students who may require assistance on an ongoing basis in areas of learning, social interaction, health or physical disability.

Although the data won’t be about all students in the school, I believe it is important that the whole parent body is informed of what the school is doing, so I am sending all parents the attached note.

The collection of data is collated at a national level anonymously and will be used to inform the government about future policy development and funding for schools.

As far as Finley High school is concerned, it will allow us to take stock of our procedures and policies for the future to ensure that all students with needs are able to achieve their best at school. It may also provide us with extra funds to expand our assistance programs to students.

If you do not want the data of your child entered into the database, you have the opportunity to “opt out” of this process. To do so, please contact me directly at the school.

Please do not hesitate to call me should you have any questions.

Helen McRae
Acting Principal