



# St Finbar's Primary School

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*



Newsletter | Term 2 Week 2 | 9 May 2019



From The Principal

Dear Parents and carers,

I warmly welcome you all back after our Easter holiday break. I hope that you had a chance to celebrate Easter with family and friends, and that you were able to have a restful and relaxing break. During the holidays I went to Melbourne to visit my sister and her husband. While we were there, my family had the opportunity to go to a Swans v Tigers AFL match. My sister's family are all avid Richmond supporters, and we must have looked like an

odd bunch riding the train, one group wearing black and yellow, the other wearing red and white! One passenger asked me about the rivalry between the families, commenting that it must be difficult when the teams play each other. I explained that even though we were supporting rival teams it didn't really matter who won, as someone would be going home happy. The passenger couldn't comprehend the fact that the whole family didn't support one team, and I was told that families often support teams for generations even if they have moved out of the area. I was amazed at the sense of loyalty that this fan showed, and at Mass on Sunday, when we heard the Gospel reading about Peter showing unswerving loyalty to the risen Christ it reminded me of this Richmond fan. She was so passionate about her team, and wanted others to feel the same passion. Three times, Jesus asked Peter if he loved him, and three times Peter replied "Yes Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus asked Peter to "Feed my sheep" - to become the face of evangelisation and spread the good news of the risen Lord to everyone. Jesus asked Peter to be the one who brought the resurrection to the world.



Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, gives us the joyful message that we are a "Resurrection people." This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, bad habits and dangerous addictions. It gives us the Good News that no tomb can hold us down anymore - not the tomb of despair, discouragement or doubt, nor that of death. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).

I am sure this term will bring us much joy and gladness, as we work, pray and learn together.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke  
Principal

## Tell Them From Me Surveys

In the coming weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St. Finbar's.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. The link to complete the survey will be published via our Skoolbag App during Week 5.

## NAPLAN Online

Earlier in the year information was sent home to parents of students in Years Three and Five who will be sitting NAPLAN Online in 2019. If you would like any further information about NAPLAN please use the following link. [www.nap.edu.au/naplan](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan)

I wish all our Year Five and Three students well in their undertaking of this assessment.





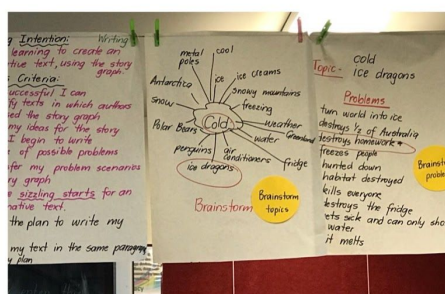
## Teachers as Learners

Last week, as part of our professional learning, the staff went on a "gallery walk" into each classroom. The aim was for teachers to talk to each other about the Learning Progressions in Literacy and how they could be tracked in each learning space. The conversations were robust and showed that teachers have a great understanding of what they are teaching and how they intend to track progress for individual students.

Currently, at St Finbar's, we are focussing on creating texts, in particular crafting ideas, and text forms and features. The "Bump It Up" walls in each space allow students to work at their own pace to provide evidence of achievement, leading to achieving personal goals.

For more information on the Literacy Progressions please follow this link:

<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/media/3673/national-literacy-learning-progression.pdf>





## Teachers as Learners

Name	Date	Professional Learning
Mrs Robyn Clarke	8 May 2019	Principal's Flourish Program
	9th & 10th May 2019	Leading for Mission Retreat
	14th May 2019	System Leaders Breakfast Meeting
Mr Ben Ticehurst	7th May 2019	EMU Graduation
	8th May 2019	Voice of Youth Meeting
Mrs Rebecca Southern	7th May 2019	EMU Graduation



Congratulations to Abigail (Yr3), Darcy (Yr3) and Bailey (Yr 6) who achieved a top 8 finish at Tuesday's Diocesan Cross Country Carnival and have qualified for the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country Team to compete at the NSWCPs Cross Country on Friday 14th June.

This week is also National Road Safety Week. An event that we hold close to our hearts. We would like to acknowledge and thank the work that Mrs Frazer and her husband do to promote road safety in our country through the Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH) Group (Yellow Ribbon). The SARAH Group was established by Judy and

Peter Frazer to help reduce the number of preventable and foreseeable deaths and traumatic injuries on our roads, after the death of their 23 year old daughter Sarah in 2012.

Because this week is quite busy for Mrs Frazer, we always hold our annual Yellow Ribbon Day after the national events have settled. This is to ensure Mrs Frazer can be a part of our day.



Yellow Ribbon Day will be held on Friday of Week 4. More information will come out on Thursday, through our weekly notes, and we encourage all families to join us for our day of learning about bus, bike, pedestrian, road and mobile phone safety in cars and footpaths.

In light of National Road Safety Week, can I please remind all families to use the crossing on King Street when crossing this road to pick up or drop off children.

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst  
Assistant Principal

## Attendance

80.4%

Kinder 81.3%  
Year 1 72.2%  
Year 2 83.7%  
Year 3 81.4%  
Year 4 61.2%  
Year 5 87.5%  
Year 6 86.2%

***We have to all work together to achieve our goal of 90% attendance.***



### **Mother's Day Mass and Breakfast**

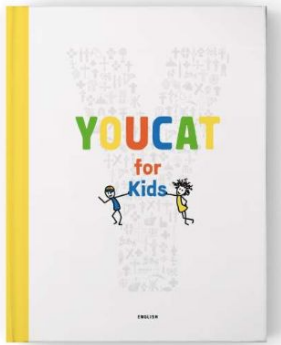
On Friday 10th May we will come together at Mass, to honour and give thanks to God for all mothers, grandmothers and the women in our lives who love and care for us like mothers. Mass will begin at 9.15am.



The P & F will be hosting a lovely breakfast before Mass, commencing at 8.30am under the covered area near the school canteen.

We hope that you will be able to join us for the celebration.





### YOUCAT for Kids

YOUCAT for Kids is a modern and cheerful introduction to the teachings of the Catholic Church for children (8-12 years).

As children are always full of questions, this little catechism\* is carefully written for children and parents to explore together, and engage in conversation about Jesus, the sacraments and prayer.

In each newsletter this term, I will add a question and response from the YOUCAT. Please take the time to read, ask and discuss with your child/ren and together discover God's love.

*'Do not get tired of questions or of sharing your faith. Do not remain silent when your children have pressing questions, but always have the strength to hand on the faith, which you too received from your parents. Be a living chain, so that from generation to generation, the gospel may always be present in our families, our communities and in the Church.'* Pope Francis

For more information visit [www.youcat.org/products/youcat-for-kids](http://www.youcat.org/products/youcat-for-kids)

\*A catechism is a handbook containing everything children and adults need to know to, step by step, deepen their knowledge of the Christian faith and to develop a living relationship with Jesus Christ. A catechism is always approved by the Church. - YOUCAT

### Thursday Morning Prayer Reminder

Last term, the Year 6 Mission Leaders began a weekly prayer service, each Thursday morning, before school. This will continue throughout Term Two. Teachers, parents and students are welcome to gather in prayer with our leaders.

Prayer will begin at **8.40am** each **Thursday** outside the **Father Barlow Room**. An announcement will be made on the playground and Mrs Brown will walk those children, who would like to participate, up to the prayer area. Unfortunately, prayer will need to be cancelled if it is wet weather.



### Celebrating Parish Mass

Throughout the term, each class joins St Finbar's parish community for Mass, on a Tuesday at 9am. Please note the date your child's class will be attending Mass this term. We warmly invite all parents and parishioners to join us. Parents are invited to sit with their children during Parish Mass.



Stage 3 Group A	Year 4	Stage 3 Group B	Year 3	Year 2	Year 1	Kinder
7th May Week 2	14th May Week 3	21st May Week 4	28th May Week 5	4th June Week 6	18th June Week 8	25th June Week 9

### Junior Altar Server Reminder

A reminder to our Junior Altar Servers to check your roster to see if you are serving at the next Parish Mass. A roster is also on display in the COSHC window.



#### Dates for your diary

- **Mother's Day Mass** Friday 10th May 9.15am (Week 2)
- **Mary, Our Lord Help of Christians Liturgy** Friday 24th May 9.00am Morning Assembly (Week 4)
- **The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Friday 31st May 9.00am Morning Assembly (Week 5)
- **Pentecost Liturgy** Tuesday 11th June 9.15am (Week 7)
- **Grandparents Day** (The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass) Friday 28th June 9.15am Week 9

Yours in Faith,

Leanne Brown  
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

## Winter Uniform



As the weather is getting cooler now, it is time for all students to wear full winter school uniform. If you are unsure of the Winter uniform, please see [attached images](#). Please note the vest is not available at this stage.

**Please ensure all jackets and jumpers are clearly labelled with your child's name.**



## Mobile Phones

We understand students may bring their mobile phone to school from time to time if they are catching the bus to and from school. However, we ask that students place their phones in the office in the morning and collect them on dismissal in the afternoon.

We are in the process of developing a Policy around mobile phones and will send that communication out early in Term 2.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



## Dates To Remember

<b>Friday 10 May</b> <b>8:30am</b> Mother's Day Breakfast and Liturgy	<b>Thursday 16 May</b> NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)	<b>Friday 24 May</b> Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Awareness Day
<b>Monday 13 May</b> <b>2:10pm</b> Whole School Assembly Parish Hall Everyone Welcome!	<b>Friday 17 May</b> Special Food Day	<b>8:45am</b> Secondhand Unifrom Sale - bottom playground
<b>Tuesday 14 May</b> <b>9am</b> Parish Mass Year 4 NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)	<b>Tuesday 21 May</b> <b>9am</b> Parish Mass Year 3 Reconciliation Year 4	
<a href="#">View School Calendar</a>		

Thankful  
Grateful  
and truly  
Blessed







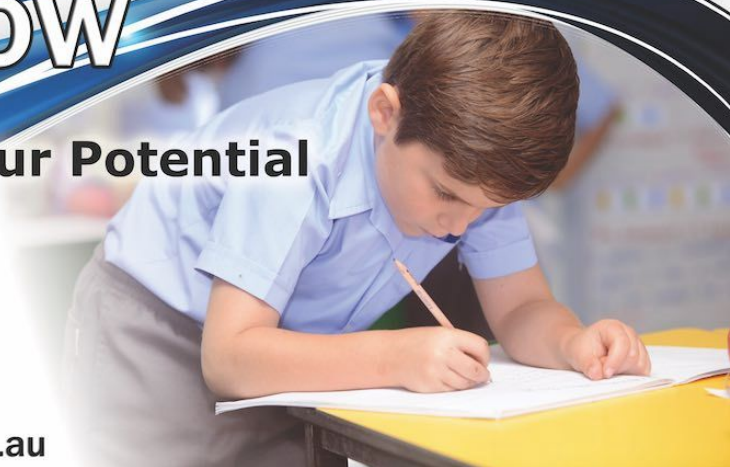
**St Finbar's Primary School**  
*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*



# Enrol Now

## Discover Your Potential

**St Finbar's Primary School Glenbrook**  
**02 4724 3600 | [stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au)**



Enrolments for 2020 are now open. If you have younger children ready to start school, now is the time to collect the enrolment pack. Spread the word, let family and friends know that we are open for enrolments.

Enrolment packs are available at the school office or you are able to [download](#) them from our website.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us on 4724 3600.

School Tours are also available. [Click here](#) to view the dates and times.

## Change of Details

It is very important that you notify us if you have changed address, obtained a new phone number or if any of the emergency contacts listed for your child have changed.

Fees statements are sent directly from head office, so it is important that your address is correct on our system. If in case of an emergency and we need to contact parents or other relatives, it is extremely important that phone numbers are always up to date.





## PBS4L Focus: I will be at the right place at the right time

At St Finbar's, it is important that we are safe by being at the right place at the right time. This is during class time in the learning spaces, when we are on the playground and ensuring we stay in our correct play space as well as when we are moving around the school to the bathroom, other classrooms, the office or the hall.

Examples:

- When I am in the classroom, I listen to my teachers instructions
- When I am in the classroom, I move around the space by walking
- When I am in the classroom, I move to the space I have been asked to quickly and quietly
- When I am in the classroom, I make sure I am doing the right thing by looking at what others are doing around me and listening to the teachers feedback
- When I am on the playground, I wear my hat to keep me sun safe
- When I am on the playground, I walk to my play space with my teacher
- When I am on the playground, I stay in the correct play space for the duration of playtime
- When I am on the playground, if I need to go to the bathroom I ask the duty teacher and then return back to the space when I am finished
- When I am on the playground, I stay in bounds with the right equipment
- When I am moving around the school, I walk safely with a partner
- When I am moving around the school, I move quickly and quietly then moving back to class when I am finished

## Important Announcements



School Fees for Term 2 are due Wednesday 5 June 2019.

Fees are payable in accordance with the Diocesan School Fees Policy which states "all fees are due and payable within 30 days of the date the school account statement is issued". If you need to discuss your school fee account, please contact me by phone on 4724 3600 or via email [edenham@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:edenham@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Thank you

Mrs Denham  
Finance Secretary



## PBS4L Focus

I will be at the right place  
at the right time.

## From the Office

Attached is a Statement from Senior Leaders of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta. Please take a moment to read the statement.

[Click here](#)

## Parish News

[Click this link to read The Parish Barra](#)

### Sunday Masses:

Vigil - 5.30pm Saturday evening

7.30am & 9.30am Sunday morning

6pm Family/Youth - First and Third Sunday evenings (except Jan)

### Weekday Masses:

**Monday:** 9am

**Tuesday:** 9am

**Wednesday:** 8am

**Thursday:** 9am  
(except third Thursday - see Anointing Mass)

**Friday:** 9am

**Saturday:** 9am



**Reconciliation:** Saturday evening - 4.45 - 5.15pm, or any time on request

**Rosary in Honour of Our Lady:** Usually after Wednesday morning Mass.

**Anointing Mass:** Usually third Thursday of the month at 10am (except January)

**Adoration & Benediction:** Usually after Friday morning Mass.

## Cool Kids - Anxiety Support Program

Cool Kids Anxiety Support Program - May 2019 - Penrith Term 2

The Cool Kids program is an evidence-based (Macquarie University) anxiety support and therapy program that can be of support to families and children when primary-age children are experiencing high levels of anxiety. We have accredited therapists who can offer an information session in your school or community setting which will address topics such as:

- What is anxiety?
- How to recognise what is happening when anxiety is present
- Parent-child interactions and how anxiety might surface in these
- Fighting fear by using detective thinking
- Building skills while facing fears
- Maintaining gains and coping with setbacks

Come along to find out more about how the Cool Kids program can be of support to your family, working with our trained professionals to build skills and face anxiety.

**Cost:** \$35 for Parent and Child workbooks. [Flyer](#) and [more information](#)





**Mt Carmel Retreat Centre - May retreats**

Where: 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville Ph: 8795 3400 [retreats@carmelite.com.au](mailto:retreats@carmelite.com.au)  
[www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au)

Mary MacKillop, Woman of faith and Vision

May 17 – May 19

Presenter: Sr Ann Morrison, RSJ

Cost: \$300 (concessions apply)

“Believe the whisperings of God to your own heart.”

A week with the Carmelite Saints

May 27 – June 2

Presenter: Fr Aloysius Rego, OCD

Cost: \$800 (concessions apply)

How can the Carmelite Saints guide us in our journey to intimacy with God?

Directed retreat

May 27 – June 2

Cost: \$800 (concessions apply)

A time of reflection and prayer on your own spiritual journey with the help of a director.



## Announcements and Services

Gateway Family Services Group Parenting Courses for Term 2 - [Brochure attached](#)

**CatholicCare:**

**Annual Seminar - Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church**

Each year CatholicCare Solo Parent Services together with the Catholic Tribunal Office hosts an Information Seminar on Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church.

The evening is open to anyone who is interested in gaining a greater understanding of the Annulment Process. **Date:** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May. **Time:** 7pm – 9pm. **Venue:** St. Patrick's Cathedral Hall, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta (onsite parking via Victoria Rd).

**No charge:** Donations welcome. **Registration Essential:** PH: 8843 2575 or Email: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

## St Finbar's Playgroup

### St Finbar's Playgroup

#### Attention Parents/Grandparents/Carers

St Finbar's Playgroup for 0-5 year olds meets each

Wednesday in the Parish Hall (Levy St) 9:15am till 11:30am during school term dates. Please bring a piece of fruit to share and a gold coin donation. Tea and coffee and morning tea provided.

Please come and join us for a play and meet other families. For more information please contact Gabrielle Lynch on 0481150022.

