



St Finbar's Primary School

Faith, Truth, Knowledge



Newsletter | Term 3 Week 8 | 12 September 2019



From The Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have this old jumper that I love. It is almost twenty years old. It is stretched out of shape, has a tear in the shoulder seam, is quite threadbare in places, and is becoming more faded with every wash. But I love this jumper, and it's one of the first things I reach for on a cold night or if I'm feeling unwell. It gives me a sense of comfort and reassures me that everything will be ok. I feel warm and content when I wear it, even though I know it should have been sent to the scrap heap years ago! In fact,

my daughter asked me the other night to get rid of it as it looked so awful. She even went out and bought me a new one, similar to the old one, as a replacement. I wasn't convinced that this new version would make me feel the same way... I was very reluctant to change things!



And then, this week I was reading St Paul's third letter to the Colossians and I was struck by how similar Paul's message was. He talked about "taking off the old self with its practices, and putting on the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator" (Col 3:9-10). Paul wasn't referring to my old jumper, but his message reminded me that sometimes we need to step out of our comfort zone, put the old ways aside to embrace the new. In Paul's letter, he was referring to the old self becoming new through baptism. He was reminding the Colossians that they may have acted a certain way in the past, but now, with Jesus in their hearts and by their side, it was now time for them to change their ways, and to put the past in the past. *Paul is telling them Just get rid of it! You have something infinitely better to wear!*



This isn't always easy to do.... Like my lovely old jumper, it might take us a while to completely cast our old behaviours aside. So often we lose sight of our wonderful new life with Jesus, and we give in to old temptations because they are comfortable. But if we remember what God has done for us - and still wants to do - we can shake the familiar and embrace the new and unfamiliar. Who knows... we just may come to love the new version even better!

Lord, give me the grace and the strength to leave behind everything that stands between me and you. Amen.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to our Year Six children who received the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Confirmation on September 1st. We will be celebrating this milestone by inviting these students to a special afternoon tea, with Father Jolly this Friday at 2:30pm.

Uniforms

As the warmer weather approaches, it is acceptable for students to dress in either Winter or Summer uniform for the last two weeks of Term Three. However, it is expected that all students will be in correct Summer uniform at the beginning of Term 4. Please note that wearing a combination of Winter and Summer uniform is not ideal and that one uniform choice should be selected during this transition period. As parents begin to pack away the Winter uniform for the year, you might like to consider donating any uniform components no longer required to the clothing pool for re-sale. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke
Principal

Monday 23 September

The Second Hand Uniforms will be on sale outside the canteen in the morning from 8:45am until approximately 9:15am.

Donations prior to the 23rd of September will be greatly appreciated.





Teachers as Learners

Name	Date	Professional Learning
Elizabeth Denham Robyn Clarke	9th September	Budget Training
Robyn Clarke Ben Ticehurst Alison Maunder Leanne Brown Alicia Borg	10th September	Action Plan Review Cluster meeting
Ben Ticehurst Rebecca Southern	11th September	Emu Opal Day
Alison Maunder	11-12th September	Youth Mental Health course
Donna Beukers Ben Ticehurst	17th September	Concussion First Aid training
Robyn Clarke Leanne Brown Fr Jolly Chacko	18th September	Priests and Principal's Leadership day





Dear Families

We have recently had a few low level behaviours occurring where children are being rude and mean to one another during social interactions. This can involve the use of rude language, pulling or pushing, annoying behaviours, like squirting water on someone, closing their Chromebook whilst they are working, moving items that someone has placed on their desk and throwing someone's hat or ball away.

When you look at these events in isolation, they are quite small. But when teachers are getting stories like this after some break sessions, it has an impact on learning time and the welfare of our children during play time. This stress then comes back into the classroom, and we know that stressed brains do not learn.


We pride ourselves on working positively with behaviours. We prompt and reteach the expectation. We provide special lessons and social stories to help children learn from their choices. 99% of the time they do not repeat the same behaviour.

As we come to the end of term, we often see a spike in these types of incidents. I ask you to please be proactive with your child and talk to them about ensuring they are using kind words, not exhibiting annoying behaviours and importantly being safe and respectful towards others.

This will help ensure we maximise learning time and help reduce some of the stress that can come off the playground.

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst
Assistant Principal



ALL AREAS

PBS4L
Expectations

I am SAFE



- I will move calmly and safely.
- I will keep my hands and feet to myself.
- I will use equipment properly.
- I am in the right place at the right time.
- I am aware of others.

I am RESPECTFUL

- I will respect myself and others.
- I will care for people and property.
- I will listen attentively and follow instructions.
- I use a friendly voice and kind, polite words.
- I will work cooperatively.
- I will keep my classroom and playground environment tidy.

I am a LEARNER

- I will always strive for my personal best.
- I will be a role model for others.
- I will be a problem-solver.





ST FINBAR'S DAY *Celebrations*

Dear Families,

Please join our St Finbar's Primary School community in celebrating the feast day of our patron saint, Finbarr.

FRIDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2019

We will begin our day with Mass at 9.15am

followed by a picnic morning tea on our playground.

All the students will then participate in rounds of fun, team building physical activities in which you are welcome to stay and watch.

Don't forget to bring your picnic blanket, BYO picnic food, hats and sunscreen.

St Finbar's Day Celebrations

All students will have received a note today outlining our upcoming St Finbar's Day celebrations. The note also indicated what group your child has been placed in for the day and the colours in which we ask they dress in.

ST FINBAR'S DAY OUTLINE

Friday 27th September, 2019

9.15am	Mass
10.30am	Picnic Morning Tea
11.00am	Opening Ceremony
11.10am	Mega Session #1
12.50pm	Pizza Lunch
1.25pm	Mega Session #2
2.35pm	Closing Ceremony

Please ensure your child has a **water bottle**, **hat** and is wearing **sunscreen** and **enclosed sport shoes**. Please no singlet tops.

A Skoolbag message will also be sent out regarding the ordering of a pizza lunch and popper, thanks to our P&F.

We ask that ALL families fill out the form, even if your child does not wish to have pizza (there is an option for no pizza) so we are not chasing up families the days before the event.



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TEAM COLOURS

TRUE BLUE CREW	GREEN & GOLD ARMY	LEGENDARY LIFESAVERS	GLENBROOK GIANTS
Blue & White	Green & Yellow	Red & Yellow	Orange & Black

Please do not go out and buy clothes, but look through the wardrobe, dress up drawer or even borrow from a friend!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THANK YOU

Justice League St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal

Our Justice League would like to say thank you to all our families who brought in items for our blanket and

food drive. St Vincent De Paul were very grateful for the donations and the items have been handed over to the organisation to distribute within the community.

Parish Mass every Tuesday

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.

Year 3/4

17th September
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

- **Friday 27th September** - Feast of St Finbar's Mass and Celebration Day commencing at 9.15am

Yours in faith,

Leanne Brown

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

Kinder Learning Through Play

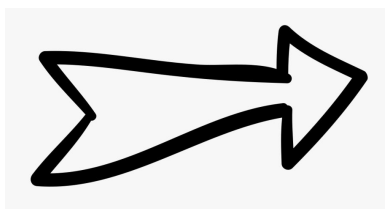
On August 27th, several teachers attended the course **Play Matters**, at the NSW Teachers Federation. We were incredibly fortunate to hear Dee O'Connor, an Associate Professor of Education, speak at length on the theory of play and why it is a fundamental aspect of childhood education. We learned about research projects in neuroscience, and discussed ways this research can enhance our understanding of brain development.

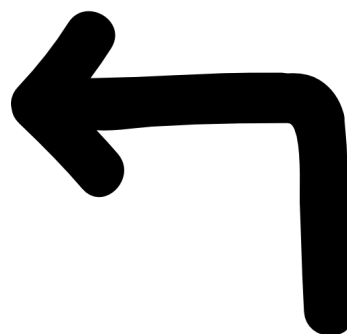
As a result, we have been able to continue planning play experiences that align to our pedagogies, with a focus on social and dramatic play being a catalyst for literacy building, and construction and kinaesthetic play as catalysts for mathematical awareness, communicating and reasoning.

We look forward to continuing to implement innovative strategies for investigative learning, which is guided and linked to intentional teaching.

A student engaged in the Number Nook

The student created an array of 100 objects. The teacher then approached and removed a section, creating a partial array. The student's challenge was to find the most efficient way to count how many objects had been removed and how many were left. He demonstrated multiple counting strategies, communicating and reasoning his choices as he went.



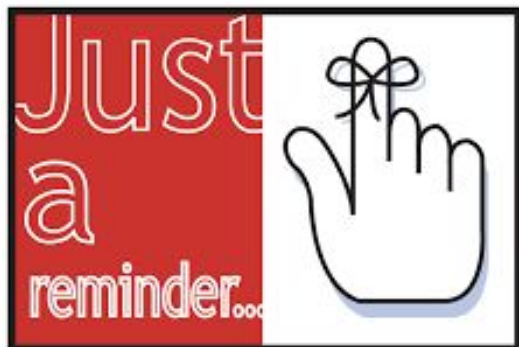


Students engaged in Nature Play, searching for samples of things found in our environment. They later categorised the objects as living or non-living and justified their reasoning.

judge uneven heights, conditions and surfaces, thereby strengthening coordination and balance skills, which are crucial to brain development. The process also allows them to engage in risk assessment and problem solving, skills which are essential to creating successful learning dispositions.

We look forward to continuing to implement innovative strategies for investigative learning, which is guided and linked to intentional teaching.

Important Reminders



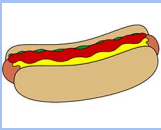
- **Movie Night Fundraiser** hosted by Year 6 is on Saturday 21 September. The reply form is out on Skoolbag App. Please complete the form if attending but also remember to send your payment in to the office with details clearly marked on the envelope.

- **If you will be leaving St Finbar's School at the end of 2019**, we require one Terms notice of your departure and exit forms will need to be completed. This is to prevent you being billed for the next Terms school fees. Please keep this in mind and notify us as soon as you are aware of your arrangements. This excludes Year 6 Graduates.

- **The last day of Term 3 is Friday 27 September**



Dates To Remember

Thursday 12 September ICAS - Spelling Bee	Tuesday 17 September 9am Parish Mass Years 3 & 4 Reconciliation Year 6 ICAS English Test	Friday 20 September Special Food Day 
Friday 13 September Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day	Thursday 19 September Stage 3 - Asian Info Expo 9:30am - 10:30am ICAS Mathematics Test	Friday 27 September St Finbar Feast Day Celebrations Last Day of Term 3
Monday 16 September Week 9 Assembly 2:10pm Parish Hall	View School Calendar	

School Fees

School fees were due – Wednesday 28 August 2019

If you have paid your School Fees account, Thank you.

If your account is still outstanding could you please contact me by phone on 4724 3600 or via email finb-glbrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to discuss payment options.

Thank you

Mrs Denham





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Strings Tuition

Expression of Interest for Co-Curricular String Lessons for 2020 - Years 3 to 6 only.

At St Finbar's we offer group strings tuition to Years 3 to 6 with our own highly professional specialist teachers. We are seeking expressions of interest for our 2020 classes.

Lessons are available in groups of 4 to 6. Cost per student per term for a 30 minute lesson each week (minimum of 8 lessons per term) is \$110.00. Tuition Fees will be charged to your School Fee Account.



If your child is interested in attending these classes please complete the attached [form](#) as soon as possible and return it to the school office. We need to have an idea of the number of students interested in Strings lessons before the end of Term.

Thank you
Mrs Denham



Enrol Now

Discover Your Potential

St Finbar's Primary School Glenbrook
02 4724 3600 | stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au



Enrolments for 2020 are now open. If you have younger children ready to start school, now is the time. School Tours are also available. [Click here](#) to view the dates and times.



Sensory Obstacle Course

Check out our new Sensory Obstacle Course. Check out [Facebook](#) for a video of the completed course.



School Office and Parish News

From The Office

Reminder: When returning permission notes for an event, please send money in with the note if applicable.

Reminder: Check your child's jackets, jumpers, hats to ensure they are labelled and that they have their own belongings, not someone else's.

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.





Announcements and Services

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.



NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook

A new edition of the NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook is now available online. A resource for all parents, carers and teachers proudly brought to you by NSW Police Legacy. Download the latest edition via this [link](#) and discuss the safety content with your children or students today.

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,	That equals ..	Which is ...	and over 13 years of schooling that's ...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years