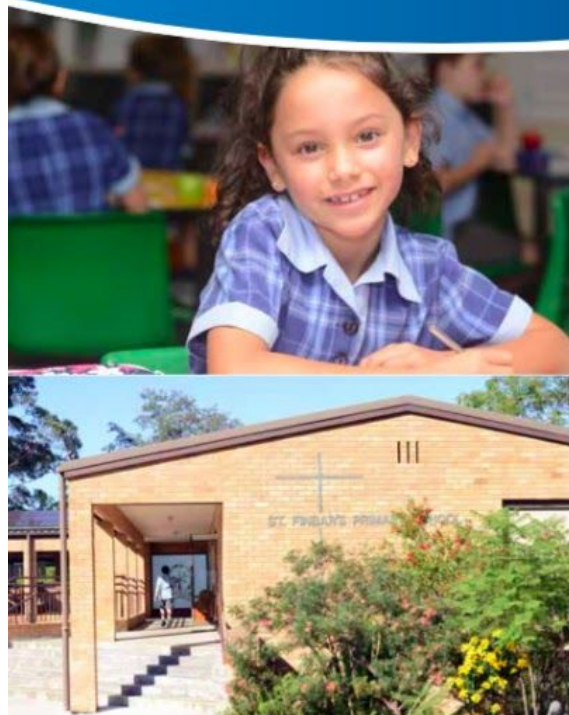




St Finbar's Primary School

Faith, Truth, Knowledge



Newsletter | Term 1 Week 8 | 19 March 2020



From The Principal

From the Principal

First impressions are important. We all know that. Sometimes, we can get a feel for someone else just by our first interactions. They might not always be accurate, as our brain can make links to what we see in a negative manner, using association as a means of assessing a person's character. This is because our brains are hardwired for bias, and we project our own feelings on to a person based on what we are seeing. Let me give you an example. Imagine meeting someone for the first time. They look pale and have droopy eyes. They aren't smiling much and have slumped posture.

You might think this person isn't particularly happy about being at work, or may not be your typical motivated worker. What if the reality was that they had been up all night with a sick child?

Last Sunday the Gospel reading was all about Jesus and the woman at the well. He and his disciples had been walking all day, it was hot and they were tired and thirsty. As Jesus sat down at the well he was probably looking forward to a nice cold drink of water. There was a woman, a Samaritan and a sinner, whom he asked to get him a drink of water. This was extraordinary, not only because Jews could not use anything that belonged to a Samaritan, but because he engaged in a relationship with her. He saw her as a person, not just the sum of her past deeds. He didn't make an assessment of her character based on His first impressions, and instead entered into a conversation with her to see what made her tick, so to speak. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could look beyond the past deeds of those around us and enter into a relationship based on love and forgiveness, just as Jesus showed us? As we enter into our fourth week of Lent, let us try to be non-judgemental and accepting of others around us, no matter their past.



Jesus, help us to build relationships and put our judgements aside. Amen.



Preschool Visits

Last week Mr Ticehurst and I took Zara and Zane to Lapstone preschool for a visit. Zara and Zane read a story to the children, and the preschoolers had the opportunity to ask them about "big school". Zara and Zane were amazing in their interactions with these three and four year olds, and we were able to present the preschool with a social story book about starting school, plus a beautiful bear dressed in the St Finbar's school uniform, designed and crafted by Laura and Isla Buggy. More visits are scheduled over the next few weeks and I look forward to taking other student leaders to local preschools.



Stage Three Camp

Last week Stage Three went to Vision Valley for their Leadership camp. The two days involved lots of team building activities, and opportunities for our students to get out of their comfort zone and challenge themselves to achieve personal bests. It is a fabulous opportunity to interact with our senior students in a different way than at school. I was incredibly proud of all of our students, and the staff at Vision Valley commented on the manners and exemplary behaviour of our children. Congratulations to all who attended and thanks our Stage Three teachers for organising such a wonderful learning opportunity for our Stage Three students.





Turtle Island At Glenbrook Lagoon



Last week Ms Collins took some of our Year Four students to Glenbrook Lagoon for the grand opening of Turtle Island. This important ecological initiative was launched by the Mayor and the Blue Mountains Gazette published an article about the launch. Thank you to our students and Ms Collins for representing us.

You can access the whole article [here](#)

St Finbar's Care Basket

Father Jolly has informed me that there is a care basket now available in the foyer of the Church. This basket is for parishioners and school community families. The purpose of the care basket is for people to donate excess items they may have bought recently.

These will then be shared with the many elderly members of the Parish who have been unable to get to the shops or haven't been able to purchase necessities such as toilet paper, tooth paste, tissues, paper towels, cereal, pasta, flour and sugar.

If you are able to donate an item please place it in the basket and know that you have done a wonderful thing to help members of our St Finbar's community who are not quite as fortunate as others.

I thank you in advance.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke
Principal





Teachers as Learners

| Name | Date | Professional Learning |
|------------------------------------|------------|---|
| Mrs Jo Shean Mrs Alison Maunder | 9th March | PP Moderation Meeting |
| Mrs Liz Denham | 11th March | FAS Forum |
| Mrs Robyn Clarke | 13th March | Principal's Association Meeting |
| Mrs Leanne Brown | 13th March | REC Gathering |
| Mrs Jo Shean | 21st March | Embedding Oral Language across the Curriculum |



Lent is a time of penance and particularly of prayer, self denial and giving to others.

I displayed this line on the TV at the start of one of my Religious Education lessons last week. As I read it out, I immediately paused and asked the question, "Where are we not seeing people giving to others?"

The first response from one of the children was, "Toilet paper. Everyone is just taking it all for themselves."

The current social climate is worrying for all of us, especially when you can not provide essential items for your family. The lack of 'other centeredness' that we are witnessing when visiting the supermarket is truly disheartening. It does make me wonder, during this season of Lent, are we truly acting in a way where we are thinking of others?

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst
Assistant Principal



ALTAR SERVER PROGRAM

A number of students have indicated that they would like to be a part of the St Finbar's Altar Server Program. A note will be sent home this week. Please fill in the form and return to the school office by Friday 27th March.

Fr Jolly and Peter McMahon will spend some time teaching the children about the role of altar serving and show them what to do during masses. At the conclusion of the training, your child will be placed on a roster to serve at either school masses, parish masses or both (as indicated on the note).

PROJECT COMPASSION

If all money from the Project Compassion boxes, which were sent home with families on Ash Wednesday, please be returned to the school office by **Wednesday 8th April** (Week 11, Term 1). Alternatively, you can take your Project Compassion box to St Finbar's Parish Mass on Palm Sunday (12th April) or make a donation by calling 1800 024 413 or www.caritas.org.au

We thank you for your continued generosity.

Yours in faith,

Leanne Brown
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

Home Learning Technology Access Survey

Yesterday, the Prime Minister announced that, on advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, the National Cabinet has made the decision that schools will remain open at this time. The dates for the end-of-term one school holiday period also remain unchanged.

Significant preparations continue at a system and school level to ensure that learning will continue in schools in the event that the normal operations of schools need to change. We are all hopeful that schools will continue as normal, with health and safety measures in place to keep students, staff and families safe.

As a part of our preparedness, we have asked all families to complete the Home Learning Technology Access Survey posted on Skoolbag yesterday. If you have not completed the survey please click [here](#).





Attendance Information

Our School Goal is to achieve no less than 90% attendance for each child. Keep track of your child's class attendance average to help us achieve our goal.

School Attendance Average - 86.4 %

Kinder - 87 %
Year 1 - 87.5 %
Year 2 - 91.7 %
Year 3 - 87.5 %
Year 4 - 85.7%
Year 5 - 76.2 %
Year 6 - 88%



St Finbar's Glenbrook
Safe Respectful Learners



Letter Box

Notes recently sent out via Skoolbag App, relevant links attached below:

- [Covid-19 Update](#) from the Executive Director 18 March 2020
- [Cancellations and Postponements](#)
- 2020 ICAS Testing - Bookings and payment now made [online](#)





St Finbar's Primary School
Faith, Truth, Knowledge

School Fees

School fees due – Wednesday 18 March 2020

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-glbfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to discuss payment options.

Thank you

Mrs Denham

Finance Secretary

School
F E E S

School Photos - Change of Date - 5th May

Advanced Life Photography will be at St Finbar's on Tuesday 5th May for our school photo day. We ask that all students wear the full Summer school uniform on this day. **Please mark this change of date on your calendars.**

advancedlife
photography & print specialists

If you would like a sibling envelope for your children, please collect one from the office or give us a call and we can send one home with your child.

Orders are once again placed online or you can send in an order envelope with the correct money on the day. Payment and submission of orders online is the preferred method as we are unable to accept any photo payments through the school office. Any orders already placed will carry over to the new date.

The whole school photo is generally the first photo of the day. Please try and have your children arrive at school promptly by 8:55am.

Enrol Now
Discover Your Potential

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



Now Enrolling for 2021

Enrolments are now open for 2021. If you require an enrolment pack for your child, please do not hesitate to contact us in the office on 4724 3600 or drop us an email stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au and we can arrange a pack for you.

Enrolments for 2020 in grades K-6 are limited, however, we welcome your enquiry.

Awards - Term One

BE SAFE

Kinder

Rose

Year One

Oscar

Year Two

Aiden

Stacey

Year Three

Sofia

Alexander

Year Four

Lillian

Year Five

Mitchell

Amelie

Amber

Phoenix

Samuel

Year Six

Alyssa



BE RESPECTFUL

Kinder

William T

Juliette

Year One

Sacha

Year Two

Noah

Francesco

Year Three

Quentin

Kaden

Year Four

Cooper

Year Five

Ava

Ruby

Edward

Ruby

Year Six

Aidan

Zane

BE A LEARNER

Kinder

Isaac

Arlo

Year One

Hugh

Year Two

Sofia

Tomas

Skye

Year Three

Edward

Jessy

Rachel

Mali

Year Four

Thomas

Elizabeth

Cooper

Eamonn

Lara

Year Five

Isobel

Ellie

Leia

Briar-Rose

Year Six

Elias

Angus D

LIVING OUR FAITH IN DAILY LIVES

Year One

Keira

Year Two

Emma

Alexander

Year Three

Hope

Isla

Year Four

Alana

Year Five

Amelie

Kian

Year Six

Bronagh

Grace





Why eat fruit and veg everyday?

Fruits and vegetables are high in vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre, as well as being rich in antioxidants. Research shows that people who eat adequate amounts of fruits and vegetables everyday can help prevent:

- ✓ coronary heart disease
- ✓ some forms of cancer
- ✓ overweight and obesity
- ✓ constipation
- ✓ high blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels
- ✓ help improve control of diabetes.



Aim to eat fruit and vegetables everyday - the greater the variety, the better health benefits.

Cheesy Corn Bites

(<https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/recipes/cheesy-corn-bites.aspx>)

Ingredients

Olive oil cooking spray
1 cup wholemeal self-raising flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup polenta
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground paprika
1 cup firmly packed grated carrot
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fresh corn kernels
1 cup firmly packed baby spinach leaves (30g), finely shredded

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup grated light tasty cheese
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup reduced-fat Greek yoghurt
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup olive oil
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup water
2 eggs, lightly beaten
2 tbs pepitas





Method

1. Lightly grease two 12-hole non-stick mini muffin pans (2 tablespoon capacity), with cooking spray.
2. Place flour, polenta, paprika, carrot, corn, spinach and cheese in a large bowl.
3. Whisk yoghurt, oil, water and eggs in a large jug. Add to flour mixture. Stir until combined.
4. Spoon heaped tablespoons of mixture into prepared pans. Sprinkle with pepitas.
5. Bake in a 200C pre-heated oven for 15-18 minutes or until lightly golden and just firm to touch.

Cool in pans for 5 minutes. Turn onto a clean tea towel or wire rack to cool.
Serve warm or at room temperature.

Tasks for kids:

Grate carrot and cheese (with adult supervision)
Mix ingredients in large bowl (Step 2).
Whisk ingredients in jug. Stir mixture to combine (Step 3).

Tips: You will need about 1 medium corn cob to give the 1 /2 cup kernels required in this recipe. Remove husk and cut kernels from the cob. You can substitute 1 /2 cup frozen corn kernels if preferred.
Cheesy Corn Bites will keep in an airtight container in the fridge for 2 days. Eat cold, or warm in a microwave oven just before serving. These tasty morsels are also great served as a side to soup

Dates To Remember

Saturday 21 March

World Down Syndrome Day

Reminder: Keep an eye on the Skoolbag App for updates and announcements

CHANGE OF DATE

Tuesday 5 May
School Photo Day



[View School Calendar](#)



School Office and Parish News

From The Office

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

Label all items clearly.

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.



every learner every day ☒

When is sick too sick for school



If I am sick please call the school or write me a note to let the school know why I am not at school.

| Send me to school if ... | Keep me home if ... |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ I have the symptoms of a cold or hayfever✓ I have a sprain, strain or pain and I can function (walk, talk and eat)✓ If I have asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc - school personnel are trained to manage my condition. Talk to the school about my health plan✓ I haven't vomited or had diarrhoea for 24 hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ I have a temperature higher than 37 degrees✓ I am vomiting or have diarrhoea✓ My eyes are red, and crusty (conjunctivitis)✓ I have influenza (flu) - combination fever, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches✓ I have the symptoms of an infectious disease. Go to NSW Health - A-Z of infectious diseases for more information |

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

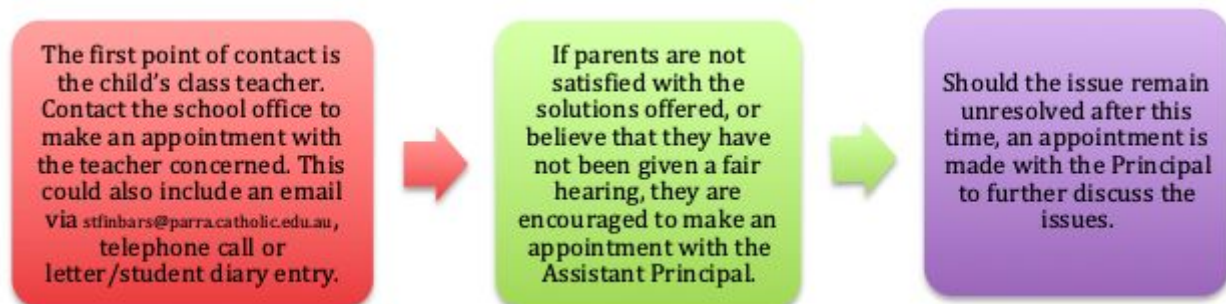


Complaints Handling Procedures

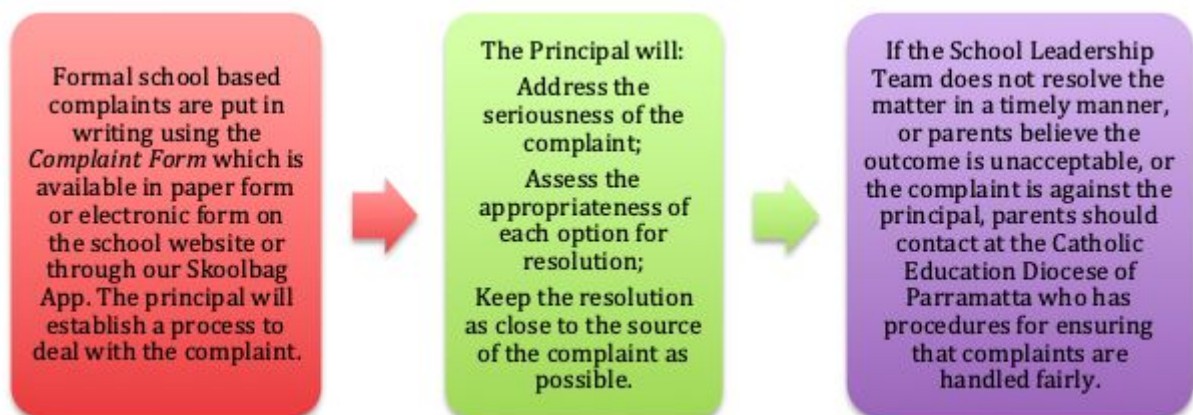
NESA requires all schools to publicise their complaint handling procedures. This is to ensure that parents and other community members know where to go to get information, how to make a complaint, how the complaint will be handled and how the outcome will be communicated to them.

An overview of the process is graphically represented below.

The recommended procedure to be followed by parents for informal complaints



The recommended procedure to be followed by parents for formal complaints



You can view the CEDP Complaints Handling Policy and Procedures [here](#).