



**St Finbar's Primary School**

*Faith, Truth, Knowledge*



Newsletter | Term 2 Week 6 | 4 June 2020

## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Sunday we celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. As we read in the Gospel of John:

John 20:19-23

'The doors were closed in the room where the disciples were. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, Peace be with you.' The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord.

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

When the Holy Spirit came to the disciples they were filled with a sense of purpose and mission, ready to go out and evangelise the world. I bet they felt a bit like we felt, when most of our students returned to school. We were filled with joy! Our role, as educators of your children is one that we see as a mission more than just a job. I am quite convinced that, after the period of home learning, parents have a better understanding of the role of an educator... except times that experience by 25 and you would experience what it is like to be in a classroom! As I have been walking around, visiting students and talking to staff, it is quite clear that everyone is happy to have returned to full time schooling, and rest assured we are back in the swing of things after our reset period. So, just like the disciples, we are eager to continue God's work at St Finbar's and be back to normal as soon as possible.



From The Principal



## Pick Up and Drop Off Procedures

The Kiss and Go zone in King Street has proven to be a great success. The mornings in particular have been running fairly smoothly, thanks to parents and carers sticking to the guidelines. Please refer to these guidelines if you are unsure of the Kiss and Go procedures.

- Students must have their bag inside the car with them. If you have bags in the car boot please park somewhere safely and allow children to retrieve their backpacks before walking to the school gate.
- Parents/Carers must remain in the vehicle.
- Please do not park on the school side of King Street. It creates a traffic jam and problems with the flow of traffic.
- It's ok to drop students off before reaching the head of the queue (where Mrs Clarke stands) however please ensure that your child/ren are safe leaving the vehicle and are not walking behind the vehicle. Mrs Clarke is happy to assist children leaving cars from the roadside to ensure that they make it safely to the footpath.
- Do not overtake cars dropping students off, instead wait patiently for the queue to advance and leave the curbside safely. There have been a few near misses noticed due to cars merging unsafely.
- Please observe the student crossing directions as some students are being dropped off on the opposite side of the street and need to use the crossing.

For the time being, pick up in the afternoon will remain as is, with Infants children available to be collected at the King Street gate from 3:00pm, and Primary children at the same location from 3:10pm.

Thank you again for your ongoing patience and support of all we are doing to keep our families and community as safe as we can. We appreciate you remembering to continue social distancing practices, and remind you that if you wish to see your child's teacher about any matter, please contact the school office and an appointment phone call will be arranged.

## Safeguarding the Health and Wellbeing of All at St Finbar's

We are continuing our preventative measures to ensure that the health, safety and well-being of students and staff are maintained. These measures include:

- Frequent hand washing/sanitising - on arrival, as children leave the classroom for breaks, before returning to class after play, and again at the end of the day as they leave via the King Street gate.



- All playground equipment has been deep cleaned and is regularly sprayed with Touch Point disinfectant. Numbers are limited at any time the play equipment is in use.
- Social distancing is being encouraged with desks moved apart and children split between floor activities and desk activities.
- Youtube assemblies.
- Office procedures to allow continued social distancing and sanitisation as required.

With many restrictions being lifted, we will update you on the measures we will continue or discontinue as the information is relayed to us.

## Sabbath Week

Next week (week seven) is our Sabbath Week... a time to rest and regain some time with family and friends. As such, there will be no scheduled meetings with teachers and home learning will take a break. Please use this gift of time as a way to reconnect with family and the community... go for a walk, cook together, play a game or just find time for a chat and a cuppa. Enjoy the week.

## Family Learning Conferences

As you have been made aware, the Family Learning Conferences will take place via zoom meetings in Week Eight. I would like to thank all the parents who gave up their time to share some vital information about your child's learning via the Google Form that was shared with you. The family learning conferences will be a time for you to discuss any concerns about your child's learning, and to celebrate the achievements made while learning from home. There will also be an opportunity for your child to set some goals around their learning for the remainder of the year. The Semester One reports will be shared with you in Term Three, Week One. Please read Mr. Ticehurst's important information regarding reporting processes below. I'd like to thank all of our teachers who participated in some great discussions about what Semester One reports could look like.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke  
Principal





## Teachers as Learners

Name	Date	Professional Learning
All teaching staff	2nd June	RE Curriculum PL
Robyn Clarke Donna Beukers	3rd June	Compass training



### Semester One Reports

Over the last three weeks, we have been working hard to develop our Semester One Reports. Due to the home learning period, our reports this Semester will look different.

One key difference will be that the Semester One Reports will only contain feedback and results for Religious Education, English and Mathematics. This reduced report does not mean that learning and teaching has not continued in all of the other key learning areas, but our focus upon the

return of students to normal schooling has been to assess, provide feedback and capture learning data in the three key areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Religious Education.

Across Australia, schools have adjusted existing assessment and reporting processes, in compliance with NSW State and Federal government requirements, to accommodate broader changes to the teaching and learning environment during the current COVID-19 period.

This 2020 First Semester report seeks to authentically recognise and reflect students' learning in these three key areas. The 2020 Second Semester report will return to documenting progress in all key learning areas.

Another difference will be how our reports look and how they are delivered. We have redeveloped our school reports using our new school management system, Compass. Some images of how the reports will look are below.

To maximise the learning time we have this term, your child's Semester One Report will not be provided until the end of Week 1 of Term 3. This is to ensure we can maximise the time in the classroom during Term 2 to gather as much data as we can to provide a comprehensive report in Religious Education, English and Mathematics.

Compass also provides schools with the ability to give parents access to a Parent Portal. This is currently in the process of being developed and will be made available to families before the end of Term 2. At the end of Week 1 of Term 3, parents will receive the child's Semester One Report in digital format only



through the Parent Portal. This will mean, as we continue with this in the years ahead, that you will now have a secure place where all your child's historical learning reports will be stored and you will no longer need to fish through that storage box or cupboard to find your child's reports. Of course, you can print them from the portal if you prefer to keep a hard copy.

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst  
Assistant Principal

### Sample of Learning Area

## English

**Teacher:**  
**Mr Benjamin Ticehurst**

In English, students have undertaken learning in three different areas; Speaking and Listening, Reading and Viewing, and Writing and Representing, with the components of creative and critical thinking, expressing themselves and reflecting on learning integrated into each area.

The area of Speaking and Listening requires students to communicate effectively in formal and informal settings for a range of purposes. This area requires students to listen, understand and respond to a range of topics. The area of Reading and Viewing requires students to read, view and comprehend a range of texts of increasing complexity as they progress through school. The area of Writing and Representing requires students to compose persuasive, imaginative and informative texts.

<b>Overall Result</b>	<b>B</b>
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<b>Achievement</b>					
	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Basic</b>	<b>Sound</b>	<b>Thorough</b>	<b>Extensive</b>
Speaking and Listening			✓		
Reading and Viewing				✓	
Writing and Representing				✓	
Thinking Imaginatively, Creatively and Critically				✓	
Reflecting on their Learning					✓

<b>Effort and Application</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
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## ST VINCENT DE PAUL COVID-19 WINTER APPEAL

Each year our St Finbar's Social Justice group, the *Justice League*, hosts a blanket/food drive for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. Due to our current circumstances, the Justice League have not met for some time, however as a school community we would still like to show our support to this selfless charity.



On **Friday 12th June** (Wk 7) we will have a SCARF and BEANIE day. Children will wear their SCHOOL SPORT UNIFORM and are encouraged to wear a scarf and beanie of their choice. We ask that items are donated to give to the St Vincent de Paul Covid-19 Winter Appeal.

We will be collecting the following items, as requested by St Vincent De Paul Penrith Community Hub COVID Winter Appeal.

GENERAL ITEMS (new or in <u>excellent</u> condition)	NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS
Blankets Sleeping bags Beanies Scarves Gloves Socks Men's toiletries Towels (bath and hand)	Tuna Pasta Sauce UHT milk Fruit cups Noodle cups   2 minute noodles Cereal Biscuits Crackers Coffee (jars) Coffee   Hot chocolate sachets (All food must have individual packaging)

This initiative reflects our commitment to creating a just society, and providing dignity and respect to people in need. So next time you are at the supermarket with your children, please add some of these items to your trolley, and help those in our community who are experiencing hardship, particularly during these uncertain times.





We thank you in advance for your contribution to this important cause.

Strength, love and peace,

Leanne Brown  
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

## Family Learning Conferences - Week 8

Term 2 Week 8 | Tuesday 16 June 3:30pm - 7:00pm | Thursday 18 June 7:30am - 9:00am

During Week 8, we will be holding our Semester One Family Learning Conferences on Tuesday 16 June and Thursday 18 June. We are not able to conduct our Family Learning Conferences face to face, therefore these conferences will take place via Zoom.

A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent to you via the confirmation email for your booked time. Families will use this link to join the waiting room, prior to your meeting time, where the teacher will then admit you into the session.



A critical part of the report process is to reflect on your child's learning through open dialogue. It is especially important this year, as you will have insights that you can share with us from the time you spent at home during the Home Learning Period. It is for this reason that our Family Learning Conferences are occurring before our reports are sent out in Week 1 of Term 3.

These conferences are an opportunity for you to ask clarifying questions about your child's learning; allow the teacher to provide detailed verbal feedback; and to discuss your child's next steps. Each conference will go for 10 minutes.

Parents or carers and their child should attend this conference.

To make a booking, please go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code?code=gy6kx> or go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the **event code gy6kx**.



Bookings are now open and will close on Monday 15 June at 6:00pm. Each year, we do have a number of families that miss their time or forget to book. Please ensure you make a note of your booked interview time and get in early to select the best time for you.

Many thanks for your continued support, as we work together to achieve the best learning for your child.





## School Fees

**Covid-19 Pandemic** - We understand that this is affecting many of our families in terms of work situation and loss of income. For Fee Relief information and procedures to apply for Fee Relief can be accessed by clicking this [LINK](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact us as there are many ways we can provide support to families. We can be contacted by phone on 4724 3600 or via email [finb-glbrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:finb-glbrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au) All conversations will remain strictly confidential.



## School Photos - Change of Date - 21 July 2020



Unfortunately due to Covid-19 circumstances and social distancing guidelines, we have been advised that our school photo date has now been changed to **21 July, 2020**. Please stay tuned for further information throughout the term in regards to photo day.

Payments that have already been made will be carried forward.



## Uniform

All students are now required to wear their full winter school uniform. To view the school uniform policy [click here](#), to view the winter uniform [click here](#).

Later this Term we will be commencing a new process for uniform checks. If your child needs to wear an item of clothing that is not part of the St Finbar's uniform, please write a quick note or send a brief email to [stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au) so that we are aware of the situation. We understand there is a backorder on grey trousers at present with The School Locker and there are a few families waiting.

The number of students coming to the office to borrow an "office hat" at break times is increasing. As students become more aware we have a few hats to loan out, they are becoming less inclined to look for their own hat. Whilst we are happy to provide a few hats to borrow, there are also hygiene issues to consider. These hats are only washed at the end of each week.

There is now a white box with **lost property** located outside the office on the wooden pew.





**St Finbar's Primary School**  
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## 2021 Enrolments

### ENROLMENTS EXTENDED

**The enrolment period has been extended for 2021 applications.  
Positions are available for Kindergarten  
Enquire for availability in Years One to Six**

**If you require an enrolment pack for your child  
please contact the school office.**

**Email | [stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au)**

**Phone | 4724 3600**

Applications are now being processed for Kinder 2021 and other grades where positions may be available. If you have enrolment papers, we would ask that you return the completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.



At this stage we are anticipating the scheduling of enrolment interviews for weeks nine and ten of this term. We will be in contact with all applicants in the coming weeks to book a time.

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](mailto:stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au) and we can arrange a pack for you.

We welcome all enquiries.

**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)



## Congratulations Award Recipients

### Be a Learner

Aria Den Hartog  
Lilliana Hayek  
Eva Hetherington  
Matthew Christie  
Sam Ambrosoli  
Eamonn Apps  
Rachita Pathak  
Michael Martland  
Angus Dawson  
Taitem Lipitz  
Stacey Naude  
Francesco Macri  
Theodore Maunder  
Sofia Lewis  
Rachel Martland  
Kai Evans  
Edmund Cameron  
Wentworth Don-Wakefield  
Jack Ambrosoli  
Phoenix Eggins  
Josh Shouha

### Living Our Faith in Daily Life

Jordan Butler  
Amber Goodlace  
Lilly Kay  
Lillian Bastoli  
Isobel Reece



### Be Safe

Romeo Siciliano  
Hailey Crameri  
Isaac Erickson  
Luc Nilsson  
Ruby Shouha



### Be Respectful

Julian Gibson  
Flynn Powell  
Brigid Hassett  
Zoe Wilson  
Angus Smith  
Darcy Waring  
Finnian McCann  
Briar-Rose Wade  
Abaigeal McCann



## NDIS - Guide for Schools and Families

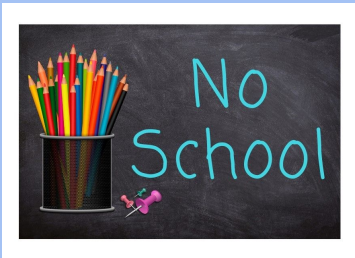


This [link](#) directs you to a comprehensive guide for schools and families to the NDIS.

National Disability  
Insurance Scheme  
Guide  
for Schools and Families





## Dates To Remember

<p><b>Monday 8 June</b></p> <p>Public Holiday</p> 	<p><b>Friday 3 July</b></p> <p>Last Day of Term 2</p> 
<p><b>Friday 12 June</b></p> <p>Scarf and Beanie Day</p> <p>St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal</p>	<p><b>CHANGE OF DATE</b> <b>Tuesday 21 July, 2020</b></p> <p>School Photo Day</p> 
<p><b>Monday 22 June</b></p> <p>Kinder 2021 Enrolment Interviews commence</p>	
<p><a href="#">View School Calendar</a></p>	

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the SkoolBag App



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## School Office and Parish News

### Reminders

A reminder that enrolment applications for **Year 7, 2021 at St Columba's Catholic College** are now open.

For further information contact the Enrolment Secretary, Sandra O'Brien, on 4754 8900 or 4754 8907.

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

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta



## Changes to the Premier's Reading Challenge 2020

Congratulations to all the students who have already started to enter their books into this year's Premier's Reading Challenge.

Due to reduced access to libraries and so on, some changes have been made to this year's challenge.

- Students on all Challenge levels are able to read 10 choice books - an increase from five. Please see the support article about adding these additional choice books to a student reading record.

<https://prcsupport.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/24000054175>

- Students on all Challenge levels will be able to include books on their reading records that they read collaboratively as a class this year, in person or online with their teacher or at home with their parents/carers.



Students will need to add their first 5 choice books the same way they always have for the Challenge.

To add the bonus choice books on the Student Site, students can simply enter "2020 bonus" either on the search screen or under "add choice books", and the Bonus Choice Book records will be the first ones to appear.

Congratulations to the most recent children to complete the challenge - well done to Kailee (Kinder) and Matilda and Nathan (Year 4).

### 2020 Booklists

The 2020 Booklist can be found on the [Booklists](#) page. You can also borrow books from our [eLibrary](#). Students can access this with their school gmail account.

Our local library ([Blue Mountains Library](#)) has heaps of brilliant online books you can read or listen to as well. Although the libraries are closed, you can telephone for a membership number for you or your child and receive access to some great [online book, encyclopedia and magazine collections](#).

Happy reading!

Rebecca Southern