



From the Principal

This Sunday's Gospel recounts Jesus explaining to His disciples what was going to happen when He reached Jerusalem...that He would suffer greatly at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the scribes. Peter was horrified! He pulled Jesus aside and basically told Him off for such thoughts! Jesus told Peter that this was God's wishes and that Peter was thinking as a human, not as God does. How often have we tried to impose our beliefs on others, thinking firmly that we know what's best? I often find

myself trying to give my children "best advice" (telling them what to do!) instead of trusting them to make the right choice on their own. Sometimes, we need to take a step back, and even if that means our children might make a mistake, take this as a teachable moment! Sometimes we need to trust in our God who knows the plan for each of us, and He will be with us guiding our movements and decisions throughout our life.

It was with great sadness that we heard the news about Father Jolly leaving our Glenbrook community to take up a new position at Stanhope Gardens. We will be having a special prayer liturgy to celebrate Father Jolly's time with us over the next couple of weeks, and we will invite parents and carers to join us via our live YouTube stream. You can read Father Jolly's communication to the parish community [here](#). We thank Father Jolly for his ministry and wish him all the best in his new parish. He will be greatly missed by the staff and students at St Finbar's.

Last week we sent out communication outlining the new guidelines and restrictions due to Covid-19. Some parents have been asking when we will return to normal procedures, and my response, and the response of CEDP is not yet. The procedures in place will remain until the end of this term at the very least, and will be reviewed next term. This includes utilising the kiss and drop zone in the morning, and individual family dismissal in the afternoon. Parents are only allowed onsite with the principal's permission, who will ensure that all social distancing protocols are maintained, and meetings are to be conducted by phone or zoom where possible. Our students have been separated on the playground to minimise contact between Stages, and while this has contributed its own set of difficulties I thank the staff for their flexibility and diligence in keeping our students and co-workers safe from Covid-19.



Kiss and Drop Zone

Please ensure that the following protocols are being maintained in the kiss and drop zone.

- Pull up to the kerb on the school side of King st.
- Adults are not to exit the vehicle. A staff member will assist anyone who requires help getting out of the car
- If you need to park, please park on the other side of King St. or use the adjacent Church car park. PLEASE, DO NOT PARK ON THE SCHOOL SIDE OF KING STREET AS IT BLOCKS THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC
- Ensure children have bags inside the car for a quick drop off
- Children can alight anywhere along the designated area, however if your child needs assistance please stay in the queue until you reach the staff member
- Please be careful when pulling away from the kerb and watch for traffic, especially buses
- Where possible, have your child seated on the left side of the car closest to the kerb. If this is not possible, inform the staff member so they can go around the car to assist your child.

We need to work together to ensure that safety is maintained. Thank you to all who have been consistently cooperating with these procedures.

New Signs

This week we received two new school signs, courtesy of the generosity of CEDP. The sign facing Levy Street is an electronic sign, and will be used to advertise upcoming school and parish events. The sign in King Street is a static sign which advertises our school. The content will be uploaded each fortnight so you can stay up to date with all St Finbar's events. We are very grateful to CEDP for making this possible, and we look forward to sharing our events with you via this medium.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke
Principal





Teachers as Learners

| Name | Date | Professional Learning |
|--|------------|--|
| Ben Ticehurst Leanne Brown Georgia Hutchins | 25/08/2020 | Contemporary Learning Frameworks Leading Rigorous PBL |
| Ben Ticehurst Robyn Clarke Alison Maunder Rebecca Southern | 27/08/2020 | PBS4L Tier Two training |
| Robyn Clarke Ben Ticehurst | 28/08/2020 | Principal and Assistant Principal Retreat |
| Robyn Clarke Ben Ticehurst Alison Maunder Alicia Borg Leanne Brown | 01/09/2020 | Growing Great Leaders |



From the Assistant Principal

When someone asks me why I decided to choose the vocation of teaching, I have always said that it is because I wanted to help people. What I didn't realise at the time, was the profound effect that the children I encountered over the last 21 years have had on me. How they have helped me become a better person.

Two weeks ago, I experienced one of those moments. A moment where a young learner made me grow as a person because of what they said. Katia Apps delivered her voice of youth speech to her Stage 3 peers, teachers and panel of judges. Her speech about self doubt told a personal story that was reinforced by the physical challenge she was facing as she had to actually deliver her speech and overcome those feelings. Having known Katia for the last 5 years and having taught her when she was in Year 3, I had witnessed times where she had projected doubt. Her speech sung a tune of resilience, positive thinking and struggle, that tells a story of personal growth.

I hope you enjoy reading it. Thank you Katia for letting me share this with the community.



Can't? Can. More Than Capable! - Self Doubt

Have you ever looked in the mirror and had your eyes flood with tears because you feel you're not good enough? Have you ever sat on your bed with your face buried in your knees, having your heart beating out of your chest, while you are crippled with anxiety?

I have. I feel like that ALL the time. I tell myself "stop doubting" but it never works. I feel like I can't do anything and I'm not good enough, but I'm told otherwise. I'm told that I am good enough, but I still don't see it. That's called self doubt.

What is self doubt? Self doubt isn't an illness or a disability. All it is, is thoughts that go through your head, maybe when you're comparing yourself to someone else or thinking you're vastly different, and can't make yourself happy. But self doubt is 100% normal. Everyone has doubtful thoughts at some point in their life - often at a time of change. It pushes us to move forward and be resilient. It's like a voice inside your head telling you "you're no good - this is stupid - change this, change that" But all it is, it's just one voice and a few thoughts that escalate. But just know, it's normal to doubt yourself. Everyone feels that way at some point.

When I doubt myself I find it better to talk to someone who I trust - like my mum. It's better to talk to someone about a problem rather than keep it bottled up, because after all - A problem shared is a problem halved.

What is it that you're doubting? Why are you doubting that? Ask yourself, "Is it worth my worries or my doubts?" Because chances are it's not going to matter in 5 days 5 weeks 5 months or 5 years. Perhaps you're doubting your body, school work, maybe your abilities, your strengths or your weaknesses. I doubt my body because ALL of my friends are taller than me. But I know I will grow and there is not much I can do to change my height.

Rather than looking at the downside of something - like worrying about what you can or can't do, or thinking bad of something like my eyes are the wrong colour, my nose is too long. Why don't you look at the upside? There's always an upside. Maybe you need to look at things from a different perspective. A good perspective where things in life can be so much better.

It's alright to doubt yourself and there's no need to be ashamed or embarrassed by it. Infact, it pushes you to work harder and achieve more. Most importantly, it will help you to be prepared for what could happen next in your life.

You can't sit in your bedroom curled up in a ball with your face buried in your knees all your life. It's going to make you feel worse, not better. How do you want to live your life? Feeling horrible about anything and everything? Or do you want to live your life enjoying things and taking a chance while you still have it? So pick yourself up out of your bedroom and make the most of every chance that comes your way.

There are ways you can help yourself to stop feeling like that. Perhaps every morning you can tell yourself "I'm worth it" or "I AM good enough". Maybe some way of getting your feelings out, like talking to



someone or writing it down. But know that there's no need to feel like you're not good enough or that you can't do anything, because you can.

Surprisingly - self doubt is a good thing. You weren't expecting that were you? You're someone who holds yourself to a high standard and you have your own limitations and you're open to the world, and want to achieve your best.

I know I got up and presented this speech. Knowing I had to get up and present it, I've been doubting myself. Even while writing this knowing I had to present it I thought to myself, "Is this seriously going to go well or will everyone start laughing at me?"

I can look at each of your faces and tell you that it's unique and perfect, because that is who you are. Go home, stop doubting. Go home and smile at your face. Smile at everyone else's face and appreciate everyone for who they are, including yourself. You have one life, make the most of it. So when you go home today smile because you are perfectly you!

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst
Assistant Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DRAFT NEW CURRICULUM - STAGE TWO UPDATE

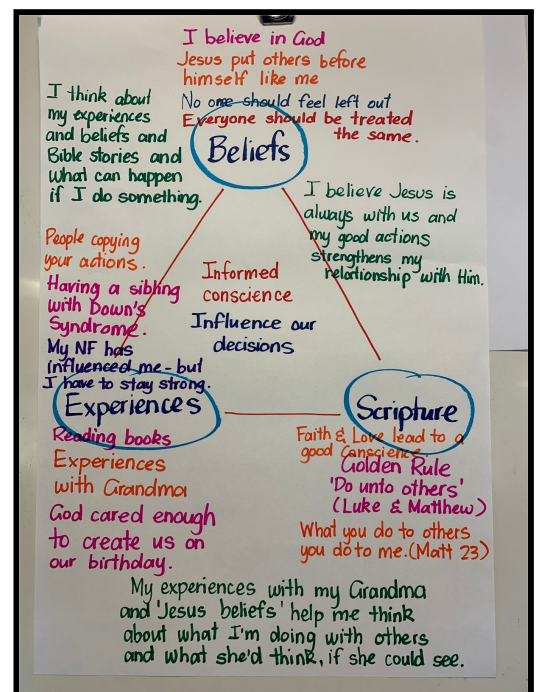
Stage Two students continue to amaze and inspire everyone with their insightful and amazing ideas and contributions to their Religion lessons.

Their most recent task was to examine how their personal experiences, beliefs and knowledge of Scripture help them to develop their 'informed conscience'. They then examined how this could influence their decisions and choices in life.

Here is just a sample of some of their deep thinking:

Bruce:

Conscience means to me, good or bad choices in my life. I know I have the power to make these choices as it is my decision. No one else can force me. It's all up to me.



**Isla:**

When I write down my beliefs and experiences, it helps me think about things more easily and helps me make different decisions and choices. I like being able to see how Jesus said these things too.

Taj:

I think my experiences and beliefs have changed me. My sister is everything to me. I've helped her since she was five and found out she had Down's Syndrome. If people hurt her, I try to help her.

Having a sister with Down's Syndrome has made me more aware of other people and wanting to help them. I think that maybe, when I grow up, I'd like to help people with disabilities like Down's Syndrome, autism and stuff.

Libby:

I can see how my conscience is formed from the information I have around me. This helps me make good or bad choices by thinking about what may happen.

NF has changed the way I see things. Sometimes I do get jealous of the way other people can have things easier, but I've learned how to help other people with things like anger management, because I know how it is.

Quote of the day:

Teacher: What is your 'take-away' from this week's learning in Religion?

Student: Well, I don't think we've actually done any 'take-away' in Religion. I know it's the opposite of addition though!

(A big thank you to Mrs Southern for writing this week's newsletter update)

FATHER'S DAY

Last week a Skoolbag message was sent out to all families with information about our Father's Day celebrations. Unfortunately this year we are unable to gather as a school community to celebrate this special day, but that doesn't mean we can't do something special for our loved ones.

Attached to the message was a Google Form for Dad's (or their children) to submit their favourite *Dad Joke* so we can compile a '**St Finbar's Dad Joke Book**'. The jokes are due in by Wednesday 2nd September.

As part of our school celebration, on **Friday 4th September**, we are asking the students to come dressed as their dad/grandpa/uncle or a male figure they admire! So get out the pressed shirts, pants and ties, the fluoro vests and overalls, jeans and checkered shirt or dad's favourite sporting gear - we are going to have a playground full of father figures!

We will post photos and videos on our Facebook page to share with all our families too!



STAYING IN THE LOOP

Every day we ask our children at school pickup time or at the dinner table, 'What did you do/learn at school today?' and more often than not the reply is 'Nothing'. However, we all know that is NOT true!



With parents currently not able to be on site and a part of the many activities the children are participating in, we are trying our very best to keep you in the loop through the social media platform, Facebook. Photos and videos are posted almost daily showcasing the learning from our students and events being held.

To stay updated 1. **Like** our page 2. Click **Follow** 3. Set the default to **See First**, so our updated posts will always be at the top of your news feed. Alternatively turn on **Post Notifications**.

Like, comment or share our posts. We are so proud of the amazing work our students do.

Strength, love and peace,

Leanne Brown
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

School Fees

School Fee account statements have been sent to families via post.

Please note there is no due date for Term 3 statement as CEDP is aware of the financial strain that COVID-19 is having on some families and its impact on their capacity to pay school fees. They have asked families to pay 'what they can when they can'.

If you have any queries regarding your account or your payment arrangements, please contact Mrs Denham on 02 4724 3600 or email finb-glbfees@parra.catholic.edu.au

If you are already on a payment arrangement or are awaiting the outcome of a concession application, then this statement is for information purposes only.





Dates To Remember

Thursday 3 September
Father's Day Stall



Friday 4 September
Come dressed as your
Dad!
(Details sent on Skoolbag)



Friday 11 September
PBS4L Reward Day
Mufti Day
(wear your favourite
jersey too)



[View School Calendar](#)

Uniform

As the weather starts to warm up, children and families may be wondering when summer dresses and shorts can start to be worn again.

Our rule, for transitioning between Summer and Winter Uniform, is.... "Mother's Day and Father's Day. What does this mean?"

It means that after Father's Day children can start to transition into Summer uniform, if they wish, with the expectation that all children are in full Summer Uniform for the commencement of Term 4.

It means that after Mother's Day, in the Autumn months, all children should now be in their full Winter uniform.

Skoolbag App

We have had some parents express concern that they are not receiving notifications via the Skoolbag App. We will be putting out a hard copy troubleshooting guide very soon. Following this, if you are still experiencing issues, please either contact Skoolbag direct via phone: 1300 661 031 or Email: support@skoolbag.com.au

We are also happy to assist with any queries you may have.



PBS4L

This year, we set a school goal for the learners of St Finbar's to strive for 4000 PBS4L tokens. I am very happy to announce that our school goal for this year has already been achieved!

To recognise this outstanding effort, we will be having a school muffin day, movie and popcorn afternoon on Friday 11 September. This day also coincides with Jersey Day. We would like as many students as possible to wear their favourite jersey on this day, to show their support for the DONATE LIFE network.

We have now revised our 2020 PBS4L Goal and set a new goal for our learners this year. 5500 tokens! If we are able to achieve this amount by the end of Week 8 of Term 4, the school will provide all students with access to a fun filled day of inflatable water slides.

Keep being safe, respectful learners and make sure you continue to be good role models for others, so we can strive for our new goal of 5500 tokens.

Our Current PBS4L Focus

Stop - Breathe - Think

At St Finbar's we are Safe, Respectful Learners.
We practise **Stop**, **Breathe**, **Think** and Make a **Good Choice**



Sometimes I need to Stop, Breathe in and out slowly, Think about what to do and Make a Good Choice.



I will feel proud of my good choices.

Assembly Awards

Being Safe | Juliette Lynch, Ellie Taylor, Adele Taylor, Jack Kay, Rhea Sharma, James Borg, Aiya McLoughlin, Brigid Hassett

Be A Learner | Abigail Stanford, Jude Alderton, Makenna O'Callaghan, Cooper Kay, Christian Simpson, Angus Smith, Edward Walker, Ruby Shouha, Josh Shouha, Kian Loughman, Angus Dawson, Zoe McKenzie, Joshua Simone, William Thomas, Oliver Prince-Cutts, Lucas Fisher, Theo Maunder, Jessy Burgess, Quentin Lynch, Kai Evans, Liam McFadden, Bruce Boyall, Stella Wilson

Being Respectful | Sam Ambrosoli, Finnian McCann, George Cunningham, Hailey Crameri, Tyler De Vincentis, Zoe Taylor, Marley Boyall

Living Our Faith in Daily Life | Isaac Scott, Phoenix Eggins, Zane Alderton, Elias McCaffery, Elyse Crameri, Isla Buggy, Alexander Nilsson, Marley Boyall



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.



Covid-19 Guidelines for Church

WEARING OF FACE MASKS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED IN CHURCHES

∨ *The Parramatta Diocese is therefore officially recommending that all worshippers in the Diocese of Parramatta wear a mask to Mass. This would be as people arrive on parish grounds, during Mass and afterwards as they leave. During Communion, the mask may be removed, but it should be in place at all other times.*

∨ *Priests, cantors and readers who cannot wear a mask to conduct their duties at Mass, must always observe appropriate social distancing.*

∨ *We understand the inconvenience that masks may pose, but the health of our parishioners and the wider community is our highest concern.*

- By Public Health Order, it is now a condition of entry that all attending churches are requested to provide information for contact tracing and recording purposes.
- Parishioners attending Mass must now also be asked to confirm that they are not unwell; not experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms; do not have a temperature; have not been in contact with anyone suspected of or having covid-19.

If anyone thinks their answer is 'yes' to any of these questions, they are asked not to come to the church that day.

- **Our Church capacity is limited to 100 persons; our hall 50; meeting room to 12; and the parish office, to just 2 persons.**
- NSW Health also remind those of us over 70, or any with an underlying illness, wherever possible, we should avoid crowded spaces - where 1.5 metre physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- The Diocese has also sent a reminder that:
 1. the current dispensation from Bishop Vincent applies – releasing all Catholics from fulfilling their Sunday obligations of attending Mass; and
 2. details pertaining to pre-recorded and/or live-streaming online Masses can be found on the Diocesan website - <https://www.parracatholic.org/covid19>