



From The Principal

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Last weekend I took advantage of the beautiful weather and went to the beach. It was a bit too cold to swim, but walking along the water's edge was very peaceful and relaxing. As we walked, we came across the remains of a sandcastle that someone had built. It had once been huge, by the looks of it, but now it was just a large mound of sand, its features unrecognisable. As we walked closer to the rocks there was another sandcastle, and this one was still intact. On closer inspection, this castle

had actually been built with the rock bed as the base, so even though the sea water swirled around it, it remained upright and all its features were able to be seen. Every building needs a solid foundation to start with, even before any bricks are laid. Without foundations dug deep into the ground, a building is likely to collapse at the first sign of a strong wind or storm. Jesus once explained to his Disciples that anyone who listens to Him and acts as he instructs will be like the person who dug a deep foundation for his house, deep into the rock bed. And when the storm came, bringing flood waters, the house was unshaken. However, if we do not act as Jesus wants us to, we are like the person who built their house without a strong foundation. When the storm came, and the flood waters rose, the house washed away. At St. Finbar's everything we do is designed to lay solid foundations for our students, both spiritually and academically. We teach our students that if they follow Jesus' words then their actions will follow suit. In the parable, the storms of life came and the house built on the sand fell. The house built on the rock stood firm. We believe that if our students have a good, strong foundation they will be able to act in ways that show their beliefs. I saw a great example of this last week when we farewelled Father Jolly. Our students were asked to write their thoughts and prayers for Father Jolly on a star shaped card. Many students wrote about his actions, how they made an impact and how he made them feel. The Gospel reading we used was about being the salt of the earth and a light in the darkness. Father Jolly has consistently been a light in the darkness for our students. He has taught them to shine in so many ways, by following the words and actions of Jesus.

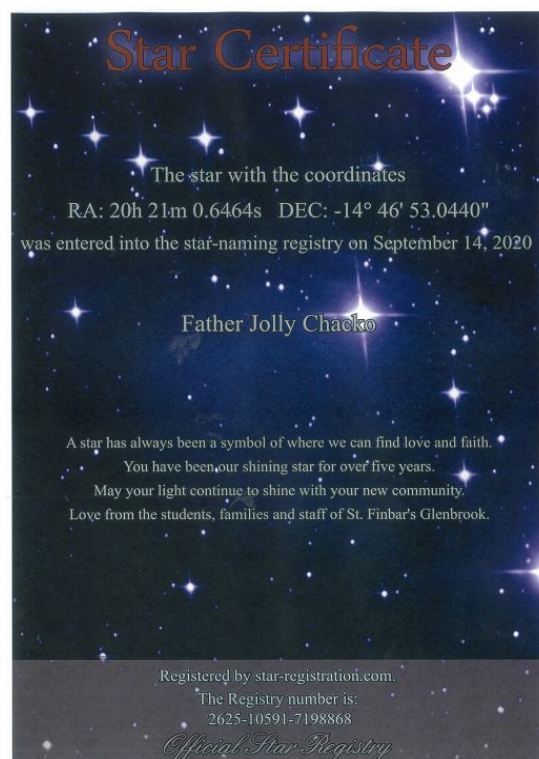


As a farewell gift, we gave Father Jolly a star visible in the southern sky, named after him. We made sure we bought an extra bright one! His certificate of ownership had the following inscription:



"A star has always been a symbol of where we can find love and faith. You have been our shining star for over five years. May your light continue to shine with your new community. Love from the students, families and staff of St Finbar's Glenbrook."

We wish Father Jolly all the very best as he embarks on an exciting new adventure at Stanhope Gardens.



## Prayers for Mr Geerligs

I ask you to keep Mr Mark Geerligs in your prayers. Mark was principal at St Finbar's from 1996 to 2003. He has been diagnosed with a form of blood cancer and is currently in Nepean hospital undergoing chemotherapy.

**May Mark be wrapped up in God's love. Found deep in his everlasting wings. Carried and kept, safe and cherished. May the healing power of Christ breathe across his being now. Amen.**

## Father's Day Celebrations

Father's day was celebrated a little differently this year. It was fantastic to see our students dressed up as dads, grandfathers, uncles, step-dads, father figures and big brothers. I'd like to thank Laura Buggy and Michelle Kay for organising our Father's Day stall, and managing to make it covid friendly! I'm sure all our dads and grandads had a wonderful day and were thrilled with the purchases our students were able to make. Thank you also to Mrs Brown for arranging the photo booth and the "Dad Jokes" E-book.

May Christ's peace be with you,

Mrs Robyn Clarke  
Principal







## Teachers as Learners

Name	Date	Professional Learning
Robyn Clarke Liz Denham	7/9/2020	Budget Preparation Course
Robyn Clarke Donna Beukers Liz Denham	10/9/2020	ESD: Self Service Portal Webinar
Robyn Clarke	15/9/2020	System Leaders Day
Robyn Clarke	16/9/2020	Principal Leadership Development Framework - Trinity, Kemp's Creek



Today saw the commencement of a very important initiative at St Finbar's. The Learning with Diversity Project Team met for the first time today.

This team, made up of volunteers from the staff, external experts and chaired by Ms Alison Maunder, has been commissioned by the School Leadership Team to review the current social, emotional and learning frameworks in place to support learners with significant needs, as to ensure that St Finbar's Glenbrook can equip these students with the skills, knowledge and understandings to be active participants as they progress through their

schooling years.

I would like to thank the staff, who have joined this important team, for their time, diligence, professionalism, shared knowledge and commitment to improving our school.

Chair: Alison Maunder | Co-Chair: Alicia Borg

Project Team Staff Members: Jo Shean, Jonathan Tucker, Terese Collins, Veronica Lee, Rebecca Southern, Kim Waldron, Michelle Robinson, Louise Corby, Georgia Hutchins, Leanne Brown, Denise Cupitt

The Learning with Diversity Project Team will meet each week between weeks 8 of Term 3 and Week 4 of Term 4, to formulate recommendations for the School Leadership Team that will maximise student learning for learners with significant needs.

The project team, in developing its recommendations, will:

- Review current staffing structures that are used to support students with significant needs and make recommendations about future staffing and support structures.
- Review programs that are currently in place to support students with significant needs and make



recommendations about future programming.

- Identify quality-teaching practices, underpinned by research, that supports students with Down syndrome, ASD (including PDA), Anxiety, and ADHD.
- Create a school environment for staff and students that emphasises the importance of diversity and underpins the Gospel values - John 10:10 I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

I know that you will join me in thanking them for the work ahead and pray that the Holy Spirit will be with them on this journey.

In addition, I have been working on my own learning journey that investigates new ways that we can challenge and support our learners who need extension with their problem solving, critical and creative thinking, abstract, verbal and numerical reasoning, cross disciplinary thinking and critical analysis.

Starting next term, selected students across Years 3-6 will be invited to participate in challenging learning tasks, supported by the CSIRO, to develop these skills.

I look forward to being able to provide you updates next term.

Finally, a reminder that Monday, 12 October, has been designated a Staff Professional Learning Day. This day will be a welcome opportunity for our staff to explore and understand the uses of robotics in Science, Mathematics and Literacy. We will also be exploring the pedagogy behind STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and engaging in hands-on STEM activities that will benefit our students in their learning.

We are looking forward to this day of intense professional learning, and thank you for making alternate arrangements for your children on this day.

Let your light shine

Ben Ticehurst  
Assistant Principal



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DRAFT NEW CURRICULUM - STAGE TWO UPDATE

'Moral dilemma' - two words that are circulating the Stage Two classroom, as students prepare to perform a shadow puppet scenario to their teachers and peers.

After lots of discussion about free will, conscience and informed conscience, reading of Scriptures and a range of higher order thinking activities, Stage Two are bringing together all their new learning and are currently working on their Learning Cycle Assessment Task.



In small groups, students have been challenged to create a moral dilemma scenario showing the role of an informed conscience. Students need to make reference to Sacred Scripture, Catholic values and traditions, the Golden Rule and how these help to form our conscience.

Last week, students participated in a 'critical friends process' whereby the groups presented their ideas so far to their peers, who gave constructive feedback to the groups. Students used the feedback to continue developing their puppet plays to include all the criteria required.

It has been a wonderful experience to see all our students so engaged in their learning, and transferring their new knowledge to other parts of the curriculum as well.

Next term all stages will be implementing a learning cycle from the new RE Draft Curriculum and I look forward to sharing their learnings with you.



## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

We keep in our prayers the children who have been preparing with their families to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. They will be celebrating this Sacrament for the first time on Sunday 13th and Sunday 20th September at 6pm.

**MITCHELL CREMONA † ELLIE TAYLOR † AVA LORKING † AMELIE BOHAN  
FLYNN ALDERTON † ZANE ALDERTON † JUDE ALDERTON † LEIA AGAHARI**

*May the Holy Spirit dwell in your heart and keep you strong, faithful,  
and joyful in your lifelong walk with the Lord †*

Strength, love and peace,

Leanne Brown

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

## School Fees

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-glbrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:finb-glbrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au)



## Dates To Remember

<p><b>Friday 11 September</b> PBS4L Reward Day Jersey Day Movie Day</p> 	<p><b>Monday 14 September</b> Whole School Assembly <a href="#">YouTube Live</a></p> 	<p><b>Thursday 24 September</b> Iceblock Money Due <b>\$5</b></p> 
<p><b>Friday 25 September</b> St Finbar's Feast Day Celebrations Sausage Sizzle Lunch Motiv8 Sports activities</p>  <p><b>Last Day of Term Three</b></p>	<p><b>Monday 12 October</b> Staff Development Day No Students at School</p> 	<p><b>Tuesday 13 October</b> All Students return for Term Four</p> 
<p><a href="#">View School Calendar</a></p>		

## Uniform and Lost Property

**Uniform** | 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. The weather is getting warmer, please ensure your child has a water bottle and a hat each day. No Hat = No Play and if any child does not have a hat they will be asked to sit in the shade a break times.

**Hats** | The office is unable to loan hats to students at present due to Covid-19.

**Lost Property** | This is an ongoing issue across all grades. Teachers and SLSO staff are constantly on the lookout for students jackets, jumpers, hats, drink bottles and lunch boxes. As you can imagine, it becomes time consuming. Please check all items and make sure they are clearly labelled. Remind your children





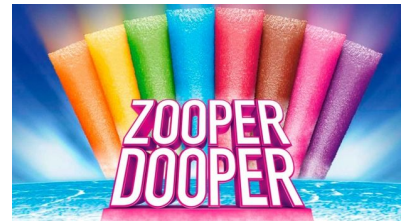
each day about putting their belongings into their bag, pick up anything they may put on the ground during break times and generally be responsible for their items.

We have a Lost Property tub that is now on the verandah outside the office. Staff will bring up any items that are not labelled and put them into this tub. You are welcome to come and have a look through.

## Iceblocks for Term Four

The P & F are pleased to announce Ice blocks will be returning to Friday's in term four!

Such a nice treat with the warm weather returning. They will be 'Zoooper Doopers' as this was voted as preference by the St Finbars community.



We will ensure that COVID safe processes are carried out to ensure the safety of our staff and children.

If you would like your child to receive an ice block on Fridays, please ensure \$5 is put in an envelope or zip lock bag clearly marked with your child's name and class on it. Correct money would be great.

This money must be in by **THURSDAY 24 September**. The lists need to be finalised by the end of Term Three, no money can be accepted during Term Four.

Thank You for your support

The St Finbars P & F

## PBS4L - Possum Magic - A New Level of Support



Schools are responsible for teaching academics and social behaviour skills. We teach all students our academic curriculum to address stage level outcomes. We teach all students to be safe, respectful, responsible learners in the classroom, walkways, playground and all other settings. We know that by having clear universal expectations that we can teach, practice and recognise every day helps create a predictable and positive learning environment.

However, some students do not respond to our quality universal academic and behavioural instruction. Students who need additional support may display behaviours externally or of equal concern, are students who internalise the stress of school and home. The goal is to provide support to these students to meet their needs, to keep them in class learning and to avoid escalation to more intensive services.



We are changing the way we think about student behaviour. Behaviour is not good or bad, rather repeated problem behaviour serves a purpose for the student. Problem behaviour pays off for the student by getting what is wanted or avoiding what is uncomfortable, difficult or even boring. Misbehaviour is also a form of communication that is generally very effective in getting needs met. Misbehaving works so students do it again. Our job is to make a professional judgment (hypothesize) about what purpose or function the behaviour is serving the student and then decide what we can do to get that need met in a safe, respectful, responsible way.

Our new level of support, Possum Magic, will be trialled next term by our newly trained staff. After a process of review and evaluation, we look forward to launching Possum Magic with all members of our community next year.

## National Child Protection Week: Putting Children First

We all play a part in keeping children and young people safe and ensuring they can live and learn in a safe environment. This National Child Protection Week (6 to 12 September 2020), we pledge commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people and remaining vigilant to their safety and wellbeing.

In support of the National Child Protection Week theme, "Putting Children First", and in line with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) is committed to the establishment and implementation of child safe systems, policies and procedures.

The aim is to have in place practices that are proactive and preventative in nature, providing children and young people with school environments where they are safe, informed, participate, and where the adult community, working together with children and young people, work towards making this happen.

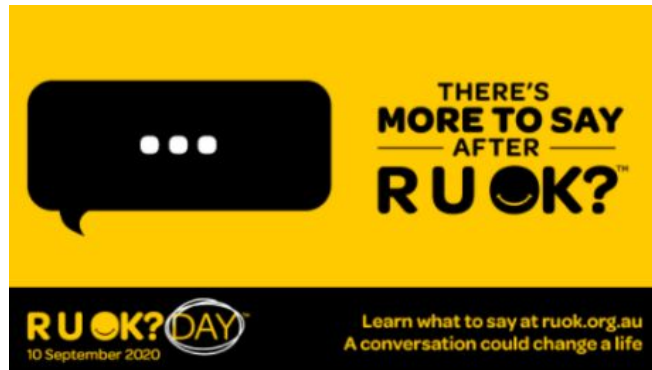
Recently, CEDP have moved from what was primarily Child Protection to Safeguarding, which requires us to do things differently, enabling a greater level of proactivity, children's voice and building all-round knowledge for what is safe behaviour when working with students and children. The CEDP Safeguarding team's role is to support the implementation of the Standards, to manage concerns raised about employees, Working With Children Checks (WWCC), and to provide training, education and support to the CEDP community.

By providing the community with the knowledge, support and procedures to keep children and young people safe we are equipping everyone with the tools and skills needed to be ambassadors of child safety! Throughout 2020, CEDP's Safeguarding Team have been working on many projects to align with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards.

Check out [www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Building-Child-Safe-Communities](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Building-Child-Safe-Communities) - after all, what's more important than the knowledge to help keep children and young people safe!



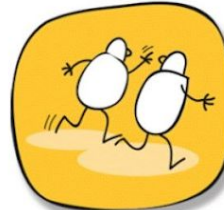
## R U OK?



**1. Ask**



**2. Listen**



**3. Encourage  
action**



**4. Check in**

## Year 6 Fundraiser

### Year 6 Fundraising Day - Thursday 15th October (Term 4, Week 1)

It is a tradition for our Year 6 graduating class to donate a gift to the St Finbar's community.

Past Year 6 classes have held fundraisers such as the Movie Night to help raise money for the gift.

This year, Year 6 are planning to build a native garden and calm space for students to visit with their teachers, as our gift to the school.

We know that this is a big task but are aiming to work together to achieve this.

### How can you help us?

There are a number of ways that families can help us to prepare:

- ★ Support our YEAR 6 FUNDRAISING DAY on Thursday 15th October (Term 4, Week 1)
  - Purchase a Hot Dog Meal for \$5 (includes hot dog, drink & treat)
  - Wear MUFTI and offer a gold coin donation



- ★ Do you know a local business that might be willing to offer donations or materials to help our project?
- ★ Do you have gardening skills and some time to offer next term to help us build our garden?  
(Please forward any suggestions to the school by email: [stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stfinbars@parra.catholic.edu.au) )

## Thank you for Supporting our fundraising efforts!

Please fill in the Hot Dog [form](#) and return to school **by Tuesday 22nd September** (Term 3, Week 10).

All orders must be in an envelope or preferably a brown paper bag, clearly labelled with each child's name & class.

Correct money would be great if possible.

*Year 6 Fundraising Day*  
**HOT DOG MEAL DEAL  
& MUFTI DAY**

**Thursday  
October 15th**  
TERM 4, WEEK 1



\$5 - includes hot dog, drink & treat  
Please return your note and payment by Tuesday  
Week 10

**GOLD COIN DONATION for Mufti Day on Thurs 15 Oct**

## Social Media

### 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.





## 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>