

## Quilpie Centenary Celebrations

### St Finbarr's Parish School Float

In the coming months in preparation for the Quilpie Centenary celebrations, St Finbarr's will be creating a float showcasing our school and its history.

If you have any memorabilia of the school or something reflecting the spirit of the school we would love to display it on our float.

Some ideas are:

- ◆ School uniforms
- ◆ Photos (we can copy these)
- ◆ Wooden desks, slates, etc

The float will include a display of these items

**Please help us to make the St Finbarr's float the best we can!**



### QUILT RAFFLE

This beautiful quilt has been kindly donated to the Parish by Sue McWaters for us to raffle.



Tickets will be \$5 each and there will be a limit of 100 tickets. Tickets will be available from Sr. Margaret/St Finbarr's school.

The quilt will be on display in St Finbarr's church during the Centenary week. The Raffle will be drawn at the Cocktails and Canapes night.

Thank you to Sue for this stunning quilt.

## St Finbarr's Student Protection

### Contacts

Genny McNair ~ Prue Bodkin

We often focus on our fabulous Mums and thank them for the amazing food they serve each Monday. But we have been forgetting our all important Dads!

We often get fathers helping out in the tuckshop, so a big thanks to our wonderful dads who are ready to pick up a dishcloth or flip some pancakes for the children!

### EPIPEN RECALL

The Department of Health Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has advised that there has been a recall of EpiPen® 300µg with 4 specific batch numbers and expiry dates of April 2017. These devices may fail to activate or require increased force to activate, which may be life threatening in an emergency event.

For information on the batch numbers, refer to the TGA product recall information site <https://www.tga.gov.au/alert/epipen-300-microgram-adrenaline-injection-syringe-auto-injector>

### Quilpie and District Carnival Dates

Cross Country – Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> April

Athletics – Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> July

Swimming – Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> November

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### After School Craft Activities



After School Craft Activities for 2017 have commenced. Craft Activities are for school aged children.

Join us every Monday afternoon from 3.30pm—4.30pm at the Quilpie Shire Library.

Come along and have a great time.

For further information please contact Michelle Donohue (07) 4656 0500

### \*\* SNACK ATTACK \*\*



Michelle will be providing fruit for snack attack in her role as the Council Health Promotions Officer. Fruit will be provided to all students in the school at 10 am each Monday throughout Term 1.



## St Finbarr's Parish School

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### Newsletter Checklist

- ◆ Tuckshop Envelope
- ◆ Statements

### Important dates

- ◆ 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> March Teachers attending Angela Ehmer Literacy workshop
- ◆ 17<sup>th</sup> March Quilting workshop with Jan Phillips
- ◆ 26<sup>th</sup> March Mass
- ◆ 30<sup>th</sup> March 2.30pm.
- ◆ 31<sup>st</sup> March Pupil Free Day
- ◆ 18<sup>th</sup> April First day of Term 2
- ◆ 24<sup>th</sup> April Q&D Cross Country
- ◆ 25<sup>th</sup> April ANZAC Day Holiday
- ◆ 28<sup>th</sup> April Quilpie Shire Centenary Holiday
- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> May Labour Day Holiday
- ◆ 5<sup>th</sup> May Mothers Day High Tea

Dear Parents and Friends

Welcome to the final newsletter for Term 1. The weeks certainly have flown by as a result of such a busy term. Schools have become very busy places with more and more demands being placed on teachers and school staff. The focus that everyone has had on our core business of student learning has been remarkable and for this I thank you.

Last Wednesday and Thursday, Miss Long and Mrs Moran had the opportunity to work with Angela Ehmer and the staff of St Mary's in Charleville and I was able to join them on Thursday. Angela is a very vibrant and enthusiastic teacher of children and teacher of teachers. We have already implemented many of the strategies she recommends very successfully in our literacy blocks, particularly in the area of reading, over the past four years. Our teachers have identified some areas within the structure of our reading time that can be further improved. We will also be having discussions about our spelling program and further enhancing writing across all year levels. Angela promotes the links between reading, spelling, writing and oral language. They cannot be taught in isolation of each other, something we have reinforced, in our programming.

Paul Murphy enjoyed his visit to our school on Thursday and said 'it was a great opportunity to see the school in action.' He commented on 'the friendly welcome from all students and staff', 'the high motivation in the classrooms for reading.' He said the students 'were so keen to read and share with me that I knew that this had come from the high priority placed on reading in the school.' He also noticed that all children were 'actively engaged in lunch time activities' and commented that 'the school is organised and disciplined.' It is great to hear feedback like this from someone who visits and has worked in a large number of schools. However there are always improvements we can make, as students, staff, and parents in our school community to continue to strive for excellence.

Congratulations to Millie for her selection in the Charleville and District soccer team. They will be competing in Chinchilla on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Finn will be travelling to Brisbane later this week to compete at the State swimming at the Chandler Pool. Finn is very excited and is looking forward to the meet. We wish him all the best when he swims in the 50m freestyle.

All students were involved in a sewing workshop conducted by Jan Phillips last Friday. This activity was organised by the ladies of the Quilpie Cultural Society sewing group. The students certainly enjoyed the activity. Sewing is a skill that many of our children may not see or be aware of and is certainly a dying craft in the mass production of today. Thank you to Jan McConnell, Sue McWaters and all of the ladies for making this possible, for donating fabrics and time to make the activity very successful. It was also a great opportunity for our students to engage with members of our community, and Jan was delighted with the enthusiasm and engagement of our students.

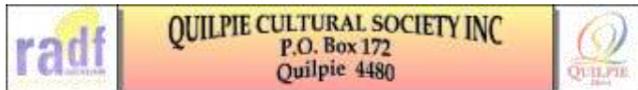
Another exciting development beginning next term is the opportunity to participate in live streaming to the USQ. Rod Fogarty from the USQ is in the process of organising University Lecturers to take classes in the areas of science, HASS (History and Geography) ICT and design technology, and music. The finer details are yet to be organised with the frequency of these lessons, but I have given Rod our scope and sequence plans for the remainder of the year and he is happy to work in with our curriculum requirements. There will also be opportunities for staff PD in areas of data analysis, high yield strategies in student achievement. The possibilities are endless. Rod installed the video conferencing equipment last week with Francis our IT officer.

We have much to celebrate and much to look forward to. Enjoy the holidays coming soon.

Warm regards

Genny

*'When we seek to discover the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves.'* William Arthur Ward



### Expression of Interest

May 27th & 28th

Wood workshop to build a ladder shelf with Roger Volz

For further information please contact

Sam Welk 0434373377

*This workshop is a TRA (Tackling Regional Adversity) funded workshop.*

*Workshop fees are a donation*



### In the Prep Room...

Our two recent letters in the Prep Room were "C" and "N". The last two making days have also lived up to the Preppies expectations with them creating "Colourful Caterpillars" and as a special treat for working so hard, they went down to the staff room and made "Nice Noodles".

In Maths the Preps have been practising writing their numbers 1-10. This week they have been focusing on the number 9 and writing it using the rhyme "A loop and a line makes a nine". They have been counting the number of pictures in a box and then writing that number at the bottom of the box. They have then been colouring in the pictures. There are some very colourful workbooks being produced from the Prep Room!



### Feast of St Joseph and St Patrick Assembly

On Monday the school attended the Feast of St Joseph and St Patrick Assembly in the Mary Mackillop Room. This day is held in honour of St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who brought Christianity to Ireland and St Joseph, husband of Mary. He protected Mary and Jesus and kept them safe. We heard about their stories, the origin of the Celtic Cross. We were reminded of Mary Mackillop's choosing St Joseph's day 1866 to begin the Sisters of St. Joseph. The children were invited to choose a picture from St Patrick, St Joseph, Celtic Crosses and Mary Mackillop. They then spoke about the picture they had chosen and why they thought it was important.

As 20 March has been designated International Day of Happiness, Mrs McNair spoke on happiness, reminding us of St Mary Mackillop's words, "find happiness in making others happy".

Tuesday was Living in Harmony Day. We have many reminders this week of the importance of working at building and developing happy relationships in family and school communities.



### 3- 6 News

As we are nearing the end of term, the students are busy finishing off assessment pieces and the units of work that they have been studying. I look forward to reflecting back on such a great first term.

Students are nearing the end of 'persuasion' in English. They completed two assessment pieces this term. One was a persuasive letter to the Council on an issue in the community that they found the *urgent* need for, and the second piece was an advertisement poster, to try and convince readers to buy their product.

Students have thoroughly enjoyed history this term. The unit, The Australian Colonies, will continue next term as well. We start Geography in Semester two. Students had to research a person from the Colonial life and write a story based on what their life would have been like. They have had fun making up names and pretending they lived in Colonial Australia.

In Religion we have just celebrated the Feasts of St. Joseph and St. Patrick. It was also Happiness day on Monday and Harmony day on Tuesday. This ties in nicely with "God's relationship with people and communities" unit. Over the next week, students will be developing an action plan in response to St. Mary Mackillop's saying 'Never see a need without doing something about it'.

Last week, Mrs. Moran and I went to Charleville for professional development in Literacy. Angela Ehmer, who is a Literacy coach, allowed us to observe her teaching Literacy with students and then reflecting upon those sessions. This gave us the opportunity to explore new ways of teaching students the fundamental skills of reading and writing. We have now come back with many new ideas to implement in the classroom.

As we start to think about next term, I would like to advise everyone that there will be some changes to the way we learn, stemming from our professional development. This will include homework and how we read. These will be positive changes to enhance student performance. A note about these changes will go out next term.

As I am away from Tuesday (next week) at a meeting in Toowoomba I will not be returning until after the holidays. I hope everyone has a relaxing holiday, enjoy the Easter break and I look forward to seeing you next term.

*Miss Lang*



### Quilting Workshop

We would like to give a big Thank You to Jan Phillips and the women of the Quilpie Cultural Society for giving their time and donating materials to give our students a quilting workshop. In three groups last Friday, our students travelled to the Cultural Society where they met with some of the quilting ladies of the Cultural Society and given a lesson on applique. Each student cut out and arranged their chosen animal on their panel. They were then helped to the iron to transfer the cut out onto the panel. Finally they were shown how to sew around the animal. The children all had a wonderful time and proudly showed off their finished panel at the end of the lesson. We were also able to see some of the beautiful pieces the ladies were working on which were absolutely amazing.

*If anyone would like a bag (or googly eyes) made with the applique piece, please see Miss Janell.*



### Letter from Mitch & Christie about their Mystery Holiday.

Dear Chris, REX, Escape Travel, St Finbarr's & the P&F,

I am writing to thank you for giving Mitch and I the opportunity to go on such a fantastic holiday to Las Vegas. This was a once in a lifetime event and we would not have been able to do it without your help. The highlights of our trip were experiencing the "strip", old Vegas and the Grand Canyon. The mystery holiday is such a great idea for our community as a lot of families out here would never get this sort of an opportunity if it wasn't for your help.

Once again thank you very much we had an absolute blast!!

Mitch & Christie *Thanks Mitch & Christie. We are glad you had a fabulous time!*

*Mitch and Christie at the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas*



### Students of the Week

Congratulations to our Students of the Week for Week 7. These students were Matt from the 3-6 class for ignoring distractions and focusing hard on his work and Elroy from the P-2 class for giving 100%. Well done! There were no students of the week for week 8.



### Walk With Jesus

On Thursday 30 March at 2.30pm, join us as we reflect on the events in the life of Jesus leading to Easter.

This will be a time of prayer and reflection as we tell again the events of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

All students will be involved in the presentation of this Prayer Service.

