TUCKSHOP ROSTER
We have put together the tuckshop roster for the year. We have endeavoured to take everyone into consideration with work rosters, holidays, sporting events and having babies!
Please have a look at the dates allocated and let the office know if they do not suit. Everyone has been included on the roster and two dates have been allocated to each family. There are also two spare dates so if you would like to volunteer for a third date, please let the office know.
For new families, we have tried to pair you with an experienced Mum so you can learn the ropes but if anyone has any concerns, suggestions or questions, please contact Genny or Sarah at the office.

TUCKSHOP Meal Ideas and Hints
Tuckshop serves morning tea at 11am and lunch at 1pm. Morning tea consists of fruit served as you wish and some form of healthy option snack. Some ideas: Pikolets, scones, crackers with cheese/tomato/Vegemite, cupcakes, muffins, slice, toasted sandwiches or biscuits. All items are to be home made using healthy low fat and sugar options.
Lunch consists of a main meal item such as:
Mini pizzas, wraps or tacos, baked dinner, home made mini sausage rolls or pies, spaghetti bolognese, burgers, baked spud or whatever your kids like especially.
After main meal is served, a dessert option such as an icy pole, milkshake, ice cream, frozen yoghurt, home made dessert or jelly is served.
Again, please choose healthy low fat, low sugar options.
Families have the option to donate as little or as much as they like on tuckshop days. Any items you wish to purchase with tuckshop money can be done so on the day with cash from the tuckshop box.
There is NO booking up at shops for tuckshop.
New families will be given an induction on their first day so please don’t worry about not knowing what to do. We look forward to a great year of yummy things.

Dear Parents and Friends
Welcome to the 2015 school year. We have been very fortunate not to have any staff changes this year. I look forward to working with our wonderful teachers and staff on further developing quality teaching and learning practices in our school and building programs and routines that will be sustainable and ensure continuity in future years.
We welcome some new families including Jeremy and Sarah with Ardie (yr 1) and Billy and Charlie (Prep). We also welcome Darren and Yo with Zoe (Prep). Other new students include Jonah, Elroy and Lachlan all in Prep. Please make all of our new families and students welcome as is the tradition with our school. We have now broken the 30 Student barrier with enrolments currently at 31!
After much discussion we have decided not to heat children’s lunches this year. The option of heating children’s lunches in the tuckshop was considered but the teacher on duty must fully monitor children whilst eating. The other option was the staff microwave but this is difficult with staff heating their own lunches. The heating of one child’s lunch is not a problem but this often leads to many lunches and is becoming a problem as our school is getting larger. If your child wishes to have a hot lunch please bring it to school at the beginning of lunch break. Otherwise thermos flasks are very useful for packing hot soups, stews, spaghetti etc. Please also send a plastic spoon or fork with your child’s lunch if they require one.
Our Sunsmart Policy specifies a No Play rule if a child does not have their hat. There will be no spare hats issued this year. Children who forget or lose their hat will not be allowed to play. Many children leave their hats at school, in their desks in the afternoon, so they have a hat the next day. This year we are expecting our children to take more responsibility with their organisation and monitoring of their belongings. Your help in these matters will be greatly appreciated.
Towards the end of Term 2 last year we began planning a whole school camp to Brisbane in 2015. Due to the overwhelming support for this camp it is definitely going ahead. I understand that circumstances may have changed for some families and we now have new families since the original survey went out so I ask all families to complete the expression of interest form included in this newsletter and return by the end of next week so final numbers and parent helpers can be finalised.
For 6 weeks from the 6th February, students in year 3 to 6 will be participating in the Deadly Choices Program. This program informs young people about staying strong and healthy, maintaining healthy lifestyles and making positive lifestyle choices. Topics will include: Leadership, chronic disease, smoking, nutrition, physical activity, health, and harmful substances. The program will be run by Troy Williams in conjunction with CWAATSI.CH.
Thank you to everyone who has helped with maintaining the school and Parish grounds over the holidays including Ben, Kerri, Liz Pauksen, Janell and the Garden Crew. The school and grounds are looking fabulous. We are very fortunate to have helpers such as these in our community. Other maintenance has been carried out by Kev Phillips over the holidays in preparation for the school year.
I look forward to catching up with you all throughout the week.

Genny
“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.” Mahatma Gandhi

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Newsletter check list
• Low risk permission form
• Swim Permission form
• To and from School Permission form
• Tuckshop Roster
• Horizons Magazine from end of 2014
• Term 1 Planner
• Tuckshop envelope
• Camp Info and form

Important dates
• Fri 30th Jan—Badge Giving Ceremony 11.30 @ Assembly
• Fri 6th Feb—District Swimming Carnival—Charleville
• 18th Feb—Legends of League at QSC 9am
• 18th Feb—Ash Wednesday @10.30am
• 19th Feb—Parent Info Night
• 22nd Feb—Beginning of School Year Mass @ St Finbar’s Church @ 6pm
• 2nd April—Last Day of Term

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Book Club
The first Book Club Catalogues are out already. Book Club is a great way to build you home library and reward your children for good reading. There are always some great specials across all reading levels.
Purchases can be made to Scholastic over the phone with a credit card and then order forms brought to school with the reference number. Otherwise you can bring your order in with cheques made payable to Scholastic Australia or with cash.
Our first orders will be due in to the office by 13th February.
All purchases go towards helping us buy more books for our school!!
Welcome to another year at St Finbarr’s. A special welcome to new families and students.

This year it is 65 years since the first Sisters of St Joseph “hopped off the train” as we sing in our school song. It is a milestone to recall as we think of Sisters, families, staff and students who have passed through the gates since 1950.

Our first gathering will be this Friday 30 January at 11.30am for our Assembly to ask God’s blessing on our year and present badges to our school leaders and new students. A reminder to all to wear their school badges. If you have lost your badge, you can purchase a new one from the office for $5.

St Finbarr’s received a lovely “thank you” from Quilpie Shire Council for our Christmas Crib displayed in the window of Karen Hall’s Hairdressing salon. Thank you Karen for so graciously lending your window. Thank you to Ursula, Anna, Millie and Catherine who set up the display and to Janell who had the arduous task of packing it away. It was our contribution to fostering the Christmas Spirit in Quilpie.

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on 18 February. There will be a service for the blessing and distribution of Ashes at 10.30am in St Finbarr’s Church. Please join us as we begin the season of Lent in preparation for Easter.

Fr Peter Doohan will celebrate Mass to begin our year on Sunday 22 February at 6pm. This will be a Mass involving all students and their families.

Students and Teachers and Staff have great expectations for our year together. This year is the International Year of Light and this theme will be pursued for its spiritual riches as well as for its extraordinary place in our world.

This year, I am looking forward to working with Kara as she begins her role as Assistant to the Principal, Religious Education (APRE)

God Bless

St Marg

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Dear Parents

In the lead up to next weekend’s state election, the Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QCEC) and Queensland Parent and Friends Association have received responses from the major and minor political parties to issues that were tabled in support of Catholic Education. I encourage you to read the summary of the two major parties responses, along with the responses from the minor political parties that are provided below. The full responses from each party can be found on the QCEC website at www.qcec.catholic.edu.au.

APRE News

Welcome to 2015! I hope everyone has had a fantastic holiday and are ready for a brand new year. We would like to welcome Marcus Paulson, Ryan Proc- tor, Waylon Talbot and Joseph Khalifa to our class. We are very excited to have you all in the big classroom and we have started the year with a great vibe.

Students in 3–6 have been settling into a new year and we have been looking closely at expectations within the classroom. Our Classroom Rules have merged from rules to expectations and students were given a chance to add to this. Each student was asked to write something on a sticky note that they feel is an expectation I have of them. These were all placed up on the board and from these we chose the ones that are most important to me and to the students.

We have also introduced a Chill Zone to the classroom. Any students feeling stressed or needing time out can get a chill card from the teacher and go to the chill zone to refocus.

Throughout the term, the 3–6 class will be introduced to many different concepts through Mathematics, English, History, Religion and Science. Our class will be exposed to many interactive and challenging activities which will provide students with the ability to grow as a learner. We are in for a busy, fun filled year.

Homework will start in week 2 and a note will go home about homework this week.

Until next time

Jess

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Welcome back to a fresh and sparkly new school year, from our Prep/1/2 classroom.

We have a whopping 19 students in our class this year and after day 1 the feel of the classroom is calm and enjoyable. Our year 2 students have already set the bar on how to behave in our class and I thank them for being such good role models, already, for our younger students.

Some reminders are as follows

Snack attack

Snack attack happens at 10 o’clock every day and is a small, yet healthy snack to break up the 2 hour literacy block in the morning session. Acceptable snacks are fruit, veg, yoghurt, cheese or nuts. Please ensure you provide this snack for your child in their lunchbox each day.

Swimming

Swimming will start this Friday. Please pack togs, towel, goggles, sunscreen, sun shirt and a swim cap. More information on transport to and from the school will be in the newsletter.

Homework

Homework will be sent home in week 2. Please read the introduction to homework letter which will be in your child’s homework book.

Homework folders are also asked to be sent to school each day, as we will be changing home readers and checking homework progress daily.

I am looking forward to a year full of success and celebrations. I am beyond excited for all the great things that lie ahead for us here at St Finbarr’s.

Until next time....

Miss Costello and Prep/1/2

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Jess

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Our Class Expectations

- Be respectful
- Be safe
- Use your manners
- Help one another
- Put your hand up to speak
- Do your best

We have now added

Remember your homework
Listen to others
Ask to go outside
Be nice to people

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Library News

Welcome to 2015 and another school year.

For the new families, my name is Joce- lyn Haylock and I am the Teacher Li- brarian. Ms Tina also works in the Li- brary as Library assistant.

I will be watching each Thursday in the library and this will be the day that we change our library books for the week.

All children are welcome to borrow books from the library.

I look forward to another busy and productive year in the library and hope to en- courage all students to borrow books and enjoy reading.

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Miss Taylor helped Waylon, Ryan and Marcus settle into the 3–6 Classroom as they made the big move up from the P—2 class. Miss Costello welcomed Ardie to Year 1 and the new Preppies Elroy, Charlie, Lachlan, Zoe and Billy to their Classroom. We also look for- ward to welcoming new Preppie, Jonah to the P—2 class when he is back from Brisbane.