St Finbarr’s Student Protection
Contacts are as follows.
Genny McNair – Kara Marsh

Mini Vinnies—Christmas Appeal
Please bring an unraptured toy/present suitable for a boy or
girl up to the age of 12 years to be included in the St Fin-
barr’s Christmas toy hamper on speech and awards night.
The Hamper will be taken to St Vincent De Paul in Charleville
where it is there distributed to families in need.

Lost & Found
These sunglasses were found out front of the school
this week by one of our students. If they
are yours, please see the St Finbarr’s front office.

School Lunch Tables for Sale
The school is selling a number of long tables, previously used for lunch
and morning tea. Dimensions are: 2400L x 900W x 700H. All tables are in
reasonable order. If you are interested, please contact St Finbarr’s School
on 07 4656 1412.

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on 07 4656 1412.

CPR—HLTAID01
Sunday 27th November 2016 at the Quilpie Swimming Pool
To register interest please call 0412 082 222
or email Carolyn Taylor at: taylorswim@iprimus.com.au

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Important dates
• 18th November Quilpie and District Swimming Carnival
• 24th November Speech and Awards Evening/shed opening 7.00 pm
• 27th November End of Year Mass
• 1st December Last day, Pool Party
• 7th December Bishop op Cameron Ven-
ualettes at St. Matthews 6.00 pm
• 23rd January First day Term 1 2017
• 26th January Aus-
stralia Day Public Holiday.

Quilpie & District Swimming Carnival
Friday 18th November
Our annual swimming carnival will be held this Friday. Stu-
dents should bring:
Swimwear (including swim shirt Compulsory)
Goggles • Towel • Water Bottle • Swim Bag • Footwear
• Team Colours
Food will be available for purchase on the day including:
Biscuits & Slice • Fruit Cups • Sausages in bread • Ham-
burgers

How would you like to help?
If you are able to help at our annual carnival, please contact
St Finbarr’s on 07 4656 1412

Library Teacher Aide and OHS staffing hours have been reallocated following an expression of interest
from current staff, with Belinda Hodge taking on the Library Teacher Aide position and Prue Bodkin the
OHS hours. Belinda will be taking on Library Studies as part of her training. We are also very pleased to
announce that Georgia Callacher has accepted a teaching position at St Mary’s in Charleville. To add to
this good news Jess Taylor and Cam have just announced their engagement!
Robyn Sharpe has just announced her resignation from the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office. Robyn
has been the Senior Executive Officer (SEO) for the far western schools for almost 9 years. During my time
as principal I have appreciated the support and friendship she has offered to me and all of our staff regard
Robyn in this way. With restructuring in the Toowoomba office, there has been a decrease in the number
of required SEO positions and Robyn has put up her hand to take on a new direction. She is looking for-
ward to the many options and possibilities that are on offer to her. We will miss her experience, her prac-
ticality, her wisdom and her friendship, and wish her every success and happiness her work, hobbies and
family will bring her in the future years.
On a final note report cards will be issued on Wednesday, 30th November with the final newsletter for
2016.
Warm regards

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.” – Win-
ston S. Churchill

St Finbarr’s Parish School
Jabiru Street, P.O. Box 34 Quilpie, QLD 4480
Phone: (07) 46561412—Fax: (07) 4656 1306
Email: Quilpie@twb.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mrs Genny McNair

Newsletter Checklist
• Tuckshop Envelope
Important dates
• 18th November Quilpie and District Swimming Carnival
• 24th November Speech and Awards Evening/shed opening 7.00 pm
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stralia Day Public Holiday.

Dear Parents and Friends
We have only a little over two weeks remaining in the 2016 school year, but there is still much to do.
This Friday St Finbarr’s will be hosting the annual Quilpie and District Swimming Carnival. The carnival will
begin at 9.00 am with children arriving by 8.40 am. Students who are swimming the 25 and 50 metre events
(7 years and up) are invited to swim a warm up lap before the carnival begins. If anyone is available before
work to help set up some tents we will be meeting at the pool at 8.00 am. Thank you to the parents who
have offered to help as time keepers on the day. The carnival should be ended by 1.30/2.00 pm. Time
trials will be held early in 2017 for those wishing to be selected for the District Carnival in Charleville. The
Regional Swimming Carnival which is generally held in Miles will also be held in Charleville next year.
The annual Speech and Awards Evening will be held on 24th November, this year at the later time of 7 pm
to allow the sun to set. As the first official use of the new shed, the shed will be officially opened and
blessed with a dedication being made to Fr Jeff Scully, long time Parish priest of St Finbarr’s and an avid
supporter of the school and community generally. By coincidence (or good management) the 24th Novem-
ber is the date of Fr Jeff’s Birthday so this will be a very special evening. As the formalities of the evening
are beginning at a later time we have decided to have a BBQ dinner at 6.00 pm for anyone who is interest-
ed. Students are to wear full school uniform for Awards night.
As mentioned previously, Margaret Hendriks will be a special guest at the awards evening, and is flying out
especially to be with us for her last visit to Quilpie as Director: School Improvement Services, Catholic
Schools Office, Toowoomba.

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.” – Win-
ston S. Churchill
**Parish/Community News**

This year marked 150 years since Mary Mackillop began the Sisters of St Joseph in Penola, South Australia. This year also marks 100 years of the Sisters in Queensland and 66 years of the Sisters’ presence in Quilpie.

As a School/Parish family, we will celebrate these milestones in our end of year Liturgy (Mass) on Sunday 27 November at 6.00pm. It will also be our opportunity to thank God for the blessings and achievements of our year.

All families are warmly invited to participate in the Mass. I invite anyone who would also like to participate as a Reader to let me know, and I would be very happy to send you a copy of the reading to practise.

It has been a long standing practice at St Finbarr’s for each family to bring a gift for a child at Christmas. This year we will be linking with the St Vincent de Paul Society to distribute gifts. Gifts (unwrapped) can be brought along to school or brought along on the Awards night. During the Nativity story, the gifts will be carried in after the Wise Men deliver their symbolic gifts.

Remembrance Day 2016

St. Finbarr’s commemorated Remembrance Day with a display in the Library. Haikus and Aerostic Poems reflected the meaning of the day. Some of our Remembrance Day books were on display.

Students took part in the Community Service, presenting a reading and laying a wreath and a Poppy to remember Ricky Mijosevic.

**Farewell from the Library**

Hello Everyone,

I would like to say that I have had a wonderful journey at St Finbarr’s. I remember being quite daunted in the first few months as there were many books to catalogue and cover and I often took a long time to find a book or resource that the staff or student required. I have enjoyed working with the students immensely. They bring much enthusiasm when asked to contribute to a display whether they create something crafty, write a poem, colour in, bring along a stuffed toy and even a birds nest!

I would also like to say how lucky we are to have a supportive P&F who have given to our library when asked. They annually support our purchase of Children’s Book Council of Australia shortlisted books and, this year, the home readers. This benefits our collection and enhances the children’s reading variety. Thank you P&F!! A massive thank you to the parents who have helped me at one time or another to cover the resources, especially Ange Bosney who is known in my borrowing system as “Being Covered”. There have been numerous books being covered by Ange.

I am looking forward to my new adventure at St Francis, Clifton. I know I will miss St. Finbarr’s staff and students very much. Children, keep on reading as reading brings knowledge.

Best wishes from Miss Tina

**Memories of St Finbarr’s—Toby Catherine & Thane**

We took the three students aside to discuss with them their time at St Finbarr’s and what they enjoyed the most.

Catherine told Sr. Marg she has fond memories of Pancake Days, School trips to Canberra, Inamninka, Brisbane and Toowoomba. She also really enjoyed the school fetes especially the flash mob dance and Ghost House. She said she will miss all her friends and all of her teachers.

Toby commented on how he really liked it here at St Finbarr’s and has made a lot of great friends. He enjoys going out on the weekends on his motorbike and the freedom that you can have in Quilpie. He said he liked seeing the new shed go up and it will be great to use it for Speech and Awards night. Toby said he will try to stay in touch and let us know how he is going in his new school.

Thane said he enjoyed playing handball, playing on the playground and bulrush. He said Mrs Marsh and Mrs Haylock were fun teachers and he enjoyed being in their class. Thane said he will miss yabbying and fishing in Quilpie. He has fond memories of playing computer games on Friday, having fun playing sport with Miss Taylor and going to the Library.

All three students are well loved members of our school and we will miss them greatly. We wish them all the very best for 2017 and look forward to hearing about their new schools.

**St. Finbarr’s Parish School**

**3-6 News**

Hello Everyone!

I can’t believe that this is my last newsletter report for 2016! Where has the year gone? The students have been very busy finishing up assessment pieces, preparing for the end of year dance for Awards Night and preparing for the end of year Mass.

This Friday is the swimming carnival and I wish all the students the best of luck as they swim to the best of their abilities and, most importantly, have fun. All students have tried really hard each Friday at swimming lessons with Caroline and have improved out of sight. Go Sommerfeld!

Once everything is over I can’t wait to look back and reflect on the year. It has been huge. The students have come such a long way and I am so very proud of them. So until next year……

Miss Long and the 3-6 Class

**Fire Safety**

Last week the P-2 class attended the Fire Safety Seminar held by our local Firefighters. The students listened with interest to Captain Volz as he talked about checking smoke detectors and how to get out of a fire. He demonstrated how to roll yourself if you caught on fire to put it out. After the discussion about fire safety, the students went outside to see the Fire Truck and how all the gadgets work. Grant showed what sort of clothing and breathing apparatus firefighters have to wear and the reasons why. The children were able to get up close and touch and hold some of the important equipment on the Fire Truck.

This is a wonderful interactive Seminar from which the students get a lot of important information. I am sure plenty of parents got quizzed about their smoke detectors that afternoon. I know I was! A great way to know this very important message that has got through to the children and been taken very seriously.