

Christmas Mass

St. Finbarr's Church

Friday 23 December

6.00pm

All Welcome



Happy Christmas to all!

St Francis de Sales School Centenary

Dates: Saturday 18th and Sunday the 19th March, 2017

Events: Saturday evening from 7:00 pm – Celebrating a Centenary Dinner at F.E. Logan Hall Clifton.

Sunday 9:00 am Mass, followed by celebrations at the school. A Barbeque lunch, display of memorabilia, entertainment and games will be part of the day. Souvenir items will be on sale.

Updates on Face Book : St Francis de Sales School Centenary 2017 or contact:

Lisa: Ph 0407254078

email: lisamlucas@bigpond.com

Pat: ph: 0410415067

email: patricia.tickner@bigpond.com

Outstanding Fees

There are a number of school fees still outstanding. For those of you who have already fixed up your account we thank you. If you have not, we would appreciate if you could finalise your school fee account by the end of the year.

St Finbarr's Student Protection

Contacts are as follows.

Genny McNair ~ Kara Marsh

Term Dates for 2017

Term 1: 23 January—31 March

Term 2: 18 April—23 June

Term 3: 5 July—15 September

Term 4: 3 October—30 November

Toompine Christmas Tree

Come along to Toompine this Saturday night 3rd December and join in the festivities.

The night will commence at around 6.00pm with Christmas Mass and Carols followed by a buffet dinner.

Santa will also be there with Christmas gifts for all the children.

Bring the family, a plate of food to put on the buffet and have a wonderful night!



First Day of Term 1 in 2017 is

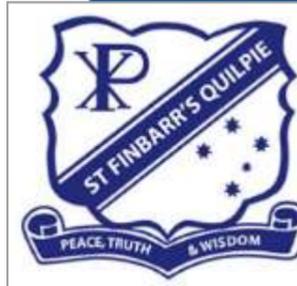
Monday 23 January

End of Year School Party

Thursday 1st December will be our end of year school party. We will be heading to the pool around 11.00am until 1.00pm.

For those who wish to take students home early, they can be picked up from the pool at 1.00pm. Students may make their own way home from the pool provided that permission has been given to the school. Otherwise pickup will be at 3.00pm from the school as usual.

Lunch will be provided, so please only send snack attack and morning tea.



St Finbarr's Parish School

Jabiru Street, P.O. Box 34 Quilpie, QLD, 4480

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Principal: Mrs Genny McNair

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Issue: 20

Date: 30th November

Newsletter Checklist

◆ Tuckshop Envelope

◆ Report Cards

Important dates

◆ 1st December Last day. Pool Party

◆ 7th December Bishop Cameron Venables at St. Matthews 6.00pm

◆ 23rd December Christmas Mass at St Finbarr's Church. 6.00pm.

◆ 23rd January First day Term 1 2017

◆ 26th January Australia Day Public Holiday.

Dear Parents and Friends

Welcome to the final newsletter for 2016. What a wonderful year it has been and this can only be attributed to the wonderful school community that we are working with.

Thankfully the temperature was much milder this year for the **Quilpie and District Swimming Carnival**. I am always grateful to the many parents who came together on the day to help with the setting up, running events and tidy up afterwards. I would like to especially thank Dani and Prue for their organisation during the weeks before the carnival, all of the **ladies** who came early to set up tents, and the staff members and parents who performed their jobs so well on the day. Congratulations to all of the students who swam so well, and to Pegler for winning the overall points Shield and Combined Schools for winning the Average points shield.

Judging by the numerous comments I have heard over the last week, the **Speech and Awards Evening** was very well received. Jeff's Shed was a great venue for the event as it was a warm and relaxed atmosphere and the acoustics were much better. Approximately 90 parents, grandparents and community members attended. The BBQ beforehand enabled all visitors and guests to meet and mingle with music provided by our instrumental music teacher Alex Sloan. Thank you to the P&F for their donation of the food and drinks for the nights and especially to Jean Hall for her organisation and preparation.

The student dances were excellent and very entertaining. They were certainly a tribute to the choreography of the teachers, Mrs Marsh and Miss Long, their persistence in encouraging the students and also the dedication of the students to practise and learn their parts. Thank you to our school officers for their assistance with the practice and props and to Sr Marg for her organisation of the Nativity Play.

One of the highlights for myself was having Margaret Hendriks and Robyn Sharpe in attendance. Both ladies have been very supportive of our school over many years and are leaving the Catholic Schools office. I think their eagerness to come to the furthestmost school from Toowoomba and make this one of their final school visits, sends out a strong message of the commitment the Catholic Schools Office has to all of our schools, not just those close to Toowoomba. At no time have I, as principal, ever felt isolated by the 930 km between us and the Office. Both Robyn and Margaret shared with us their appreciation and congratulations on the work going on in our school and the warm and supportive school community.

Congratulations to all of our award winners and all students for their achievements throughout the year and their speeches and performances on the evening.

Finally I want to give a warm hearted farewell to the students, staff and families who are leaving us this year. We wish Mrs Marsh and Miss Tina every success in their new positions at Mary Mackillop and St Francis de Sales. We wish Toby, Thane, Catherine, Ryan and Ella happiness as they settle into their new schools and bid their families farewell and thank them for the support they have given our school community over many years.

On behalf of everyone at St Finbarr's I wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and an enjoyable and safe Christmas Holidays.

Warm regards

Genny

'Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.' Mahatma Gandhi

Quilpie District Swimming Carnival

A successful carnival day was held on the 18th November with all students swimming enthusiastically for their teams.

Age Champions:

8 years Bella Challenor & Kaino Broughton

9 years Marcus Paulsen & Hallie Thompson

10 years Lewis Edwards, Finn Hall & Lexi McNall

11 years Thomas Murray & Catherine Edwards

12 years Angus Gilby & Katelyn Weigh

13 years Mackenzie Haylock & Savannah Heinemann

14 years Ben McKellar & Daniella Koutavas

15 years Levi Coutroufinis & Nicola Tully

War Cries 1 Sommerfield 2 Combined 3 Pegler 4 McManus

Average 1 Combined 14.36 2 Sommerfield 13.88 3 McManus 11.96 4 Pegler 11.08

Overall 1 Pegler 277 2 McManus 274 3 Sommerfield 250 4 Combined 158

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped out and supported our students.



Speech and Awards Night

Congratulations to our Speech and Award Evening Award winners.

Science & Maths Award—Paige Hunter & Ryan Proctor

Encouragement Award—Ardie Slaughter & Finn Hall

St Finbarr's Sporting Spirit and Excellence Award—Catherine Edwards

QGAP Encouragement Award—Samantha Bodkin

Ricky Milosevic Mateship Award—Marcus Paulsen

Mary Mackillop Achievement Award—Darcy Hunter

Congratulations to the School captains 2017

Finn Hall—McManus Captain

Millie McWaters—Pegler Captain

Marcus Paulsen—Sommerfield Captain

Cody Bowen—Mini Vinnies Leader

The evening was a wonderful night and a huge success in the new shed. We would also like to give a big thank you to the P&F Association for



P-2 News

Dear Students, Parents, Staff and Friends.

As I write my final newsletter piece for my school St Finbarr's I am filled with many mixed emotions.

Over the past weeks the dedication that was drawn from my class has been exceptional and inspirational. They have tirelessly persevered with dance lessons, nativity lessons and singing lessons. They have sat for long periods of time while we all made sure we got awards night practice "perfect". I applaud all of them for the performances they participated in at awards night! It was outstanding!!!

Congratulations to the award winners from our class Ardie Slaughter, Samantha Bodkin and Paige Hunter. All of your dedication and hard work towards your learning certainly paid off!

St Finbarr's has contributed immensely to the teacher and person I have become, over the past 5 years. I am truly blessed to have been granted the absolute pleasure to have been able to teach so many amazing young children. Each and every one of you have made a positive impact on my life, and I thank you all for that. To the admin staff I have worked with over the years Terri-Ann, Sarah, Dani and Prue thank you for your tireless hard work you do in the office, it does not go unnoticed. To Tina in the library you are a gem and so knowledgeable when it comes to finding any book I need in the library. To my teacher aides Janell, Jenny and Belinda you are angels and Melissa is so lucky to have you in the classroom with her next year! To my teaching partners Tom, Jess, Rochelle and Jocelyn thank you for making work that little bit more enjoyable! Last but not least Sr Marg and Genny – You are both the epitome of our school! The life, commitment and pure loyalty you have for our school is phenomenal. I wish you all the best and I know our school is going to always be in great hands of great leaders!

I must go now, I will miss you all. But remember this is not goodbye, this is just see you later.

Lots of blessings, hugs, kisses and Christmas wishes

One last time ... Mrs Marsh and the P/1/2 class