

## St Finbarr's Church – 40 years on...

This year, St. Finbarr's Church is 40 years old! (St. Finbarr's PARISH began in 1939 and has been in operation for 77 years!) The Parish Mass on **Sunday 23 October** will be an opportunity to remember those who began the Parish and those who have kept it going since then and those who keep it going today.

I am looking for anyone who was present at the opening of our current St. Finbarr's in November 1976. I would love to hear an account of the opening!! If anyone has photos or news clippings that they could share so that we can make copies for display, it would be much appreciated. Please get in touch with me on 0488 589 916.

Sr. Margaret Andersen

Sr. Margaret Andersen

## Mass this Sunday to celebrate 40 years!

We look forward to seeing you all on Sunday to celebrate the 40 yrs of St Finbarr's Church. The students will have a participation in the Liturgy.

Stay on for a few moments after for a cuppa and celebratory cake on the verandah.

## Have you ever heard a wombat sing?



**Thursday 20th October**

**6.00pm—Board member meeting**

**6.30pm P&F meeting—All Welcome**

## St Finbarr's Student Protection

Contacts are as follows.

Genny McNair ~ Kara Marsh

## IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM THE LIBRARY

- Thursday is book changing day at the Library. Remember to return books borrowed so your child will be allowed to borrow new books. Also, students must remember their library bags so that our books are kept protected.
- We still have books outstanding from the Library. Please make sure you check for any library books at home and return them.

## DAY FOR DANIEL—Keeping Kids Safe

St Finbarr's will be participating in the Day for Daniel on Friday 28th October. St Finbarr's students can come to school on 28th October dressed in red. Students will learn about the Daniel Morcombe Foundation with the help of resource packs provided.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation Inc. (DMF) is committed to Keeping Kids Safe. It was established by parents Bruce and Denise Morcombe in 2005 after their son Daniel was abducted and murdered in December 2003 while waiting to catch a bus on the Sunshine Coast. The Foundation was established as a lasting legacy to

Daniel and now has two main aims; to educate children on how to stay safe in a physical and online environment and to support young victims of crime.



## Thank you for supporting our BOOK FAIR!

Book Fair was a huge success yet again. We reached over \$1100 which gave us a huge commission for buying more books for our students and school. Book Fair yields \$10 per student as an average across Australia but our school has averaged \$35 per student. This is awesome! Thank you to all families and students who purchased books. HAPPY READING!!



## St Finbarr's Parish School

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Principal: Mrs Genny McNair

Volume: 6

Issue: 17

Date: 19th October

### Newsletter Checklist

- ◆ Tuckshop Envelope
- ◆ Council Challenge Cup Flyer
- ◆ School Fees

### Important dates

- ◆ 23rd October Mass to Celebrate 40 years of St Finbarr's Church
- ◆ 28th October Kieran Lander 9-11pm
- ◆ 28th October Day for Daniel—Wear Red.
- ◆ 29th October Council Challenge Cup
- ◆ 1st November Melbourne Cup holiday
- ◆ 2nd November Prayer to celebrate all Saints and All Souls at 10.30am
- ◆ Assembly for World Teachers Day 9am
- ◆ 11th November Remembrance Day
- ◆ 18th November Quilpie and District Swimming Carnival
- ◆ 24th November Speech and Awards Evening/shed opening
- ◆ 1st December Last day. Pool Party

Dear Parents and Friends

The **School Fete** may seem to some of us, in the distant past now but I am still being overwhelmed with positive comments and congratulations from members of the community. We are very fortunate to have committed and hard-working parents and staff who pull together to organise the night. We are also very grateful for the sponsorship that enables the Mystery Holiday Raffle to occur. All of these efforts would be futile however, if it weren't for the amazing support of all members of the school and wider community who purchased tickets and attended on the night. I am amazed by the attendance year after year and this year was particularly well supported.

### St Finbarr's Sends out a big thankyou to everyone!!

The new shed was well utilised during the fete and has been a wonderful addition to our school. The official opening and naming will be held at the end of year Speech and Award evening on 24<sup>th</sup> November. After seeking ideas from the Quilpie community, it has been decided to simply call the building the *Fr Jeff Scully Memorial Shed*. We all feel that Fr Jeff would appreciate the simplicity of this name.

The **Combined Schools Art Exhibition** was opened last Friday evening. It was well attended by parents, staff and community members. Students from all schools exhibited a very high standard of work, with a large number of the works completed during the RAWART workshops also being shown. The exhibition will be open until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November so please do take the time to view this great exhibition. Thank you to Megan and Jess who displayed the works so professionally.

On Tuesday morning Students attended the second Arts Council performance for this year. **Have You Ever Heard a Wombat Sing?** The two singer-song writers used a variety instruments and a range of music styles including hip-hop, rap and reggae to tell the story of their connection to their Indigenous heritage and the land, whilst passing on the message to students to have courage and confidence in themselves.

**Parent Teacher Interviews** are being held this week. If you have not yet made arrangements to meet with your class teachers, can you please do so in the coming days. Report cards will be issued during the last week of term but these are a brief summary of your child's achievement. Much more information can be provided in face to face discussions

**Teacher staffing** for 2017 has now been finalised. Rochelle Long will continue in the 3-6 class and Melissa Sherman will be taking up the position of P-2 classroom teacher. We interviewed a number of applicants for positions in St Mary's, Sacred Heart and here, and the standard of all applications was very high, with all applicants very keen to teach in the far west. Melissa graduated from the University of Southern Queensland in 2015 and has been teaching a Year 2 class at St Anthony's in Toowoomba. Melissa has been highly recommended by her fellow St Anthony's staff members and staff from the Catholic School's Office in Toowoomba. Melissa indicated that she taught a wide range of ability levels within her class this year and feels confident to take on a multi-age class of Prep to Year 2 students. Melissa and her partner, Brad, travelled to Quilpie during the September holidays, staying here for a few days. They are both keen to settle in Quilpie and call this their home.

I will be away for Principals' meeting for much of next week. We will also be attending the end of year thanksgiving dinner where we say good bye to those principals who are either retiring or moving to positions in other diocese. This year we will also be offering our best wishes to Margaret Hendriks who is also retiring. Margaret has been an assistant director in the Toowoomba office for 23 years and may be known to some of you from her previous visits. Margaret will be one of our guests at the Speech and Awards evening on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

Warm regards

*Genny*

"Character is doing what you don't want to do but know you should do."

— **Joyce Meyer**

## St Finbarr's Parish School and P&F Association

would like to thank everyone who contributed to make our 2016 School Fete so successful.

### To our Sponsors:

Camrandale Transport ~ Haulmark Trailers ~ Paulsens Foodstore Friendly Grocer ~ Regional Express ~ Imperial Hotel~ Gallery 27 ~ Lowes Petroleum ~ Ruthven Street Motor Inn

### For the Donation of Equipment:

Glen and Kerry Lansberg – Mini Golf

Cam & Gina McConnell – Cold Room

Alex & Kim Edwards – Cold Room

Quilpie Shire Council and Garden Crew

### To the Mystery Holiday Ticket Sellers:

Jean Hall—Deb Hall

Ellie Bonsey—Kerri Thompson

### To Our Volunteers

Kelli, Sierra & Belinda – Face Painting and Hair

Aaron & Pauli – Bar

Chris Paulsen – Mystery Holiday Organiser

Sally & Clint Challenor – Mini Golf

# THANK YOU!

*Congratulations!!*

to our Mystery Holiday winner Christie Edwards who has chosen the Las Vegas and San Francisco Holiday!

## Parish/Community News

Come and see!

The Church has undergone a tidy-up, repairs and renovation to celebrate the 40 years. Verandah railings and a set of new stairs have been added. The sign and cross on the front of the Church have been repainted as have been other timber areas. Thank you Kev Phillips and team.

## 2016 School Fete

This years St Finbarr's school fete was a resounding success with many describing it as the best yet. A huge crowd attended and stalls included trash and treasure, glow products and walking animal balloons, clothing, jewellery and Tupperware, cakes and biscuits and jams and chutneys. All the stalls were a success.

Other activities at our fete included Mini Golf (which we decided the grownups enjoyed just as much as the kids), Ball Pit (huge success and we were amazed the netting survived the constant pressure!), yabby races, bowling, soccer challenge and dancing.

The students surprised the crowd with a flash mob dance they had learnt throughout the week with some quite smooth moves!

The \$1 lucky draw prize table was wiped clean quite quickly and the children gathered around as Mrs McNair drew the main childrens raffle. Liam was the lucky winner of the BMX Bike.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our school fete and helped to make it such an enjoyable evening.



## Around the school

There is plenty going on around the school at the moment. It is amazing to see what was going on in the classrooms. In the P-2 Class they have been learning about graphs and charts. The students made a chart all together showing how many times they blinked in 2 minutes. Zoe had the lowest number of blinks with 0 and Paige had the highest with 26 blinks! They are also learning about our world and the different continents and countries.

In the 3-6 class there is a new program in play called Socrative. Teachers can set quizzes on anything in Socrative to test the students knowledge on a subject. As

the students complete the quiz on their iPads, their results are progressively recorded. Using Airplay, teachers can follow the progress of a student through the quiz.

Across the whole school students are learning about computer coding. The students have been setting up coding directions on their iPads with the 3-6 class using Blippiit and using coding instructions to instruct the computer to draw a pattern. The P-2 class have been using Daisy the Dinosaur and coding instructions. The students were very excited when they pressed play and watched Daisy walk around the screen doing just what they had coded.

Preppies have been hard at work practising their adding and taking away and dot to dot. They were very impressive when asked a few maths questions and were quick to work out adding 4 and 5 makes 9 and taking 5 away from 10 leaves 5.



## Annual Combined Schools Art Exhibition.

The students of St Finbarr's spent much of their art time during term 3 creating machines out of Balsa wood. We had tug boats, helicopters, Noahs Arks, trains, trucks (including cattle crates or earthmoving trays). We also had a raw art session where the children used clay to create self portraits and birds.

These clever creations are currently on display at the Quilpie Shire Gallery along with artworks from Quilpie State School, Eromanga State School and Mulga Mates.

The exhibition is open until Friday 11th November so be sure to call into the Gallery and see your child's artistic achievements.

Term 4 has started off swimmingly! The days and weeks have been flying past.

We are investigating descriptive writing. For the final assessment piece the students will be describing Quilpie. Mrs Haylock and I will be working hard to then turn their writing into a webpage. This will be a lot of fun.

We have been incorporating a lot more technology into the classroom with fun applications such as; Blippiit, Socrative and Daisy the Dinosaur. These applications have helped enhance students learning in ways never thought imaginable.

During maths, students have been working hard. I have seen many improvements in daily maths activities. We have moved into looking at number patterns. Next we will be looking at location and transformation.

Science is so much fun this term learning about electricity. Students have been eagerly engaged and willing to learn and share all their prior knowledge.

Until next time... Miss Long and the 3—6 Class