**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 23rd 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

**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 participation in the Liturgy.

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

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**St Finbarr’s Student Protection**

**Contacts are as follows.**

Genny McNair – Kara Marsh

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**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.

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**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.

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**Have you ever heard a wombat sing?**

Have you ever heard a wombat sing?

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**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!!

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**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

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**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

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**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 24th 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 11th 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 24th November.

Warm regards

Genny

*“Character is doing what you don’t want to do but know you should do.”* — Joyce Meyer
2016 School Fete

This year 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.

THANK YOU!

Congratulations!

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