Dear Parents,

Yesterday, Sunday 30th November, was the first Sunday of Advent, which signifies the waiting time to Christmas Day, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. During Advent we reflect on the past year, how we have interacted with and treated others and what we have done to assist others in need.

During Advent, we think about our world and ask that God stretches out His hands and blesses all families around the world. To be with them in their joys, comfort them in their sorrows, strengthen them in their trials and celebrate with them their triumphs. We pray that all people know the closeness of God’s presence and the depth of His love. Lord Jesus, we remember that you tell us that our treatment of each other is about our treatment of you. Help us to remember this message with all our mind and heart. Thank you for your presence in our lives as we prepare for your birth on Christmas Day.

On Thursday night at St Patrick’s College Gym a large number of enthusiastic Band and Strings students performed in their end of year concert following a year of lessons and practice in learning and mastering their musical instruments. It was great to listen to students perform to a large audience. All the students were fantastic. I congratulate them all. In particular I congratulate the following students, who have received awards:

- Excellence Award for Band: Amy Parsell
- Endeavour Award for Band: Charlton Allen
- Excellence Award for Orchestral Strings: Lucy Waud
- Endeavour Award for Orchestral Strings: Darcy Waud

As I said every child was fantastic and performed very well. I thank the parents who have listened and encouraged their children to practice and persist in learning to play their instrument. Thank you very much. Thank you to Carmen Aylott and Hayley Clayton who helped supervise our students on the night.
The ECE Athletics Carnival is this Tuesday commencing 9.30 am and concluding by 11.00 am. All parents are invited to attend. We are trialling this change to see if it assists in the smooth running of the program. Thank you to Sarah Reynier for all her hard work.

The Leadership team will interview over the next week to fill the outstanding vacant positions at SFB. As soon as I am able I will inform the school community of the successful applicants.

Orientation for 2015 classes is this Thursday from 9.30 - 11.00am. This is an exciting and nervous time for all students as some will be very happy and some less happy. The process of sorting classes has been extensive and the teachers have put much thought and energy into achieving the best possible grouping for all students. I thank them for their hard work. The 1.5 stream school structure for SFB means that sorting of classes for our teachers is far more complex and difficult than in other schools. In a one stream school the students just stay together. In a two stream school the students are sorted into two classes. However at SFB we have to mix the lower grade students and the upper grade students together to achieve three classes. This is not an easy task when you have the focus of achieving three even classes.

On Thursday the Gr 5 students will elect the leadership group for 2015. I would like to congratulate all those students who have nominated themselves for the ten leadership positions. It takes courage and confidence to do this. All these students will deliver their speeches this Thursday and I will inform the School Community of the new Student Leadership Team next week.

The P & F Dinner is this Thursday night at Three Steps On George. If you are able to attend it would be a great way to celebrate the many successes of the P & F this year.

Have a great week.

Anthony Healey,
Principal.

New Terms and Conditions of Enrolment

We are introducing new Terms and Conditions of enrolment which will take effect on 1 January 2015. It is our policy that these Terms And Conditions will apply to all current enrolments as well as to new enrolments. This is part of a rollout of consistent Terms and Conditions to all Tasmanian Catholic schools.

By continuing your child/children’s enrolment in 2015, you will be taken to have accepted the new Terms and Conditions. For a full copy of the new Terms and Conditions of enrolment, please enquire at the school office.

If you have any concerns about the Terms and Conditions, please contact the school office on 6326 3082 before 1

School Books 2015

Have you ordered your child’s school stationery for 2015. Remember to order by the 19th December or a late fee will apply to postage. If you are having trouble please call in and see the office staff.

School Magazine

The school magazine is available from the school office for $15 a copy. Limited copies!!
SWPBS - School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

We are a Community of

- Safe
- Respectful
- Resilient

Learners.

As our year comes to an end I would like to thank the SWPBS Team, Lynne Seaton, Annie Duffy, Debbie Lynch and Fiona Labuschagne for all their hard work.

SWPBS is very success at SFB where students are recognised and rewarded for their Good Decisions and Behaviours. This does not occur without support and recognition from many people including teachers and parents. In particular I would like to thank Annie Duffy and Debbie Lynch who have constantly stocked the Rewards Cabinet with great Rewards which motivate and encourage students. The number of students who are looking at the Rewards Cabinet is a testament of the great choice Annie and Debbie continually make.

REC News

Prayer
Loving God,
In these days of Advent,
keep us close to you.
Comfort us in our need and strengthen us in your love,
that we may reach out to one another,
In the Spirit of Jesus your Son.
Amen.

Student of the Week

Prep  Lauren McKenzie  For being a very helpful class member
Christmas Carols

When: Wednesday, 10th December 2014

Time: 6:30 p.m.

*Kinder to Grade Six Students to arrive and meet in classrooms at 6:10 p.m.

*Students to wear summer uniforms.

*All students are to be collected from classrooms at the end of the Concert.
To each and every one of our Parents, Grandparents and Friends who have in ANY WAY helped our community this year we send a huge thank you from each of us!

So many of our events and support in learning would not function without YOUR interest, commitment and support.

Please come along.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

From the Staff and Students at St Finn Barr’s 2014.
P & F News

Next Meeting
We will be having a dinner meeting THIS Thursday, 4th December 7pm for a 7.30 start at Three Steps on George. (31 Elizabeth St). Please RSVP by tomorrow to pandf.sfb@catholic.tas.edu.au

Ezy Covers
Ezy Covers are a great and easy way to cover books. For every cover sold the P & F gets 5 cents but if you put in the school code of ZFA186 the donation increases to 10 cents. The covers look great and are ridiculously easy, there is a great display of samples in the office. They are only available online. Please take note of the Ezy Cover flyer in this newsletter and at the office.

Your Back to School helper

OfficeMax Schools makes ordering your child’s Back to School supplies quick and easy. Simply log in and view your school’s booklist to have 2015 sorted in a matter of minutes.

Plus, we’re rewarding early orders with the chance to win 1 of 75 $100 Visa Gift Cards.

So jump online and order today at officemaxschools.com.au
Ez cover is a new faster & cheaper way to cover school exercise books. Made with some recycled content, our covers can be used over & over again.

Our cover sizes fit all Australian school exercise books. Covering all your school books will take about 5 minutes and we provide 12 free name/subject labels with every order. Postage is $3 for any-sized order, anywhere in Australia.

$1.20 All Sizes

★ Increase our donation to your school from 5c per cover to 10c per cover. First select your school from the dropdown box then enter this code: ZFA186 when ordering online

★ Cover all your child’s books this year with ez covers ...then use them again next year.

ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE
WWW.EZCOVER.NET.AU
Calendar

Term Dates 2015

TERM 1  
Thursday 05.02.15 to Thursday 02.04.15

TERM 2  
Tuesday 21.04.15 to Friday 03.07.15

TERM 3  
Monday 20.07.15 to Friday 25.09.15

TERM 4  
Monday 12.10.15 to Wednesday 16.12.15

To read this months Connections Magazine, click on the link below.

[Link to Connections Magazine]

Uniform Shop News

Regular Opening Hours  -  Thursday 8.30 am - 9.30 am & 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Additional Opening Hours 2014  -  Thursday 4th December, 8.30 am - 10 am & Tuesday 16th December, 8.30 am - 9.30 am & 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Opening Hours for the start of 2015 - Monday 2nd February, 10 am - 12 noon, Tuesday 3rd February, 1 pm - 3 pm & Thursday 5th February, 8.30 am - 9.30 am & 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Community News

An Urban Tale 3 @ the Door of Hope. 6/12/2014 - Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30 pm start. Tickets at the door, $12 Adults, $6 child (5-17), $28 family (2 adults, 2 children)
St Finn Barr’s Drama Group Presents....

Beauty and the Beast (GEEK)

A modern day take on the classic of Beauty and the Beast, this short performance is based around bullying, friendship and inner beauty.

Wednesday 3rd December

Prep – Grade 2 at 12pm  Grades 3 - 6 at 2pm

Parents and Friends of St Finn Barr’s: 5pm and 6pm shows!

FREE ENTRY AT ST FINN BARR’S HALL