St Finn Barr’s School

Principal’s Message

Dear Parents,

Many thanks to Jenny Flynn for her planning and organisation for our participation in the Launceston Christmas Parade. It was a tremendous success and the number of families who attended was great. Once again all our participants have achieved success with St Finn Barr’s being awarded two Awards, Best Theme Adherence and also Best School. This is an improvement on last year’s solo Award! However, I am unsure how Jenny will improve and win three awards next year!!

Again many thanks to all the students who participated and their parents who created such wonderful costumes.

The reading groups that have been so successful this year in improving students’ reading comprehension will continue next year. This initiative has been a great success. It has assisted students in further developing their understanding, skills and strategies in reading. The number of levels that students have improved across the course of the year has been impressive. Recognition must be given to the work done by all our teachers in running this program. Their expertise and commitment has resulted in the impressive progress of their students.

Our NAPLAN results this year were very impressive. Our Gr. 5 students in particular were impressive in their reading, writing and spelling. The graphs show St Finn Barr’s students against the Australian Mean Score. It shows that the achievement of St Finn Barr’s students is something that as a school community we can be proud of and confident in the quality of the education being given to our students. Our Gr. 5 students are above the Australian Mean Score in Reading and Writing. This means we are doing well. The general trend of academic achievement at St Finn Barr’s has been improving for a number of years which is testament to the quality of teaching that is occurring.
This Thursday is Orientation Day. Your child will meet their new teacher. Orientation is from 9.30 -11.00 am. It is important that you are positive about the children and teacher in your child’s 2017 class. The Class Teachers have placed your child in the class that in their professional opinion, they will thrive. If you are positive and talk up the positives your child will approach their new class with a positive attitude also.

I will be attending the Principals’ Statewide Meeting this Thursday and Friday.

On Thursday many of our Gr 5 students will give their speeches as part of their application for Leadership positions for 2017. The current leaders have done a great job and set a standard that is very high. The application letters from all students who have nominated themselves were all of a high standard and showed a great deal of thought and a desire to be leaders within our school. I congratulate them all and wish them the best for Thursday.

Congratulations to the following students who competed in the Schools’ Triathlon in Devonport on Thursday.

- Matthew Duffy
- Harrison Edwards
- Jasper French
- Lachlan French
- Kate Healer
- William Manshanden
- Cody Plummer
- Riley Sanders

They performed well and had a great time. Many thanks to Annie Duffy and her helpers in supporting our students on the day.

Have a great week.

Anthony Healey,
Principal.
**Newsletter**

**Prayer**
Loving God,
In these days of Advent,
awaken our hearts to love more like you.
Help us to be ready to celebrate
the birth of your Son Jesus.
In the Spirit of Jesus your Son.
Amen.

**REMINDER**
**St Vincent de Paul**

Please bring one item to donate to St Vincent de Paul.

This could be:

- ★ Festive food goodies to add to Christmas hampers
- ★ Non-perishable food items

All donations will be given to St Vincent de Paul and will be given out at Christmas time.

Thank you for your support.

**STUDENT AWARDS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student of the Week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Addison Allmark</td>
<td>For her care &amp; consideration of her peers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Tamiya Lockwood</td>
<td>For her positive attitude in Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Lydia Allen</td>
<td>For her excellent work in Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Elvine Arua</td>
<td>For her outstanding achievements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6</td>
<td>Madison Hodge</td>
<td>For her outstanding effort in her learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aussie of the Month</td>
<td>Kaiden Stacey-Baker</td>
<td>For his outstanding performance at both our School Athletics &amp; NIJSSA</td>
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**UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

**Uniform Shop additional opening hours** for Kindergarten 2017 Families.
- Tuesday 29th November, 2pm - 3:15pm
- Wednesday 30th November, 2pm - 3:15pm
All Parents, pop this date in your diary for 2017.

**Thursday Feb 16th 7:00pm.**

Discovery Centre

Parent Session on MYTERN
*(Taking Emotional Responsibility Now)*.

MYTERN teaches you that it is your response to *life’s* challenges that dictates your emotions, and that you can learn to take control of that response.

When: Wednesday, 7th December 2016

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.

Where: St Finn Barr’s Church

See you there!
THANKSGIVING AND GRADUATION MASS

When: Monday, 12th December 2016
Time: 7:00 p.m.
The Church will open at 6:30 p.m.
Grade 6 students to arrive at 6:45 p.m. and meet on the top court.
Grade 6 students to wear summer uniforms.
Kinder to Grade 5 students are to sit with their parents and may wear casual clothes.
Where: St Finn Barr’s Church

Come along and celebrate our year.
Please collect your child’s report after Mass.
CHRISTMAS PARADE

Many thanks to all of our families and friends and staff who came along and participated and supported the Parade. We won two awards, the Best School, and the Best Theme Adherence. A very special thank you to the Townsend family for all their support and the use of their ute and trailer. Thanks to Anthony Hielscher for driving the truck and Marty Flynn for the use of his truck. Also, a warm thanks to the Van Asch family for the donation of straw and their time.

A great effort by everyone!

SCHOOL BOOKLISTS 2017

BACK TO SCHOOL - 2017

Booklists have been sent home with codes for online purchasing. All families will need to purchase books online. If your child did not bring their 2017 booklist home please contact your child’s Class Teacher.

Free delivery for Back to School early birds.

School Books ordered on or before 11th December will be delivered free of charge, saving $9.95

Order today at officemaxschools.com.au

SCHOOL BANKING

Next week will be the last week for school banking in 2016. A special thanks to Dianne Bower for her time and effort during the year.

Thank you also to those who supported the School banking.

If you would like your child to participate in our School banking Programme in 2017 please follow the link below and register your interest.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

As a part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support, we will be having two movie sessions, where students can cash in their Good Decision Tickets before the end of the year.

On Thursday 1st December, Finding Dory (G) will be screened for Kinder to Grade 2 students from 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

On Thursday 8th December, KUBO and the Two Strings (PG) will be screened for Grades 3 – 6 students from 1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

*If you do not give permission for your child to view either Finding Dory or KUBO and the Two Strings, please contact your child’s teacher.*

We are a Community of
SAFE, RESPECTFUL and RESILIENT
Learners
SUNDAY DEC 4TH
PARENTS AND FRIENDS
END OF YEAR FAMILY FUN
DAY CAR RALLY AND
BARBECUE

The Car Rally

To end the year with some family fun we thought we would try a car rally (followed by the end of year barbecue at the school). What will the car rally involve? Each family who wants to have a go will need:

- a car (one per family)
- a team uniform/theme (be creative)
- a camera that can take photos and videos (eg a phone)
- bottles of water (in case you get thirsty)

You will need to be at school in the back carpark by 10.45am ready for an 11am start. You will be given a booklet that will lead you on your journey. Along the way you will need to answer questions, take photos, find some objects, even take part in a few challenges and have a lot of fun. The aim of the car rally is to score as many points as possible – it’s not a ‘race’ so have fun but please be safe. There will be lots of great prizes given out on the day from some amazing sponsors!! You should finish just in time for the barbecue!

RSVP

Please cut out and return to the office before November 31st

The _______________ family would like to.....

- come to car rally and barbecue
- just come to car rally
- just come to barbecue

(please tick only one option)

or email

pandf.sfb@catholic.tas.edu.au

*There are RSVP forms available at the office
A big THANKS to the local businesses that have supported our school for our ‘Family Fun Day’
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE FAREWELL

Anthony Healey

Principal of St Finn Barr’s Catholic School

For an afternoon tea

Monday, December 5th
3.15pm onwards
St Finn Barr’s School Hall

RSVP 6326 3082 or
Email STFINNBARRS@CATHOLIC.TAS.EDU.AU
by 30th November
Help Wanted

Is there anyone who would be able to help by collecting the bread that is donated to school each Monday?

Please contact the school office if you are able to assist with this.

Thank you
DATES FOR 2017

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<tr>
<td>Students start</td>
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<td>Students finish</td>
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<td>Term 1</td>
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<td>Thursday 9th February</td>
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<td>Thursday 13th April</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
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<td>Monday 1st May</td>
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<td>Friday 7th July</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
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<td>Monday 24th July</td>
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<td>Friday 29th September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
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<td>Monday 16th October</td>
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<td>Thursday 21st December</td>
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REMINDERS

✦ Please return all Raffle Books by this Friday. The Raffle will be drawn on Sunday at the P & F Family Fun Day.

✦ Have you ordered your child’s school books for 2017 ?? Please order online.

✦ Have you returned your Payment Arrangements Form for 2017 to the school office?

✦ The Library is closed for stocktaking. It would be appreciated if all outstanding books could be returned. Thank you!

✦ All Fee accounts should be finalised by 30th November. If you are unable to finalise your account please contact the school office. Thank you.

GR 1/2 DRAMA PERFORMANCES

The 1/2 classes of St Finn Barr’s invite you to their performances of......

What?! No Santa?

MONDAY 5th DECEMBER in St Finn Barr’s Hall

1/2 V/M : 10.30am
1/2 B: 12pm
1/2 P: 2pm

Approximate Running Time: 25-30 mins