Dear Parents/Carers

Congratulations to the St Finnie’s Drummers who performed brilliantly on Saturday night at the Relay for Life. Their commitment, enthusiasm and talent was a great symbol for the local community and for all St Finbarr’s students to aspire to. My sincere thanks and congratulations to Miss (Fernando) Slattery for hearing the call of the drums and answering with such conviction.

Thank you to the many parents who took part in the celebration of St Finbarr’s Day on Friday. The children created a very meaningful and celebratory occasion through prayer, reflection and the Performing Arts. Thanks also to Su, Jo and their many helpers and bakers for a beautiful morning tea.

Teacher Professional Learning
A very engaging discussion was had at the recent School Forum meeting regarding the balance between effective professional development activities and a teachers’ consistent presence in their classroom.

We have had an unusual beginning to the year in a few classrooms with the class teacher absent on a number of occasions. Teachers themselves often feel frustrated about being absent from their class, particularly at a time of the year when their focus is on establishing strong routines and positive personal learning habits for their students. The teachers and I equally empathise with parents’ concerns about any disruption to class routine.

Most of the professional development activities that our teachers have undertaken have been beyond our control; these are expectations from a Catholic Schools Office level or through the National Partnership program we are undertaking. Ultimately all such professional learning will have a very positive impact on our children’s learning and our teachers are working hard to maintain consistency in classrooms.

We are extremely fortunate to have a very loyal and professional group of replacement teachers and wherever possible we maintain the same replacement teacher on a particular class.

Finally, our year has begun very strongly in each of the three Professional Learning Teams. The teachers in each team meet for 40 minutes one morning per week. Ultimately this process will become the most powerful professional learning activity for our teachers with the shared ownership of student learning growth and effective teaching methods (pedagogy).

Friday’s Pupil Free Day is a Forum with Ms Kylie Lipscombe from Wollongong University aimed at increasing our effectiveness in each of the Professional Learning Teams. In particular we will explore the use of formative assessment to improve learning outcomes for each child.

Have a wonderful week.

Regards

John Wilson
Principal
PDHPE and SPORT
Our School Cross Country will take place on Friday 3rd May (Week 1 Term 2). Over the past several weeks we have had the valuable services of Caroline Bailey (Running Coach) who has been working with most classes on endurance and running skills. Caroline has also started preparations for our Cross Country Carnival in seeking volunteers from our parent community to help on the day and organising a trial run of the course. If you would like to assist Caroline at the carnival you can contact her at: carolinejbailey@rocketmail.com.

Over the next few weeks the children will be learning some bush dances in preparation for the Bush Dance. The news of two weeks of dancing was met with mixed enthusiasm by our stage 3 boys!!!! Sally Preston who supports our swim program is running a mini swim squad each Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7.30am – 8.15am. Sally is taking bookings for Term 4. If you would like to join Sally’s squad you can call her on: Phone 0423222918. All ages are welcome.

Live Life Well at School:

Lunchboxes are as easy as 1, 2, 3 plus water.

One, pack a sandwich, wrap, roll or leftover.

Sandwiches can be boring – liven it up with different types of breads, rolls and wraps which can be stored in the freezer. Vary the fillings with cold meat, cheese, egg, lettuce, grated carrot, coleslaw, or other salads. Or pack leftovers like fried rice or pasta salad.

Two, put in a vegetable or fruit snack.

Fresh or canned, whole or pieces, carrot, snow peas, strawberries, apple, it doesn’t matter. Produce in season is cheaper and at its peak. Use small plastic containers for strawberries, apple, it doesn’t matter. Produce in season is cheaper and at its peak. Use small plastic containers for cut up fruit or salad.

Three, add a couple of healthy snacks.

Variety and interest can be created with snacks like popcorn, low fat fruit yoghurt, a cheese slice and plain biscuits, or go all out with a small sushi or banana bread.

Your child will be bringing home a “Great Lunchbox” fridge magnet today. It’s a reminder to aim to fuel your child with the Good Stuff!

The theme is:

Lunchboxes are as easy as 1, 2, 3 plus water.

One, pack a sandwich, wrap, roll or leftover.

Sandwiches can be boring – liven it up with different types of breads, rolls and wraps which can be stored in the freezer. Vary the fillings with cold meat, cheese, egg, lettuce, grated carrot, coleslaw, or other salads. Or pack leftovers like fried rice or pasta salad.

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Kerry Wills
Sport & PDHPE Coordinator

St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste St Finbarr’s send a warm welcome to two new students, Elliott McGaughran in Stage 3S and Celeste

Student Awards
Congratulations to the following St Finbarr’s students whose achievements will be recognised at assembly next week (Stage 2 Monday 25 March, Stage 1 and K Tuesday 26 March, Stage 3 Wednesday 27 March) at 9:00am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Learning Award</th>
<th>Value Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder W</td>
<td>Amelia Wilson</td>
<td>Bryce Rando</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 1 I</td>
<td>Sophia Gill</td>
<td>Hayden Rogers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 1M</td>
<td>Josie Crethar</td>
<td>Lola O’Meara</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 1B</td>
<td>Lavender Phillips</td>
<td>Isabella Walner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 2O</td>
<td>Finnian</td>
<td>Wolf-McCullough</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 2H</td>
<td>Finley Parker</td>
<td>Camille Neighbour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 2W</td>
<td>Emily Reaney</td>
<td>Alana Rojo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3M</td>
<td>Charlie Eady</td>
<td>Ruby DeNardi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3C</td>
<td>Sahara Boxall</td>
<td>Isabella Nowell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3S</td>
<td>Julia Brophy</td>
<td>Jodan Jantschulev</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finnies</td>
<td>Isaac Nash</td>
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<td>Finnest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Morgan</td>
<td>Lilia Piper</td>
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<td>Mackillop</td>
<td>Wolfard-Smith</td>
<td>Eliotte Walford-Smith</td>
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</tbody>
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CLASS PARENTS NEWS
Thank you to all those who helped with Morning Tea following assembly on Friday. It was a delightful morning. Special thanks to Mike and Nat McCabe of Coastline Coffee Distributions who have generously donated Tea to be used by the class parents for such occasions. Please note change of Stage allocation – Stage 2 is organising Mothers Day, and Stage 1 is allocated to Fathers Day. Thank you to everyone who has already pledged time to help.

Stage 3 is busy planning for the Bush Dance, promising to be another fabulous celebration.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGERS
Have you been recording your reading online as you go? It’s a great time to start, all you need is your password or you can simply write down your name and books read and ‘post’ them in the Premier’s Reading Challenge mailbox in the library and the School PRC Coordinator will log them for you. Easy! Your previous password will give you access to your reading log.

If you are new to the Challenge, take a look at the PRC NSW website and discover a new world of books to read. Any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Louise on ljcapper@gmail.com.

Stage 3 Thanks
Stage 3 would like to thank Angus McDonald for sharing his time and knowledge about Antarctica with us. We found it a very engaging and valuable experience.
Yeehaw! Three weeks to go!
Prizes for dressing up: think hillbilly/country, cowboy/girl
boots, gingham, bush beard, bush hat, braces, frilled squaredance dress, cowboy hat, high-waisted jeans...

UPDATE:
sausage sizzle and drinks for sale (PICNICS STILL WELCOME)
tea, coffee and cake for sale
vintage photobooth
5.30 for dinner  Live music from 6pm

Friday 5 April, 5.30 pm
“Village Green”
St Finbarr’s Primary School
$5 per family
School Banking is every Wednesday. Could each student who has a banking wallet please hand it to their teacher. This is then placed into a grey folder and delivered to the office for collection by Susan Cubis.

Keep us up-to-date
Don't forget if you change any of your contact details i.e. address, work/home/mobile phone numbers, emergency contact details, email addresses you need to let the school office know immediately.

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Canteen
Rostered on for canteen this week is

Friday 22 March - Michelle Herbert
Dee Driscoll

Tuesday 26 March - Ami Leishman

St John’s Mullumbimby Easter Fete
Friday 22nd March
Fun, Food, Stalls and lots more!
4.30pm - 8.30pm

General News - On Display - Parent Notice Board (Outside Library)

The Ballina-Byron Family Centre
6686 4109
See notice board for all services and programs.

After School Yoga Club - St Finbarr’s with Karen
Mondays 3.15 to 4.15pm
$63 for 7 week block
Bookings essential contact Karen to register 0420 239 791

Fit Fins Run Squad 2013
Running Club from Kinder to Year 6
Training sessions Mondays and Fridays from 8am to 8.30am
$50 per term
Contact Caroline Bailey on 0409 804 131 or carolinejbailey@rocketmail.com

Family Referral Service—Your link to Support
1300 338 774
Voluntary referral service for families, children and young people

Babysitters Needed!
Byron Bay Runners members need reliable, experienced babysitters around the Byron area
Tuesdays 5-7pm and Thursdays 6-8pm
$5 negotiable.
Email byronrunner@rocketmail.com with your contact details, for more information.

Kites and Bikes Festival-Brunswick Heads
Sunday March 24 9am-4pm
Contact Lanie Loughlin 0401470188 or 66851003
kitesandbikesfestival@gmail.com

BPAY facilities are also available using Biller Code & Reference No. from statement.
Please contact John Wilson if you are experiencing financial difficulty.

REMINDERS

School Fees
School fees are due by Thurs 28 March.
Thank you to families who have already paid school fees.
Payments can be made by cash, cheque, credit card or forwarded direct to Bank account BSB 062-514 A/C No. 00900371. Please quote account number or child’s name as details.
BPAY facilities are also available using Biller Code & Reference No. from statement.
Please contact John Wilson if you are experiencing financial difficulty.

Do YOU Know What To Do In A Medical Emergency???

WE OFFER:
Work Cover Approved, Nationally Recognised Training Courses Offered.

Basic First Aid – HLTAID016
Apply First Aid – HLTAID001C
Apply Advanced First Aid – HLTAID402C
Perform CPR – HLTAID201

Refresher Courses, On-site Tailor-made, Flexible Training Provided By A Highly Qualified & Experienced Instructor.

Contact: 1800 243 483

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Friday 22nd March
Fun, Food, Stalls and lots more!
4.30pm - 8.30pm

Kites and Bikes Festival-Brunswick Heads
Sunday March 24 9am-4pm
Contact Lanie Loughlin 0401470188 or 66851003
kitesandbikesfestival@gmail.com