



Finley High School

12th September 2025



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Newsletter Week 8, Term 3 2025

A WORD FROM MR WARD

Agriculture Open Day

The Ag Department hosted a fantastic open day in preparation for the Finley and Royal Melbourne Show, attracting a large number of visitors. I had the opportunity to attend and enjoyed speaking with many people throughout the day. Two excellent presentations were delivered, one by Finley Rotary Club and another by Tocumwal Lions Club, both of whom made generous and much-appreciated donations. We are very grateful for their ongoing support. Just before lunch, I addressed the large crowd, followed by a heartfelt speech from Mrs O'Leary. The highlight of the day was a special presentation by the Finley Agricultural Society, who honoured Mrs O'Leary with a medal and the title of Finley Show Personality of the Year 2025.

School Admin Support Staff (SASS) Recognition Week

Last week we celebrated SASS recognition week. This is a wonderful opportunity to stop and thank our admin staff, lab technicians, hospitality support staff, technology support, library support, general assistant, farm assistant, student support learning staff, student support officers and school psychologists. They are integral to our success and do a wonderful job supporting the students and staff. Please enjoy our spread of names and faces in this edition of the newsletter.

Finley Show

Terrific effort from everyone involved in the show, it was cold and wet but once again super effort. Our display won the blue ribbon, 'wow' this is excellent.

DOVES Minister's Council

Well done to Sama Swaid and Eloise Harris, along with Mrs Bird who spoke at the recent DOVES Minister's Council online student forum for the Rural South & West directorate. The DOVES also known as the Department of Student Voice in Education and Schools is a council created by the Minister for Education to allow for better access and understanding of student voice.

University Offers

A number of our students have already received early offers to CSU and Wollongong, this is a very exciting time for them as we share in their excitement. Some of the offers received include Bachelors courses in Agriculture, Criminology, Law, Education, Nursing, Social Work, Business, Economics, Accounting.

Congratulations to Bella Rourke & Maddy Price

Bella had a great squash carnival representing NSW against NZ and Queensland in Cairns from the 25th to 29th August. Additionally we wish Maddy Price all the best as she has been selected for the Under 16 Bushrangers squad, for the V Line cup in Ballarat.

POLUS - Police Simulation Exercise.

I recently attended exercise POLUS in Albury. This was delivered by the NSW Police with the assistance of staff from the department's Health, Safety and Staff Wellbeing directorate. The opportunity allowed principals to work with their local and specialist police to manage school-based incidents and emergencies while building professional relationships and capability.

Principal Role

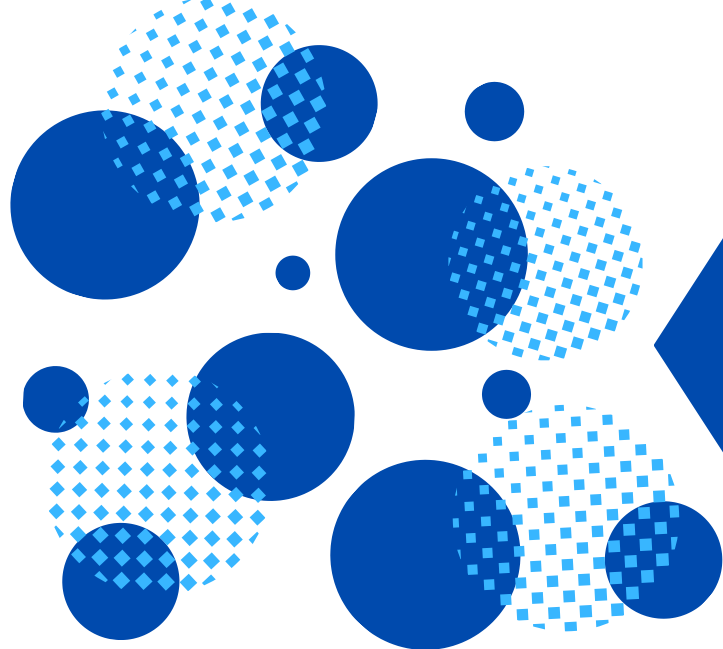
I don't enjoy spending time away from school; however, I am often required to attend external professional learning, engage with other educational leaders, and contribute to departmental initiatives and programs. These opportunities enable me to gain new perspectives, foster innovation, and implement diverse strategies to improve teaching and learning at Finley High School. This holistic approach to professional development enhances my leadership capacity and strengthens our school community, ultimately benefiting the entire school. Upcoming professional commitments include:

Week 8: Participate on the Principal Panel for Narrandera High School's external validation.

Week 8: Attend the Learning and Engagement Secondary Principal Reference Group in Sydney.

Week 9: Facilitate at the Growing Great Leaders program in Sydney, supporting newly appointed first-time principals.

Jeff Ward - Principal



Thank you to our incredible SASS Team

SAM/Front Office



Vanessa



Sasha



Kirstie



Elyse



Jess



Georgia

SLSO



Bec



Abbey



Sharee



Dim



Jenny



Soph



Gayle



Hilary



Will



Luke



Maddi



Phil

Hospitality/Library/Science, Wellbeing, GA & Farm Assistant



Gaye



Sue



Cath



Jodi

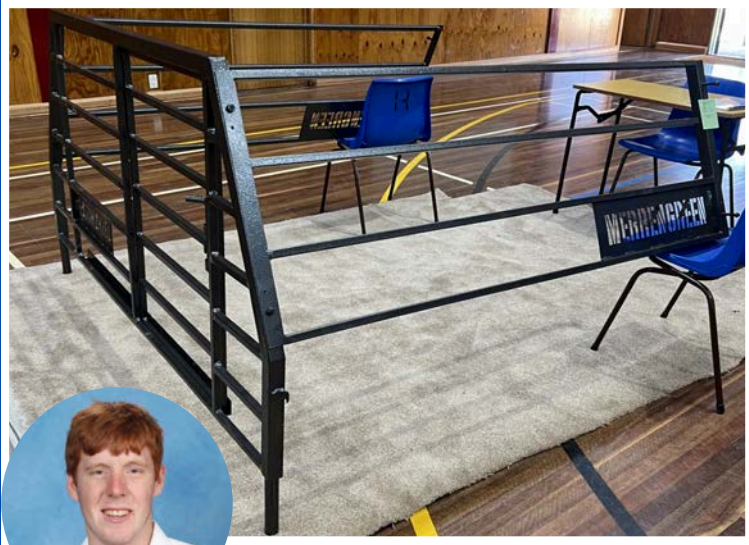


Brian

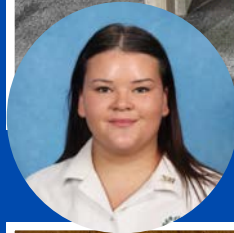


Gordon

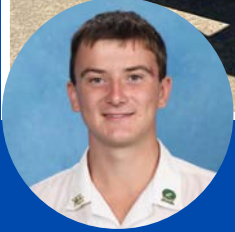
Year 12 Major Works - Timber/Metal



Ute Cage



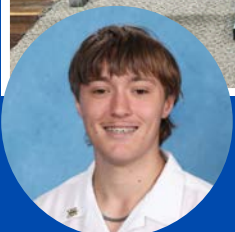
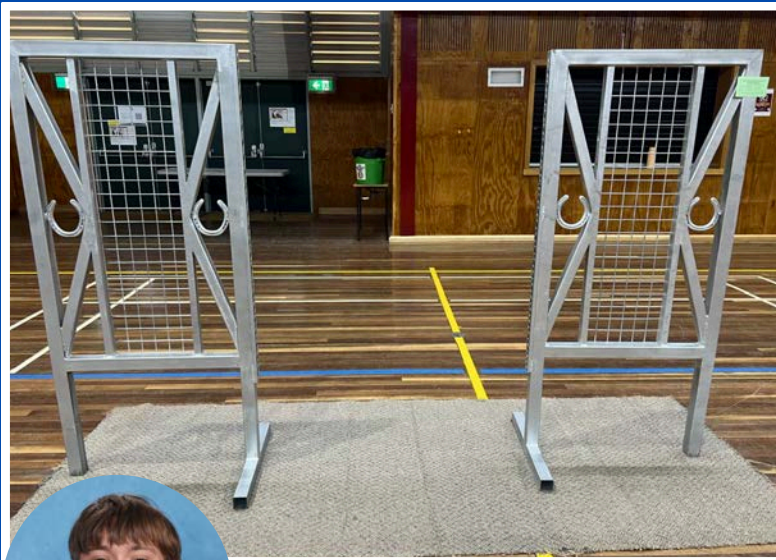
Hall Table



Work bench



Desk



Horse Jump



Ute Bed



At Finley High School, we are committed to fostering the growth and success of our High Potential and Gifted students.

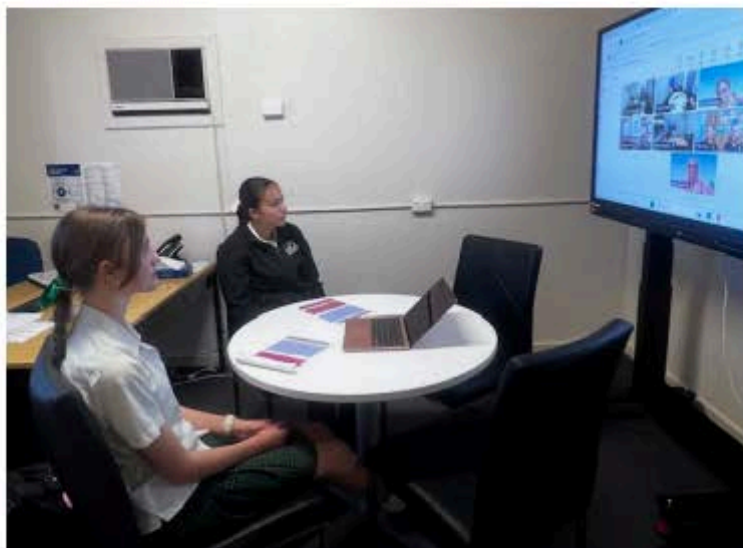
High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) aims to identify, nurture, and extend students' abilities so they can achieve personal excellence and thrive in their areas of strength. The NSW Department of Education recognises four HPGE domains: intellectual, creative, social-emotional, and physical. At FHS, we strive to recognise students' high potential and giftedness across these domains, and to provide rich, challenging opportunities that encourage them to excel and reach their full potential.

Each fortnight, we will shine a spotlight on one HPGE domain, faculty, class, teacher, or student who has demonstrated excellence in HPGE.

This fortnight's HPGE Excellence in Focus is...

Social-Emotional **Domain**

This week, we celebrate the social-emotional skills of Eloise and Sama, who are members of the Minister's Student Council (DOVES). The council, made up of 27 student representatives from across NSW, amplifies student voice at the highest levels of decision-making. In their recent meeting, Eloise and Sama contributed to discussions on inclusion in learning, factors that cause exclusion, and school programs that support bullying prevention.



Shout Outs

Thank you to the P&C who kindly donated morning tea for our SASS team to enjoy in celebration of SASS appreciation week.

Thank you to the Tocumwal Lions Club who have very generously donated \$10000 towards our Outdoor Learning Hub and \$5000 to help cover the cost of accommodation for our Ag Show Team at the Melbourne Royal Show.



State Squash

Bella R proudly represented NSW at the Trans Tasman Squash Championships in Cairns this August, competing against both Queensland and New Zealand.

She took part in both individual and doubles matches, showcasing her skills on court. NSW finished 2nd overall, with New Zealand taking the top spot.

The championships were a fantastic experience, filled with plenty of squash and the opportunity to meet new people.



Where are they now?

Aleasha Hannon

Aleasha left Finley High School in 2020. She worked for a short time at IGA before undertaking a traineeship in Community Pharmacy. Aleasha has been an invaluable assistant at the Finley Pharmacy. She is friendly, efficient and always happy to help. She has loved being able to help all members of the Finley community. Aleasha will be leaving the pharmacy shortly. We wish her well in her move and venture into motherhood.

We will all miss Aleasha from the Finley Pharmacy

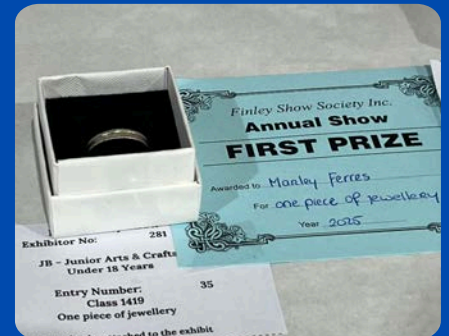
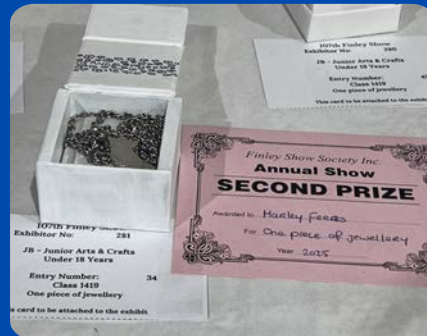


Chess

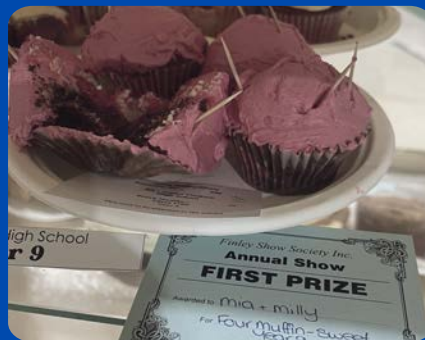
The high school's chess team recently travelled to Urana to play St Mary MacKillop College from Wagga Wagga. The games were very closely fought, with some nail biting finishes. The very cool heads of our players lead to a 3 - 1 victory to Finley. Well done boys. A big thanks goes to Urana Public School for their hospitality. We wish the Chess team all the best in round 6 next week when they take on Temora High School.



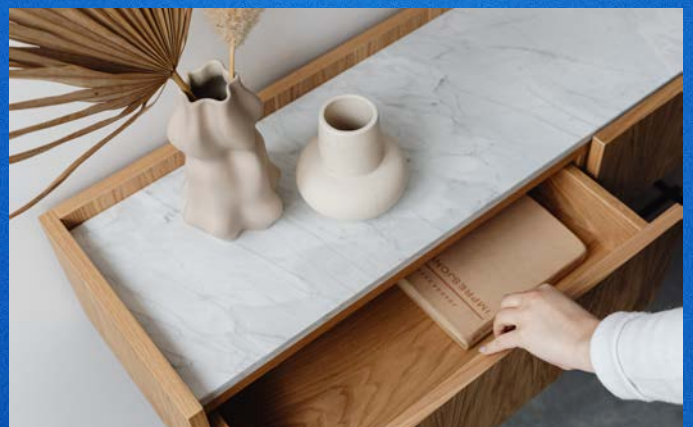
Finley Show Pavillion Exhibits



Finley Show Pavillion Exhibits



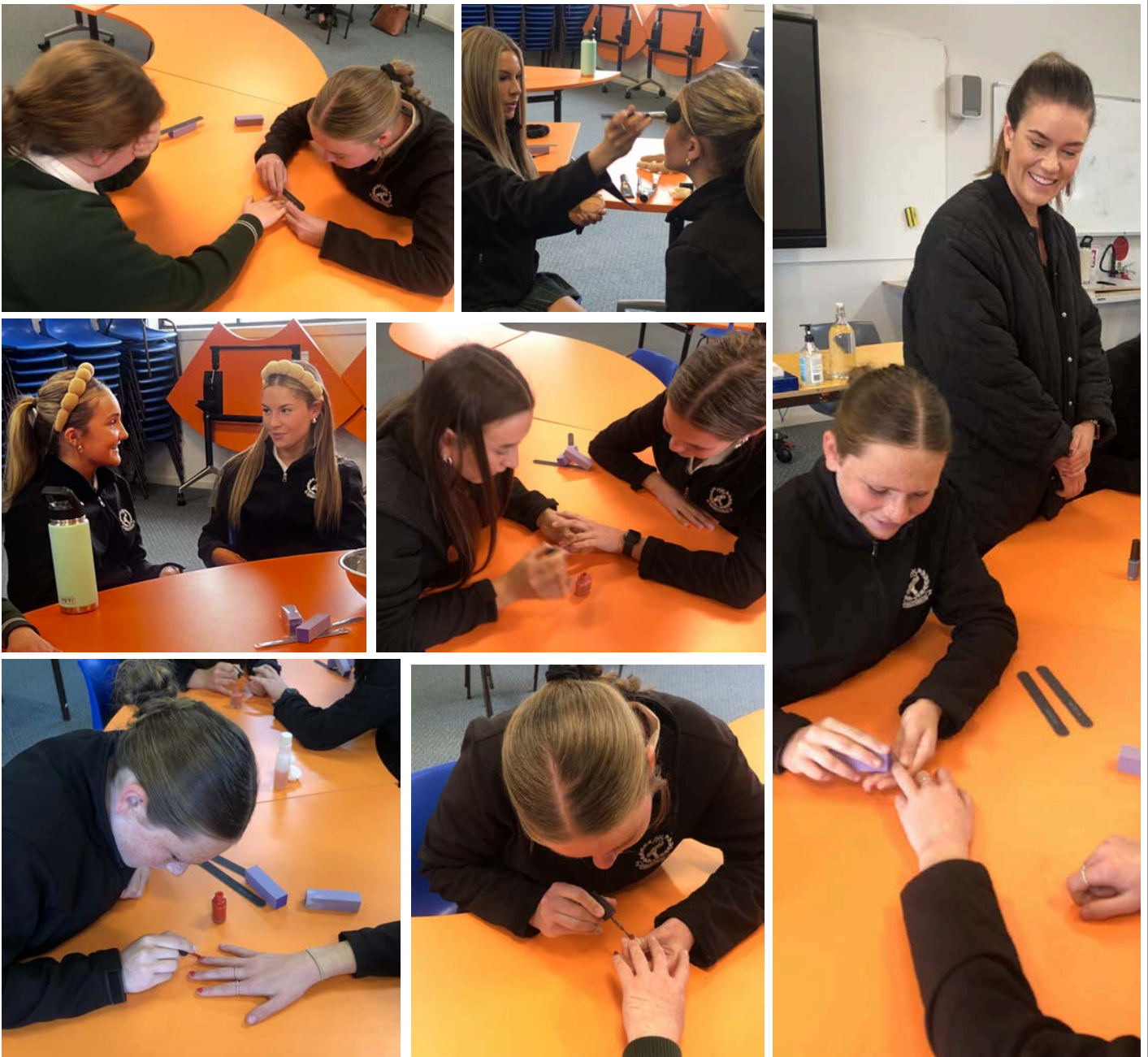
Bendigo Art Excursion



Respectful, Responsible Learners

Beauty Workshop

On Wed 10th Sept some girls in Year 10 undertook a Careers and Confidence in Beauty Workshop. The program was organised and funded through RIEP and was run by Sally from Skin Essence in Barham. Sally shared her journey and pathway into the beauty therapy industry before students worked in pairs to perform mini manicures. They then did some further skincare basics and guided mini facials before applying some basic everyday makeup techniques. Sally shared her experiences from the business side of beauty and spoke about client care, professionalism, working in salons and setting up your own beauty practice. Sally left the girls with some goodies from the workshop and some information that outlined the next steps & pathways around Traineeships, certificates/diplomas, work experience, and career opportunities. FHS would like to thank Sally for her excellent presentation and Katie Friedlieb for her support of the activity.



COMING SOON

YEAR 8 HISTORY MEDIEVAL EUROPE MUSEUM EXHIBITS



All year 8 students have been busy creating a range of interactive museum exhibits. The exhibition will be on display early Term 4 - more details coming soon.



SRC Casual Clothes Day

When: Thursday 18th September

What to wear: Casual clothes
appropriate for school
(enclosed shoes are a must)

What to bring: Gold coin donation
(all funds going towards Can Assist)

**Free entertainment from the much
anticipated Year 12 Vs Staff sport
match on the oval at lunch time.**



BERRIGAN RURAL FIRE BRIGADE 125 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OPEN DAY

Recognised as the Birthplace of the NSW Rural Fire Service

Help us celebrate our humble beginnings

20th September 2025
from 11am – 3pm

Berrigan RFS Station
& Apex Park
Cobram Street, Berrigan



**Vintage Furphys,
Trucks and Equipment**

Includes local items and
items displayed by
NSW RFS Heritage



**Kids activities
& games**

Including **free face painting**



**BBQ cooked by the
Berrigan Squash Club**

Berrigan CWA rooms open –
cuppa & slices

In conjunction with the Berrigan District & Development Association (BDDA) Local
Handicraft Stalls

© Lifeline

We're walking
to remember
those lost to
suicide.

Please join our workplace



BEC FROM ODESI
COLLECTIVE WILL BE AT
THE LAKE WITH HER
COFFEE VAN

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

Join Us at the Finley Lake
between 8am & 10am and Walk
to remember those lost to suicide,
and help Australians in crisis.



**OUT OF THE
SHADOWS WALK**

Lifeline



TO DONATE
PLEASE SCAN THE
QR CODE

**Well
Being**

Southern Riverina
Wellbeing Collaborative

Finley Public School

CELEBRATING 130 YEARS IN EDUCATION

Saturday 4th October

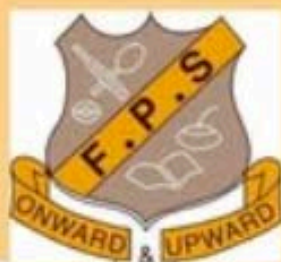
- 10am - Gates open - school displays, open classrooms
- 11am - School Song FPS Choir & Jade Camden
- 12pm - Performance item
- 2pm - Official Welcome & cut cake
- 4pm gates closed

Lunch available
Rub n Smoke
Odesi Coffee
Van here

Sunday 5th October

- 8:30am - School displays open and open classrooms
- Breakfast available
- 11am - Thankyou & gates close

find us on Facebook
@ Finley Public School 130
Years Celebration



Further information contact:

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- *Cherilyn Taig cherilyn.taig@det.nsw.edu.au
- *Amanda Lyons amanda.lyons@det.nsw.edu.au



Expression of Interest

2025-2026 Junior Cricket Season

U17 - 1Sep08 - 31Aug 10
U15 - 1Sep10 - 31Aug12
U13 - 1Sep12 - 31Aug 14
U11 - 1Sep14 - 31Aug16

Please complete the form via the link below:

<https://forms.gle/Hlds27oMgEYTTdBE8>



ALTERNATIVELY, PLEASE EMAIL THE
PLAYER AND PARENT DETAILS TO:
JUNIORS.FINLEYCC@GMAIL.COM