



# Finley High School

## 21st November



**Phone: (03) 5883 1344**

**Email: [finley-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:finley-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)**

**Newsletter Week 6, Term 4 2025**

### **A WORD FROM MR WARD**

#### **Remembrance Day 2025**

This year, we commemorated Remembrance Day with a special service at 9:00am, proudly unveiling our new mural and ANZAC bench. These additions to our school grounds stand as lasting tributes to the spirit of service, courage, and sacrifice that define the ANZAC legacy. The mural reflects our ongoing commitment to remembering the past, while the bench offers a peaceful place for quiet reflection and remembrance.

We were honoured to welcome many special guests, including ex-service personnel, members of the local sub-branch, community leaders, our Director of Educational Leadership, staff, and students. It was particularly wonderful to see our school leaders take charge of the service demonstrating our next generation's dedication to remembering those who served.

At 11:00am, a large contingent of students also attended the community Remembrance Day service at Memorial Park. Community members commented on the positive impact of our students' presence, especially as the number of veterans within the community continues to decline.

Our school community can be proud of the respect and spirit shown by all involved as we continue to honour the legacy of those who served and sacrificed for our freedom.

#### **Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars**

Congratulations to Lilly Baron and Tiana Cowan who were successful with their submission to the University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program, Class of 2027. The university received over 2300 applications and were highly impressed by the academic performance and community involvement demonstrated by Lilly and Tiana. Successful applicants of the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program will become part of a supportive university community and peer network through a tailored program of events and activities.

### **Finley Rotary Club**

I was pleased to attend the latest Finley Rotary Club meeting to thank members for their ongoing support of Finley High School. I spoke briefly about how the school is going, the challenges we're currently facing, the new social media ban, and wellbeing concerns for staff and students. I also outlined the projects we're working on, many of which wouldn't be possible without the strong backing of our community.

### **CWA Interviews**

Thank you to our local Finley CWA, who have once again generously offered a STEM scholarship to support a young woman as she begins her tertiary studies in 2026. I, along with three CWA members, had the privilege of interviewing four inspirational young women who are determined to make their mark in the community. An announcement on the eventual recipient will be made by the end of the year.

### **Congratulations Mrs Baxter**

Congratulations to Mrs Baxter who has been accepted into the School Leadership Institute, Middle Leadership Development Program (MLDP). Mrs Baxter's selection into the program is the result of a highly rigorous and competitive process from many middle leaders across NSW public schools.

### **Presentation Day**

Planning has already begun for the Finley High School presentation evening on the 17th of December. The evening starts promptly at 7pm and we usually conclude by 9pm. I am also excited to be invited to several presentation days and evenings and thank the following schools for their invite.

Jerilderie Public School – 10th December

Finley Public School – 11th December

St Joseph's Jerilderie – 12th December

St Joseph's Finley – 15th December

Berrigan Public School – 16th December

Blighty Public School – 18th December

### **SRC Planning Day**

Our SRC recently held a very successful planning day, with workshops and time for key discussion. I was able to spend some time with the group and thoroughly enjoyed the questions they put to me. I would also like to thank Cath Healy who was a guest speaker, Mrs Sharp for coordinating the day and the P & C for donating money towards a great lunch provided by the Finley RS club.

### **Tom White Riverina Cricket**

Congratulations to Tom White who recently competed for Riverina in the NSW CHS Cricket championships in Tuggerah. Tom reported that his team did very well winning three games, losing two. Tom was very happy with his bowling efforts maintaining tight overs, however his batting was not at its very best.

### **Deni Principal Meeting**

The Term 4 Principals' Meeting was held at Jerilderie Public School, and it was terrific to be hosted by the staff, students, and community of this great little school. Alongside valuable professional learning, the highlights were the wonderful student performances and the outstanding catering provided by the P&C. Thank you, Mrs Keech, for your incredible hospitality.

*Jeff Ward - Principal*



# Chess Championships

Finley High School once again hosted some intense battles over the chessboard in the school library. Divided into three groups Novice, Year 7, and the Master Class students competed under the organisation of Mrs Begbie, the esteemed coach and coordinator who ensured the championships ran smoothly.

The eventual winners in each category were:

Year 7: **Toby Loughridge**

Master Class: **Elliott Loughridge**

FHS Chess Champion 2025: **Toby Loughridge**





# Careers News

On Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> November several students from Years 9-11 travelled to Deniliquin TAFE to meet with Energy Co and Transgrid Energy around career option in this sector. Students met with members of the Transgrid and Energy Co team to get an understanding of their roles and the future of employment options in this growing sector. Students were then asked to choose a pathway of either business or trades where they were tasked with either designing a solar experiment for primary schools or constructing an extension lead respectively. Most Finley High students chose the trades pathway and took on the electrical extension challenge. At the end of the task students were required to test their lead and if it passed, it was tagged and they bought the lead home. It was pleasing to see all of the FHS students successfully manage to complete and have their lead pass testing and tagging.

Similarly last week saw the wrap up of the 5 weeks of the TAFE YES Construction project at Finley TAFE. FHS would like to thank Matt Hannan and the TAFE teachers who made this course possible. The students enjoyed learning in the TAFE environment and getting to use the quality and variety of tools provided in the program. Students completed 2 projects, one being a wooden foldable deck chair and the other a blocked chopping board. The students are to be congratulated on their effort and behaviour throughout this program.

Finally a couple of Careers reminders:

- Just a reminder that Year 10 will be out on Work Experience next week 24-28<sup>th</sup> Nov and that all paperwork should be returned to Mrs Philpot before any students attend their work place.
- Reminder to Year 11 / 12 (2026) that notes via Sentral and money must be returned by the start of week 8 (1<sup>st</sup> Dec) 2025 for the Uni Of Wollongong Discovery Day Excursion 16/17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026. Students have registered their workshops but without payment by the due date their registrations will be forfeited as no accommodation will be provided after that date.

Students in Years 10 and 11 who expressed interest in the Albury Explore Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026 should have received an email from CSU which they need to respond to in order to register for Explore Day. Again this is a requirement to attend the excursion. If numbers permit the excursion will go ahead and at the moment will be \$50. We have applied for some funding and if that comes through there will be a reduction in the cost of the excursion. Students thinking of going are encouraged to register and notes will go home via Sentral once the final costing is known.





# Shine From Within



In Term 3, Jodi Brown and Mrs Whitty delivered the Shine from Within program, designed to support students in building communication skills, leadership, resilience, and positive friendships. Through engaging weekly sessions, students explored mindfulness, self-esteem, emotional well-being, and the impact of social media, all while discovering their personal strengths and values. This program aimed to empower students to make value-based decisions and foster a supportive, inclusive school community. Shine from Within will continue in Term 4 with a new group of students, providing another valuable opportunity for growth, leadership development, and connection among participants.

Students who participated in Term 3 were; Bionee, Emelie, Sienna (pictured), Marlee, Bridie, Sama, Eloise and Emily

## the HALT program

Empowering Young People with the Knowledge and Skills to Cultivate Safe and Respectful Relationships.

On **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November** Finley High School will be hosting 'the HALT program', funded generously by Rotary in conjunction with their efforts to raise awareness of the 'Say No To Domestic Violence' campaign.



HALT - is delivered by Dave Kramer an ambassador for the Small Steps For Hannah organisation.

**Students and staff are invited to wear purple accessories on the day.**



**Rotary**  
says **NO** to  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**



# SRC News

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November, the Finley High SRC held their annual planning day. The day included many activities, including a Q&A session with Mr. Ward, a session with guest speaker Catherine Healy about leadership and effecting change, team-building activities, student-led workshops around leadership and school focus areas, and brainstorming and planning SRC events and initiatives for the year ahead.





# Berrigan Public School - Resident Expert Showcase

Mrs Baxter and Mrs Jackson recently had the pleasure of visiting Berrigan Public School to witness an exciting showcase of student learning. The students presented their "Resident Experts" projects, a unique research initiative where each student explored a topic of personal interest.

Some of the highlights included a chicken nugget stand, a spectacular volcano eruption demonstration, and a personal interview with Toby Greene. The projects showcased the students' passion and curiosity, and Mrs Baxter and Mrs Jackson were thoroughly impressed by the depth of knowledge and enthusiasm on display.





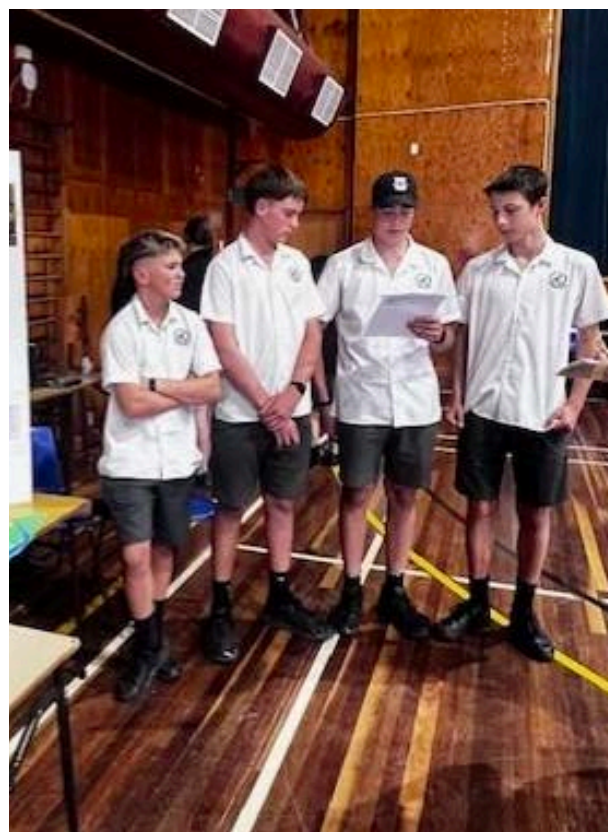
# *Year 8 History - Medieval Museum Exhibits*

Year 8 History students recently created impressive museum exhibits as part of their assessment on Medieval Europe and the Black Death. The hall transformed into a vibrant mini-museum featuring knights, churches, castles and medieval punishments. Each exhibit included a hands-on, interactive element, such as searching for a needle in a haystack, making stained-glass biscuits, completing quizzes, and even experiencing the pillory.

The exhibit will be set up again for our Year 6 Orientation Day in Week 8, giving incoming students a chance to explore the displays and see the engaging learning happening in Year 8 History. Well done to all students involved!









# *Jerilderie Sheep AI*

Once again we are very grateful for the support from our community. The team from Genstock, Rozie, Charlie and Carmen are pictured with Agriculture students after artificially inseminating our poll dorset ewes last week. Without the support of Genstock and Hildren Poll Dorset Stud, who donated the semen, the ability to use superior genetics in our flock would be difficult. We are thankful to Phil Murrowood once again for his time in shearing our sheep.



## *NSW CHS Cricket Championship*

Congratulations to Tom White who competed at the NSW CHS cricket championships last week in Tuggerah. Tom played four days of high standard cricket against teams from all over the state.

The first day saw the Riverina team play two T20 games against North Sydney and Western Sydney, winning both games.

Tom then played three 50 over games against Sydney teams, winning one game and losing two. Tom had a wonderful week, scored a wicket and enjoyed this amazing experience.







# TRANSGRID DAY DENILIQUIN







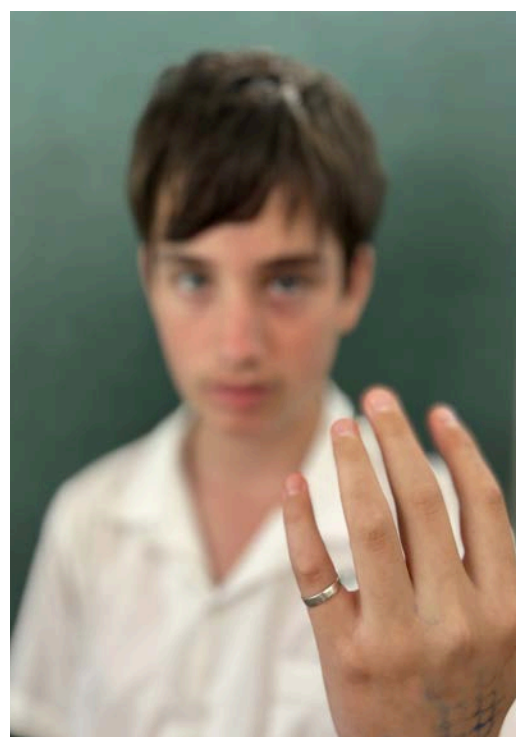
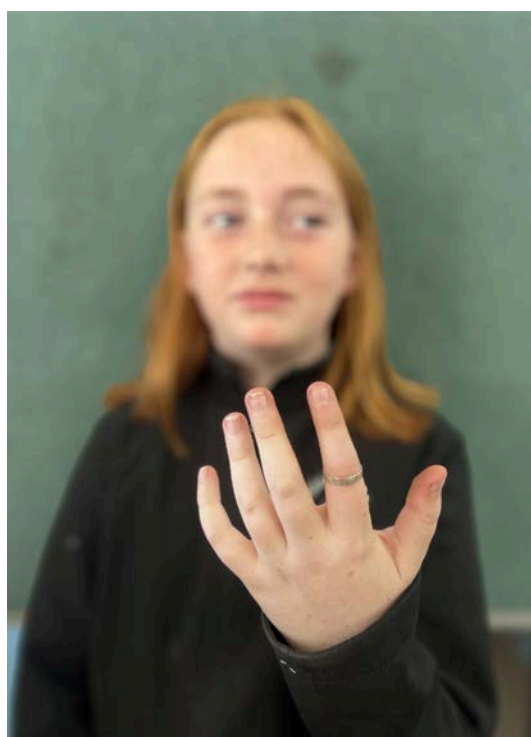
# YEAR 8 ART







# YEAR 7 TECH





# HPGE



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: 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.

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

## PHYSICAL DOMAIN

Last week, Mrs Sexton took this talented group of 10 students to Wollongong to compete in the U15s state-wide netball competition. These high-potential and gifted students were given the chance to test their skills against peers from a range of different schools, pushing themselves in a challenging and highly competitive environment.

The competition allowed students to test their abilities in a high-level environment and gain valuable experience that will help them continue to grow in the physical domain. We thank Mrs Sexton for her dedication and commitment in nurturing these students' potential and providing them with opportunities to excel both on and off the court.





# FHS P&C UNIFORM OPEN DAYS

## 2025 - Term 4

WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER &  
MONDAY 15th DECEMBER  
3.30pm - 6.30pm

## 2026 - Term 1

TUESDAY 27th JANUARY &  
WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY  
12.30pm - 3pm

## 2026 - Term 1

THURSDAY 29th JANUARY &  
FRIDAY 30th JANUARY  
9am - 12pm

## All Welcome

AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
**TRY - BUY - ORDER**  
For students Year 6 - Year 12

LOCATED AT THE  
**FINLEY HIGH CANTEEN**  
ENTRY VIA HALL CAR PARK

For all enquiries contact  
FHS Canteen - 0473946683  
PLEASE NOTE - this phone will not  
be monitored during  
school holidays

The School Uniform Shop is run by the Finley High School P&C Association.  
This is the only official uniform outlet for Finley High School.  
All proceeds from uniform sales assist in supporting our students & school.

# CASUAL POOL LIFEGUARD

## 2025/2026 Season



### Make a Splash This Summer – We Need You!

Council is urgently seeking **Casual Pool Lifeguards** for the 2025/2026 season. Without lifeguards, our community pools cannot open – and we don't want that to happen!

If you're passionate about water safety, enjoy working outdoors, and want to be part of a great team, this is your chance. **Training and support provided.**

Please contact Berrigan Shire Council on 03 5888 5100 for more information.



# UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL



**JUNIOR GIRLS  
SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM  
APPLICATIONS  
OPEN NOW!**

**Girls aged 9–16 are invited to apply for the  
2026 Australian Golf Foundation Girls Golf  
Scholarship Program at Club Tocumwal!**

Recipients receive 24 weeks of coaching, a  
free junior membership, and golf gear to get  
started.

**Applications close December 15, 2025**

**Scan to apply  
for the program**





**WellBeing**

Southern Riverina  
Wellbeing Collaborative

# CHARITY GOLF DAY

**SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2025**

**Finley Golf Course**

**Check-in: 11am  
Shotgun start 11:30am**

**WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES  
PLUS**

**\$5 BBQ AVAILABLE FROM 3PM  
BRING THE FAMILY FOR SOME FUN  
AND SUPPORT THIS GREAT CAUSE**

.....  
**4 Person Ambrose  
\$120 per Team  
Handicap & Non-Handicap  
Players Welcome**

.....  
**All proceeds go to the  
Southern Riverina  
Wellbeing Collaborative**

**Register now  
[finleygolfclub@bigpond.com](mailto:finleygolfclub@bigpond.com)**

