

St Finn Barr's Catholic School



Information Booklet for Parents



St Finn Barr's Catholic School
247 Invermay Road, Invermay 7248
P.O. Box 318, Mowbray Heights 7248

Telephone: 03 6326 3082

Email: stfinnbarrs@catholic.tas.edu.au

Web Site: www.stfinnbarrs.tas.edu.au

Facebook: St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary School

Welcome to St Finn Barr's Catholic School

St. Finn Barr's School was established in 1894 by the Presentation Sisters as a Parish School. The Sisters established a proud tradition of excellence in education and service to members of the community, in a spirit of love, respect and compassion based on the Gospel values. This tradition is actively carried on today.

The Sisters maintained a presence in the school until the first lay Principal was appointed in 1993. The current Principal is Mrs Liz Illingworth. The School continues in the traditions began by the Presentations Sisters and endeavours to have a focus on developing values based on compassion and kindness.

St Finn Barr's is a Catholic Education Office Systemic School and provides education for Kindergarten to Year 6 students. We focus on developing the whole person with clear values, problem-solving skills, the ability to work in a group and effective communication skills. The School follows the Australian Curriculum Documents to shape the learning experiences provided to students.

The teaching staff are committed to improving the educational outcomes achieved by all children at our School. Spiritual and Faith Development are stimulated through explicit and implicit experiences. The Good News For Living Curriculum document is used in developing children's understanding of the Catholic Faith. This includes parental support in the preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation.

St Finn Barr's, along with all other schools in Australia, is continuing to be planning, reporting and implementing the Australian Curriculum for students in Prep to Year 6. In Kindergarten, the Early Years Learning Framework is used to guide Teaching and Learning. St Finn Barr's offers specialist lessons in Physical Education, Music, Art and Drama.

The Australian Curriculum can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/>

Excellent Parents information for each grade can be viewed at the following link:

<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/parent-information/>

The Early Years Learning Framework can be accessed at:

<https://docs.education.gov.au/node/2632>



ICT

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is an important tool that allows children to fully explore the Australian Curriculum and develop the skills and understanding to function in a computer literate world. St Finn Barr's School recognises the importance of ensuring our children are responsible and capable users of technology.

From 2019 at St Finn Barr's all students in years 3 to 6 have a BYOD iPad in addition to classroom banks of MacBooks. This iPad becomes an important tool for students who complete some of their classwork and homework on the device, accessing in particular many of the Google for Education Applications.

All Early Childhood classes have access to banks of iPads as well as MacBooks and class teachers use these devices to facilitate and enhance all students' learning.

The focus during class time is on access to learning as well as creating safe digital citizens.

The School accesses online learning tools, apps and websites including:

- Study Ladder
- Google Drive
- Google Classroom, as well as several other Apps.

In 2019 the Australian Curriculum subject Digital Technologies has been reported on. During 2017 Teachers completed a University of Adelaide online learning course to ensure they are upskilled enough to ensure students are accessing this part of the Australian Curriculum at high levels.



SWPBS

St Finn Barr's School is a School Wide Positive Behaviour School with the Mantra:

"We are a community of Safe, Respectful, Resilient Learners."

Our focus is on developing a culture where all members of our community are respected, valued and allowed to fully develop in a behaviourally supportive environment which has the foundation of positive relationships at its core.

Wellbeing is a constant focus within our school. We have access to a School Chaplaincy Program 2 days per week and a school Counsellor 3 days per fortnight. Across the school and within each classroom there is a strong focus on Making Jesus Real (MJR), My TERN (Taking Emotional Responsibility Now) and Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS). St Finn Barr's will be introducing RULER in 2020 as a tool to help students with emotional regulation.



At St Finn Barr's, we also run The Rainbow Program/Inside Out 4 Kids which is a weekly support group for children who have experienced grief in their families. This may be due to death, separation/divorce of parents, or other painful loss.

A Rainbows/Inside Out 4 Kids group comprises children of similar age, who have experienced loss, offering peer support to each other with the guidance of a trained adult facilitator.

Contact Information

The School Office is attended between the hours of 8.00 am and 3.30 pm during term time.

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 318
Mowbray Heights, 7248

Phone:

(03) 6326 3082

Email:

stfinnbarrs@catholic.tas.edu.au

Facebook:

St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary School

Team App:

All School information is sent to families through Team App. You can download this and search for St Finn Barr's Catholic School.

School Board of Management

The School Board is an advisory board made up of members of the School Community, Fr Mark Freeman (Parish Priest) and the Principal. The Board's main function is to advise and support the Principal:

- in the financial management of the school,
- to contribute to the planning and management of maintenance of buildings, equipment and grounds.
- to contribute where possible in matters regarded and major initiatives and/or changes
- to co-operate and support the Principal in maintaining the School as an institute of Catholic Education.

Parents & Friends Association

The Parents & Friends (P&F) contribute to creating a sense of community within the school, raise funds for the school, contribute ideas and suggestions and may arrange speakers for meetings.

Funds raised have contributed to projects such as the construction of all playgrounds at our school, the on-going purchasing of books for the library, purchase of TV's mounted in each classroom and equipment for classrooms and sporting activities.

One of the P&F's important roles is building the School Community through social, educational and financial events. The Welcome Picnic, Rock & Roll Night, Fair and other socially focused events are examples of this important function. It is important that new parents commit to support the continuing the work being done by the P & F.



School Hours

Monday to Friday 8.45 am to 2.55 pm.

Children should not arrive at School before 8.30 am except on Tuesday and Thursday when Breakfast Club starts at 8.20 am.

At 8.30 am classrooms will be open and supervised by their classroom teacher.

Our Utility Officer, Mr Soule, assists in monitoring the Pedestrian Lights as children arrive and leave the School. Parents are asked to use the crossing on Invermay Road and to reinforce the correct crossing behaviour with their children.

Daily Bell Times are:

- 8.45 am Prayers/Daily fitness/Classroom
- 9.00 am Classes
- 10:50 am Recess
- 11.25 am Classes
- 12:45 pm Lunch
- 1.35 pm Classes
- 2.55 pm School concludes

With the exception of bus children, all children must be collected punctually at 2.55 pm. If parents are going to be late, the School should be notified. Children being collected by parents or carers are to be collected from the classroom vicinity or from the assembly area at the rear of the school.

Parents may park in the rear car park and walk up to collect their children. Alternatively, parents may use our pick up zone to drop off and pick up children. Children must be under parent or carer supervision when they are in the car park area. The car park at the front of the school is for staff and visitors only.

Children catching a bus home are to assemble at the front of the school, ready to move through the gate to the bus stop when directed by the duty teacher. All children catching the bus are marked off on the Bus List by the supervising teacher who is on duty until all buses have departed.

Parents are requested not to park in this area or in the Church Grounds at any time.



CatholicCare - Outside School Care Hours

CatholicCare conducts before and after school care in our school hall during school terms and Holiday Care during school holiday periods.

For more information around Before and After School Care please contact CatholicCare. CatholicCare Children's Services operates Outside School Hours Care, Vacation Care, Long Day Care and Occasional Care services at 19 locations across the state of Tasmania.



Enquiries welcome - please phone 1300 119 455 or email ccs.admin@aohtas.org.au to arrange a visit at your nearest CatholicCare Children's Services Centre.

General Information

Entering School Grounds

All persons visiting the School must report to the School Office to register and receive a visitor's pass.

Leaving School Grounds

No student is permitted to leave the School grounds during the day unless accompanied by a parent/carer and permission has been granted by the Class Teacher or Principal. The Parent/Carer needs to sign the student out in the School Office, collect a leave pass and take this to the classroom teacher.

Personal Items

All personal items and clothing should be clearly named.

Valuable items should not be brought to school.

All mobile phones are to be handed to the class teacher at the beginning of the day and returned at the end of the day.

No responsibility can be taken by the School for personal property.

Lost Property

Clearly labelled garments minimise the possibility of loss. Lost property is sent to the School Office where it can be claimed. At the end of each year, lost clothing is donated to needy families.

Communication

Early in First Term, Parent/Teacher interviews are held to set goals for your child and address any questions that parents may have.

At the beginning of each year a list of the main events for the year will be provided to parents in the School Newsletter which is issued weekly to communicate the main school news items and includes a calendar of approaching events.

Our School Week begins with a Liturgy in the Church from 8.45 - 9.00 am, which is led by a different class each week. Our School Assembly occurs on most Fridays from 2.15 pm. Parents are very welcome to attend either event.

Student Information

It is essential that all information on the Student Record Form is kept up to date. The School must be notified immediately if there are any changes to the details contained in the form. A copy of a child's Birth Certificate and Immunisation Records must be provided to the School at the time of enrolment. When immunisations are updated, a medical certificate should be forwarded to the School. If your child has not been part of the immunisation program then an immunisation declaration statement, signed by a parent must be provided to the School. If a child is baptised, a copy of the Baptismal Certificate must be provided to the School at the time of enrolment.

Change of detail forms can be accessed on our Website.

Sun Awareness

We are a SunSmart School.

Each child is required to wear a green school hat. (September to the beginning of April the next year)
Sunscreen is provided in each classroom.
Students may wear Sunglasses during recess and lunchtimes and when outside.

School Camp

Grade 5/6 take part in School Camp each year. Grade 6 attend Camp in early February and Grade 5 attend camp in November.

Library - Discovery Centre

The students use the Discovery Centre each week and each child is required to have a library bag for protecting library books when carrying them. It is important that books are returned on time. Lost library books must be replaced or the replacement cost paid.

School Banking

Commonwealth Bank Student Banking is provided. Each Monday students bring their bankbook and deposit to the School Office. Banking will be completed and books returned to children.

Notification of Student Absence

The School must be contacted by the child's parent or carer on **every** morning of the child's absence, either by phone - 6326 3082 or email - absentee.sfb@catholic.tas.edu.au
Where it is known in advance that your child will be absent, please inform your child's teacher or the School Office. If your child is absent for 5 days or more, notice needs to be in writing.

St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary School

Uniform Guidelines



By wearing the correct school uniform, students can readily identify with and feel pride in our school. It is the expectation of the School that all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 wear the correct school uniform.

2020

All Kinder and Prep Students in Full PE Uniform 5 days per week
(Optional PE Uniform for Year 1 and Year 2 Students)

2021

All Kinder, Prep and Year 1 Students in Full PE Uniform 5 days per week
(Optional PE Uniform for Year 2 Students)

2022

All Kinder, Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Students in Full PE Uniform 5 days
per week

Kindergarten to Year 2 students will wear PE Uniform at SFB
(Transition period 2020-2022)

Students in Year 3-Year 6 may wear sports uniform every Friday and on timetabled PE days.

Kindergarten-Year 2 students wear Sports Uniform every day.



Year 3-Year 6 School Uniform

Summer Term 1 and 4	Winter Term 2 and 3
<p><u>Boys</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey shorts • Short sleeve grey shirt • Bottle green V-neck jumper • Grey socks • Black leather shoes <p><u>Girls Option 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School summer checked dress • Bottle green V-neck jumper • Lemon socks • Black leather shoes <p><u>Girls Option 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey shorts - (by order only) • Short sleeve lemon blouse with 'Peter Pan' collar - (by order only) • Bottle green V-neck jumper • Lemon Socks • Black leather shoes <p><u>Additional Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hats must be worn in Term 1 and from Week 7 Term 3. 	<p><u>Boys</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long grey trousers OR shorts • Long sleeve grey shirt with school tie • Bottle green V-neck jumper • Grey socks with trousers/long school socks with shorts • Black leather shoes <p><u>Girls Option 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green and gold plaid skirt • Long sleeve lemon blouse with 'Peter Pan' collar • Bottle green V-neck jumper • Pantyhose (beige or brown) • Black leather shoes <p><u>Girls Option 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long grey trousers OR shorts • Long sleeve lemon blouse with 'Peter Pan' collar • Bottle green V-neck jumper • Grey socks with trousers/long school socks with shorts • Black leather shoes <p><u>Additional Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green scarves, gloves and beanies may be worn outside • Bottle Green School Coats may be worn
Kindergarten-Year 2 Uniform/Year 3-6 Physical Education Uniform	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottle green St Finn Barr's school shorts • St Finn Barr's Sports 'Polo' top in House Colour • St Finn Barr's Sports 'Rugby' top • Bottle green St Finn Barr's track pants - short white sport socks. Ankle socks are permitted. • Sandshoes 	
<p><u>Additional Items K-Year 6</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Backpack with school logo. • Green folder with school logo for reading books, homework, & newsletter. 	

Uniform Expectations



- Students are expected to wear the correct uniform.
- If a student is not in uniform, a note of explanation is required.
- Hair below the shoulder must be tied up.
- No jewellery on wrists except for watches and/or a single gold/silver bangle.
- One simple gold or silver signature ring only.
- Simple sleeper earrings or studs only (gold or silver). Maximum of two per ear.
- Green or gold coloured hairbands & ribbons.
- Only clear nail polish, not coloured.
- No makeup or lip gloss.

Please name all clothing items

Uniform Shop

We have a Uniform Shop located on the upper level of our main building on Invermay Road. We have made a commitment to support families by setting uniforms at affordable prices.

Opening Hours are:

Thursday 8:30 am – 9:30 am and 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm.



Music Band/Strings Program

Our School, along with all other Catholic Primary Schools in Launceston, offers an optional Band and Strings Program for Year 3 to 6 students.

Tutors work with students (during school hours) who would like to learn an instrument for Band (clarinet, percussion, saxophone etc) or an instrument for Strings Program (violin, cello).

There is a cost if your child is part of the Program, which compared to outside school hour private tuition is fantastic value. Please access the Program information at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AQJR6xku99vB4Kx_ztwqjQOd2_8DDxhGj8y6rPETZsg/edit or contact the School Office for further information. These tuition fees MUST be paid in full.

Birth - 5

St Finn Barr's runs a Birth to 4 Program in our School Hall each Thursday morning from 9:00 am - 10:45 am and Thursday afternoon from 1:00 pm - 2:45 pm. All families and community members are able to attend these sessions. Please bring along a piece of fruit to share.



Religious Education

The Good News Curriculum Documents guide our School RE program. We provide a Program that is faithful to the Gospel, and to the human person, by providing learning experiences and Liturgical Celebrations that are relevant to the child and develop the foundation for a Christian way of life.

Each Monday we begin the School Week with a class led liturgy. Each Thursday a class will celebrate with our Parish Priest a liturgy in their classroom while two other classes on a rotational basis also attend the Parish Mass at 12.00 o'clock. In addition, the whole school attends Mass on four/five occasions during the school year.

Specific Sacramental preparation occurs at Parish level supported by the School.

- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Sacrament of Eucharist
- Sacrament of Confirmation

An integral part of Our Mission and Statement of Policy is the pastoral care of students, staff and parents and families. It is faith in action.



Student Wellbeing

St Finn Barr's Catholic School is able to provide our children with a range of tools to support their wellbeing. At St Finn Barr's we believe that all children will learn best when they are taking care of the social and emotional wellbeing. Wellbeing at St Finn Barr's includes:

Our School Chaplain/Counselling

Our School Chaplain is available to work 1:1 with students and parents in providing Pastoral Support for 2 days per week (Tuesday and Friday). This role helps to provide emotional support and wellbeing to students and parents at the school. Our Chaplain can offer support with friendship issues, resilience building, self-esteem and in many other areas. All shared information is confidential.

St Finn Barr's has a counsellor from Catholic Care onsite each 3 days per fortnight.

Referral forms are available from the office if parents wish to make referrals to these services.

MyTERN

"The MYTERN skill is based on a simple metaphor: you are the driver and only you have control of your steering wheel; you can't control anyone else's steering wheel; you use your emotions as your GPS; each road you drive down is an emotion, and it is only you who decides which road of emotion you will drive down. The aim is to be in control of your steering wheel no matter what road you are on."

MyTERN is a language we use with children that helps children monitor their own emotions. It can and should be used at home as a way of supporting children. Teachers will continue to empower children with this language.



RULER

What is **RULER**?

RULER is an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning into schools, developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. ... **RULER** teaches the skills of emotional intelligence — those associated with recognizing, understanding, labelling, expressing, and regulating emotion.

MJR

Making Jesus Real (MJR) is a way of living. Our Year 5 and 6 students are explicitly involved in the MJR Program; however, it is also a language we use across our School. MJR allows students to focus on their gifts, the gifts of others, learn to be the best self they can be and to encourage and help others to be their best. MJR uses slogans such as being a WEST person; right time right place; being a go-kart, not a billy cart and many other phrases.

Circle Time

Circle Time is a strategy which allows teachers with their students to focus on issues that may be affecting their students. Focuses may be around friendships, keeping your cool, expressing emotions, bullying or many other areas which arise during the school week. During Circle Time, three strict rules are adhered to: no put-downs, right to pass and one person speaks at a time.



SWPBS

Positive Behaviour Support is a way for our School to explicitly teach appropriate behaviours. As a school, we spend time with children sharing what is acceptable behaviour. In the first week of school, EVERY child spends time in various spaces in and around our School learning/remembering what is expected of them. Circle Time is a teaching strategy which allows the teacher to explore issues of concern. Also, it allows children to explore and address issues which concern them. It provides a structured mechanism for solving problems, in which all participants have an equal footing.

At St Finn Barr's:

We work hard to create a genuine relationship with Christ each day through our interactions with others; to support every member in our school learning community, to make our school a better place.

Medication

Any children who require regular medication do so by coming to the School Office. Parents complete all necessary paperwork and all medication is stored in the Office. Students who require EpiPens or Asthma Inhalers must have an Individual Medical Plans completed by their medical professional which must be updated yearly. EpiPens are stored at the Office with the individual medical plans.

Fee Structure

Fee information is available from the School Website or the School Office. Any family wishing to apply for a fee remission needs to return a completed form to the Office by Term 1, Week 4.

In Conclusion

Please, if you have any questions about our School, do not hesitate to phone or email. We are a loving, caring, compassionate and considerate Community and thoroughly look forward to meeting with you and your child or children.

Thanks



Liz Illingworth
Principal

