From the Principal's desk...

STAFF CONFERENCE
Findon Staff attended a two day Conference on Friday March 13th and Saturday March 14th. We worked on our whole school student behaviour approach: ‘Restorative Practices’ as well as our School Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan for 2015. It was a highly successful and productive two days.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of School Council will be held this Tuesday 17th March 2015 at 6 pm in the Staffroom. At this meeting the Annual Report to the School Community, which outlines the progress of our school, will be presented. All positions will be declared vacant. All members of the school community are welcome to attend the AGM. New School Council committees will be formed at this meeting. Parents are invited to attend this. Please notify the office if you would like to attend.

LEAP WEEK
Teachers will be involved in planning days this week where they will work in teams to develop the curriculum design for Term 2. We hope students enjoy their enrichment activities throughout the week.

INTEGRITY AND CHARACTER
The ancient Greek philosopher, Plato, said, ‘When people speak ill of you, live so nobody may believe them’. Our own integrity and character are the best defence against hurtful and annoying people. Nobody can make us angry without our permission and we do not have to accept the opinions of others about ourselves as the truth, even though our attitudes are shaped and influenced by the people we mix with. Our character is developed through self-control, the ability to judge whether that irritating grain of sand will turn into a pearl or just be washed away leaving no trace. Our self-control gives us true power, to be able to keep our temper even when provoked, to hear an insult without returning it or even brooding over it, to turn away anger with a smile. Self-control gives our character dignity and strength, supporting us in our everyday conduct. It is important to remind ourselves that:
- If we want people to be kind to us – we should be kind.
- If we want people to be generous to us – we should be generous.
- If we want people to care for our feelings – we should think about how they feel.
We should use our integrity and character to help make our world a better place. Although life may not always be easy for us, we can always choose to make it easier for others.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK
G’day, Hello, Καλωσόρισες, Bonjour, Hola, Ciao, Bünâ zııa, Ni Hao, Yiasou, Salem Alaykom,
The purpose of the week is to celebrate our school’s multicultural community and the rights of every individual to safety, respect and equality. It is an opportunity for Victorians to come together to share aspects of their culture, faith and language, and celebrate the benefits multiculturalism brings to our state. It is important to acknowledge that while Victorians speak many languages and observe different faiths and customs, this diversity actually strengthens and unites us. 43.5% of Victorians were either born overseas or have at least one parent born overseas. Victorians come from 233 countries, speak 180 different languages and practice 116 different faiths.
At Findon Primary School, we recognise and value all the different cultures that exist within our school community. Our Foundation students who have been learning all about ‘Me in My family’ will celebrate our different cultures and unique families by hosting a Grandparents/Special Persons Day.

**Friday 20st March is Harmony Day.** It is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. It is fitting to acknowledge our Indigenous Australians who have been the traditional owners of the Australian continent for 60,000 years. For more information about multiculturalism visit [www.culturaldiversity.vic.gov.au](http://www.culturaldiversity.vic.gov.au)

**BAKER’S DELIGHT HOT CROSS BUNS FUNDRAISER & EASTER RAFFLE**

Please remember to get your HOT CROSS BUNS order into school as soon as possible and also your raffle tickets to be in the draw for our Easter Baskets.

**INTRODUCING OUR WONDERFUL ADMINISTRATION STAFF**

Each week we have been featuring one of our learning teams here at Findon, as a way of getting to know everyone in our Findon Community and be able to put a name to each face. This week we introduce our awesome Admin team, Debbie, Jacky and Leanne in the office as well as Bill our garden and maintenance person.

Hi Everyone, my name is Debbie and I work in the Office. I have been at Findon for 10 years now, golly it just seems like yesterday that I started. When I am not working I love to spend time with my grandsons Blake, Cody and Tyson. I also love to spend time at my caravan at Cohuna where I enjoy reading books and relaxing. Please pop in to the Office and say hi if you get a chance, we love to see your smiling faces.

Hi, my name is Jacky and I have worked here for a very long time. In fact there are a few former students who are now parents here at Findon. My husband Noel and I think we are the luckiest people in the world with our two wonderful sons and five beautiful grandchildren. I enjoy reading and spending time with our family and friends. After all these years I still love my job, and it is made more enjoyable by the people I work with, and your wonderful children.

Hi, my name is Leanne and I’ve worked at Findon for 7 years. I have two beautiful children, Cooper who is in year 11 and Christy who has moved to Federation University to live in Ballarat. I have a wonderful partner, Fabio and his gorgeous daughter Ruby. I enjoy spending time with my family and pets, Polly the rabbit and George the cat. I look forward to coming to work every day to see the wonderful people I work with.

Hi, I’m Bill and I am the new gardener/maintenance man at Findon. I am married to Janine and have two children, Amy and Nathan.

I love being involved in all sport whether it be playing or watching. I look to forward meeting new people and working at Findon.

**STUDENT ATTENDANCE - Every day counts!**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

**2015 VICTORIAN PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE:**

_**Inspiring children and young people to read more books!**_

Reading is an essential life skill for everyone and the challenge encourages families to be actively involved in supporting children to read. We are encouraging all Findon students to read the set number of books and record their efforts online. It’s a great way to get students talking about reading with friends and family and pushing themselves to read as many books as they can. Students will have until September to complete the challenge, so GOOD LUCK.

**HATS & SUNNIES**

We are a Sun Smart school and therefore, are required by policy to wear hats and sunglasses from October to April. Students are required to wear a hat and sunglasses at school for the duration of this time. Please ensure your child has a hat and sunglasses with their name clearly written on both items. Parents are able to purchase both of these from the office.

I leave you with the following words to ponder from Nelson Mandela...

‘No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.’

Have a great week everyone

Paula Cosgrave
Principal
Congratulations to the following 19 students who entered the ‘Maths Problem of the Week’ in Week 7 of Term 1. Cuthbert won the week with 9 student entries and 45 House Points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>HG</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>HG</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>House</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eveleen C.</td>
<td>LS</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Darcy C.</td>
<td>SM</td>
<td>Upper</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan M.</td>
<td>KK</td>
<td>Upper</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Harrison C.</td>
<td>SM</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sami A.</td>
<td>HP</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Neil D.</td>
<td>JW</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoenix S.</td>
<td>JW</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Cooper B-M.</td>
<td>LS</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Roycroft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rylee M.</td>
<td>FH</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Annabelle M.</td>
<td>LS</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Roycroft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaisara H.</td>
<td>MZ</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Aarih K.</td>
<td>JW</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Roycroft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kamil H.</td>
<td>LT</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Alex B-M.</td>
<td>GB</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Roycroft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angeleen P.</td>
<td>SM</td>
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<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Riley G.</td>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Roycroft</td>
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<td>Timam A.</td>
<td>FH</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Cuthbert</td>
<td>Declan M.</td>
<td>SM</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Strickland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy C.</td>
<td>DF</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Freeman</td>
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**House Points**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cuthbert - WIN</th>
<th>Freeman</th>
<th>Roycroft</th>
<th>Strickland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
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**THIS WEEK’S PROBLEMS**

Students who enter this week will earn 5 House Points for their House and be announced at assembly. They will also be published in the newsletter.

**Upper (4 to 6)**

**Name:**

**House:**

**Home Group:**

In a container there are spiders and ants. All together there are 100 legs. How many of each creature are in the container? Is there only one solution?

**Middle (2 to 4)**

**Name:**

**House:**

**Home Group:**

Finish off these patterns:

7, 27, 47, _____, _____, _____

5, 10, 20, 40, _____, _____, _____

100, 91, 82, 73, _____, _____

Rules for each pattern:
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

**Junior (P to 2)**

**Name:**

**House:**

**Home Group:**

What number am I?

I am a 2 digit number.

My digits add up to 14

Both my digits are even

My first digit is smaller than my second digit

I am more than 5 groups of 10

I am less than 60 + 10

I am ?

_____ _____

Please submit your entries to the OFFICE by Thursday afternoon. Thank-you.

**MATHLETICS and SPELLODROME**

A reminder that the student app for Mathletics is available for the iphone, ipad, tablets and smart phones. Most of the course work (but not all) and Live Mathletics is available via this platform.

In the last two weeks, 41 certificates have been earned by Findon students. The home groups with the most certificates so far this year are HP (46) and KK (14). HP is setting a cracking pace and it looks like they will be hard to catch!

**LOG ONTO MATHLETICS AT:** [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au)

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Download the tiqbiz app to keep up to date with the latest Findon news

National Day Against Bullying Friday 20th March 2015

At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone. Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying. You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

- **Listen** calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. After they’ve told you their story, ask questions to get more details if you need to: who, what, where, when. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child’s experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.

- **Reassure** your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like, ‘That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that.’ or ‘I’m so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that’s not fair at all’.

- **Ask** your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect your child, helping them to find their own solution is a better option. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.

- **Visit** [www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au) to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas for different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.

- **Contact** the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help. Make an appointment to meet with your child’s teacher and, if you need to, ask to talk with the principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child’s safety.

- **Check in regularly** with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

Our school is taking part in the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence by participating in age appropriate anti-bullying lessons during this week’s PATHS session and taking part in a positive anti-bullying slogan photo which will be made into a video and shown at this week’s assembly. Look out for the photos in the foyer in the near future!

Thank you for taking the time to read the Student Wellbeing and Engagement page! Mary Zaikis
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Start date</strong></td>
<td>Feb 2015</td>
<td>Feb 2014</td>
<td>Feb 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>End date</strong></td>
<td>Dec 2017</td>
<td>Dec 2016</td>
<td>Dec 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Once off deposit</strong></td>
<td>End of term 3, 2014</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>1st Payment</strong></td>
<td>Friday 6th Feb 2015</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2nd Payment</strong></td>
<td>Friday 17th Apr 2015</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3rd Payment</strong></td>
<td>Friday 17th Jul 2015</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4th Payment</strong></td>
<td>Friday 9th Oct 2015</td>
<td>$60</td>
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**A Message From Your JSC**

On Thursday 26\textsuperscript{th} March the JSC are running a fundraiser called “I want to be Day”. For a Gold Coin Donation you can dress up in costume of what you want to be when you grow up. All money raised will be donated to State School’s Relief. State School’s Relief help disadvantaged students with uniform and footwear, so they can fully participate in their education.

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**EASTER RAFFLE 2015 - DONATIONS**

Easter is fast approaching and the Easter Bunny is looking to drop off some yummy treats!! Findon will once again have an Easter raffle this year, but we need the Findon community to help out with our Easter baskets. We ask for an Easter donation, whether it is a chocolate Easter egg, hot cross buns, vouchers etc. You can drop off your goodies at the office with the lovely office staff.

\[\text{Tickets have been sent home.}\]

Prices of tickets are:

- $5 for 5 tickets. (If you need more, you can get them from the school office)
- Prizes: 3 baskets full of Easter treats. The raffle will be drawn on the last day of term 1 at assembly.
Premier’s Active April

Premier’s Active April encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. It’s free, it’s fun and it’s part of the Victorian Government’s commitment to get more people active and healthy. As a participant, you can log your daily activity with the Active April app and chart your progress throughout the month. You can also create and join teams, track the progress of team members and discover events that are taking place in your local area.

In 2015, every Premier's Active April participant will receive*:
- 10 free YMCA passes
- 15% off at Sportsmart in store and online
- one hour free tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Reserve
- a 2 for 1 ticket offer to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium
- a chance to win some great prizes including our major registration prizes of four tickets to the 2015 Toyota AFL Grand Final (GFAFL15/12), a $1,500 bike voucher or a GoPro camera
- a chance for your school to win sporting equipment and visits from high-profile sporting personalities
- weekly email tips on being active and healthy eating

If you’re under 12, ask a parent or guardian to help you sign up.
Just go to this website.
Or check the newsletter for more information
DATES TO REMEMBER - TERM 1

- MARCH 17 - LEAP Learning Team 4
- MARCH 18 - Year 5 Night of Notables. EM/TD/KK 5:30pm - 7:30pm
- MARCH 19 - LEAP Learning Team 1
- MARCH 19 - Learning Team 2 Celebrate Harmony Day
- MARCH 20 - LEAP Learning Team 2
- MARCH 20 - National Day Against Bullying
- MARCH 25 - 4/5/6 House Cross Country
- MARCH 26 - State School’s Relief Fundraiser. Students to come to school dressed as what they would like to be when they grow up. Gold coin donation.
- MARCH 27 - Last Day Term 1. 1.30pm Dismissal

2015 SCHOOL TERM DATES

TERM 1
January 28 to March 27
TERM 2
April 13 to June 26
TERM 3
July 13 to September 18
Term 4
October 5 to December 18

LOSE 2-4KG OF BODY FAT IN ONLY 14 DAYS AT SNAP FITNESS EPPING

• 14 DAY TRIAL MEMBERSHIP WITH 24/7 ACCESS
• 2 X GROUP PT SESSIONS PER WEEK
• NUTRITIONAL GUIDELINES & RECIPES

ONLY $29
VALID UNTIL MARCH 31 2015
CALL 0406 576 275 FOR MORE DETAILS
Did you know we offer a three year old rostered playgroup at Findon Primary School?

Monday 9:30 – 12noon
and
Friday 9:30 – 12noon

Learning opportunities include visiting the library to borrow books, arts & crafts, and a play program that suits the needs of each child.

Please visit the school’s office to obtain an enrolment package or phone 94041362 for more information.