

St Nicholas of Myra School

PO Box 265, Penrith 2751. Phone: (02) 4752 3300

Email: stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: <http://www.stnicholaspenrith.catholic.edu.au>

Term 4 Week 7 2020



Friday 27 Nov

Year 6 Graduation
Mass & Graduation
Certificate
Nomination Note Due

Year 6 Fun Day Note
Due

Assembly
coordinated by Stage
1 held in classrooms

Sunday 29 Nov Advent Begins

Monday 30 Nov -
Friday 4 Dec
Swim School

Sunday 6 Dec
St Nicholas of Myra
Feast Day

Monday 7 Dec
Mufti Day Celebrate
St Nicholas of Myra
Feast Day

Reports Go Home

Wednesday 9 Dec
Year 6 Fun Day

Thursday 10 Dec
NO Newsletter - to
be sent in Week 10

Friday 11 Dec
9:30am - Year 6
Graduation End of
Year Mass—streamed
live to all Stages
Followed by presen-
tation of Certificates
and Graduation Cere-
mony

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

This Sunday 29 November begins the season of Advent in the Catholic Church. Advent begins the Church's liturgical year and is a time of preparation for our hands, hearts and minds for the anniversary of Christ's birth on Christmas.

Each year in our church and school we use the symbol of the Advent wreath during this season. The use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding Catholic tradition that was originally adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas.

So what does the Advent Wreath symbolise?

- Leafy evergreens, signifying continuous life
- The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolises the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul and the everlasting life found in Christ
- Any pine cones, nuts, or seed pods used to decorate the wreath also symbolise life and resurrection
- The four candles (3 purple, 1 rose/pink) represent the four weeks of Advent
- The purple candles symbolise the prayer, penance and preparatory sacrifices and goods works
- The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing
- The light from the candles signifies Christ, the Light of the World
- A white candle placed in the middle of the wreath represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Eve



Blessing for our Advent Wreath

Father,
as each year comes round anew,
we look forward
to the coming of your Son
and recall His first coming
in the stable at Bethlehem.
We ask your blessing
on this advent wreath +
which reminds us of your gift
of Christ our Light.
Bless each of us and make us
more Christ-like this Christmas.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

This year our school advent wreath will be placed in the office foyer as a reminder of this special time in our church year.

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic
Principal

General News

Staffing Farewell Announcements

We are of course always sad when we have staff who leave us! We will formally farewell and thank the following educators at our End of Year Mass;

- Mrs Susannah Sinclair and
- Miss Jessica Ishac.

World Teacher's (Staff) Day

A very big thank you to Nicole Rebernik, Helena Steed, Sarah Lestal-Braid, Clare Fidler and Felicia Meyer for helping us celebrate a COVID-19 safe luncheon for our staff through their generous goodies!

Our staff here are people who truly care about the students, love feedback about the craft of their teaching and more importantly they are educators who want to make a difference. I can not thank them enough for every time this year we have had to innovate and change quickly! Thank you for the hours of time, energy and effort that happens beyond the classroom!

Important Dates - 2021

2021 Start of Year Important Dates

- **Wednesday 27 January 2021 (8:30am – 11am)** - 2021 Kindergarten Best Start Assessments and Years 1- 6 MAI Assessments.
- **Thursday 28 January 2021 (8:30am – 4:00pm)** - 2021 Kindergarten Best Start Assessments and Years 1-6 MAI Assessments.
- **Friday 29 January 2021 (9:00am – 3:10pm)** - First day of school for Years 1-6.
- **Friday 29 January 2021 (8:30am – 3:00pm)** - 2021 Kindergarten- MAI Assessments.
- **Monday 1 February 2021 (9:30am - 2:30pm)** – Kindergarten first day at school - part day!
- **Monday 1 February 2021- 9:30am** - 2021 Kindergarten Cheers and Tears Morning Tea for the Parents *to be confirmed based on current NSW Health & CEDP advice.*
- **Tuesday 2 February 2021 (9:00am – 3:10pm)** – Kindergarten **first full day** with the rest of the school.

General News - Important Dates

Advance Notice around End of Year Dates.

In Term 1 Week 9, we notified families about these events dates. Then COVID -19 arrived and changed many events. Below is a reminder of these dates. These may be subject to change in relation to the Parish needs and the Parish Priest and the Government's advice specifically in relation to COVID-19. We are still awaiting advice from the Government and CEDP for some of these events; however I did not wish for anyone to not be aware. Once we have confirmation we will inform you as soon as possible.

Next Week

- Swim School - Monday 30 November to Friday 4 December 2020 (students only)
- Christmas Concert - Thursday 3 December 2020 will be shared with families in a different format.

Weeks 9 & 10

Wednesday 9 December 2020 - Year 6 Graduation Fun Day

Friday 11 December 2020

- **End of Year Mass 9:30am and Graduation Certificate Presentation 10:30am - St Nicholas of Myra Church.** Each Year 6 child will attend with 2 nominated adults only. All other stages will be watching from their stage space on the Church Facebook page. Other family members can also join to watch via the Church Facebook page.
- **Graduation Celebration 11:00am - St Nicholas of Myra School Hall** (Year 6 students only and Staff)
- **End of Year Awards Assembly 1:30pm - 2:45pm - St Nicholas of Myra Church.** Each child receiving an award will have 2 nominated adults attend. All other children will be watching in their stages on the Church Facebook page. Other family members can also join to watch via the Church Facebook page.

Monday 14 December 2020

- **10:30 - 11:00 am** - Transition to new learning spaces and/or stages.
- **2:40pm** - Year 6 Farewell Arch 2:40pm - parents/carers can be present in the car park to view (spaced 1.5m from each family group) from the public footpath into the carpark area.

Tuesday 15 December

- Swimming Carnival with Ribbons being awarded at the end of each race (students only at this point)
- LAST DAY for STUDENTS!

Staff Development Days (SDD): Wednesday 16, Thursday 17 and Friday 18 December 2020
(no students on site)

Catholic Out of School Hours Care (COSHC) are only available on SDD - Wednesday 16 December from 7am till 6:30pm. Please ensure you contact Erin on 0418 260 386 to book in your child.

*COSHC are also available for booking on Wednesday January 27 and Thursday January 28 2021 from 7am till 6:30pm. Please ensure you book in for your child if you are wanting this service.
COSHC resumes before and after school care on Friday 29 January 2021.*

General News - Swim School

2020 Swim School

The school swimming program held at Nepean Aquatic Centre is taking place **next week (Term 4 - Week 8 - Monday 30/11/20 to Friday 04/12/20)**. The program is run by fully trained instructors who are employed by Nepean Swim and Fitness.

During the program, students will be assessed in regards to their ability and placed into specific groups catering for their needs, with all lessons running for 60 minutes. Teachers will be attending and also offer supervision at the pool as well as organising students at school and on the return journey. Students will be travelling to and from the pool by bus and this is included in the cost of the program. Please find below an outline of departure and arrival times as well as what your child/children will be required to wear and bring to school each day.

Dates: Monday 30 November – Friday 4 December 2020

2020 Itinerary: School – Nepean Aquatic Centre - School

School Means of Transport: Bus

	Leave School	Return to School
K - 2	11:45am (Lesson 12:10 pm- 1:10 pm)	1:45 pm
3 - 6	12:45pm (Lesson 1:15 pm- 2:15 pm)	2:45 pm

Students are to wear their swimmers to school, with their school uniform over the top.

Students need to bring to school, in a separate bag; underwear to change into, a t-shirt to wear to the pool over swimmers, towel, goggles (if desired) and thongs (or the like) as footwear **must be worn** to the pool.

Students will change out of their wet swimmers and back into their underwear and school uniform upon returning to school.

Please note that a plastic bag is needed to place wet items. **Please ensure all items worn to school and brought in the bag are labelled** – including shoes, socks, underwear, towel and goggles. Sun block is not required as the centre is an indoor facility.

All students are required to dress and undress themselves so please practise and encourage independence at home. A reminder that due to the current COVID 19 restrictions in place, no parents will be permitted into the pool.

Religious Education

St Nicholas of Myra Feast Day 6 December

Saint Nicholas was a Christian Bishop who helped the needy. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew. Nicholas's reputation for generosity and kindness gave rise to legends of miracles he performed for the poor and unhappy.

To celebrate the Feast of St Nicholas on Monday 7 December the students are asked to come dressed in Christmas colours (red, green and white) and will be engaged in activities about St Nicholas on the day. As St Nicholas was a person who helped the needy we ask that each child brings a donation for the St Vincent De Paul Christmas hamper on this day. The donation could be from the list below or an item that is non perishable and would provide food or joy for a family in need this Christmas. All donations are to be brought to school in a bag and placed at the drop off point outside the school office in the morning.

Christmas Decorations	Christmas Cake/ Pudding	Long Life Custard/ Milk	Lollies	Coffee/ Tea/ Sugar
Tins of Shoulder Ham	Drinks (Soft Drink, juice, cordial)	Jam/ Honey/ Vegemite	Tins of Fruit	Hot Chocolate/ Milo
Chips	Gravy	Biscuits	Tins of Vegetables	Rice
Pasta/ Pasta Sauce	Meal Base Ingredients	Christmas plates/ napkins	Reusable Shopping Bags	Salsa

Facts about St Nicholas

- St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children, sailors, merchants, thieves and pawnbrokers.
- He was of Greek descent and was born during the third century in the village of Patara. He lived most of his life in the nearby town of Myra (both of which were part Lycia, present-day Turkey).
- The name "Nicholas" means "people's victory" in Greek.
- He was often referred to as "boy bishop," becoming a bishop at the age of only 30 years.
- He was the Roman Catholic Bishop of Myra during a time when Christians were persecuted by the Romans.
- A pure liquid called the Manna of St. Nicholas has been known to flow from his bones since his death 17 centuries ago. The Manna is collected by a Dominican priest every 9 May to bless Christians.



Religious Education

Confirmation

Congratulations to the following students who completed their Initiation into the Catholic Church making their Confirmation. These students have said YES to continuing their Catholic faith!

Weskerr Alamgir

Willow Alexander

Marina Broz

Ryan Campora-Kaal

Benjamin Dela Paz

Odessa Gibbs

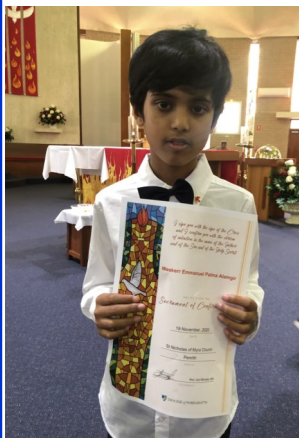
Lolah Lestal-Braid

Jayden Mendonca

Ellie Moen

Isabel Mnsic

Aubrey Parker



School Report Terminology

Religious Education

As we have been involved in teaching the DRAFT New Curriculum some of the terms found in these Semester reports may be new. Take a moment to look at these terms below.

Flourishing - Human flourishing occurs when your actions reflect the person that you were born to be. In Christian terms, this is being the person that God made you to be.

Flourishing is a constant state of growing: reviewing and reacting to the world around you. This is not to be confused with wealth or 'happiness.' It requires you to be honest, self-aware, considerate and responsible for yourself.

Common Home - referring to our earth as a whole. This includes the natural environment as well as environments made by people such as the classroom, our home and various other community settings.

Ways of Knowing - Epistemology- How do you know? It is the study of how we know and assess claims and competing claims for truth. The 'Ways of Knowing' studied include reason, empiricism, emotivism, intuition and experience.

English Terminology

Students use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferential meaning from texts.

Literal - referring to the way that students comprehend a text using literal meaning of the text or concepts within the text to their understanding.

Inferential - referring the information within the text that may not be directly stated. Students may use knowledge of the topic, images within the text, or connections between other texts to make inferences about the text.

Structure - referring to the way students compose writing texts. This includes text structures like paragraphing, headings and subheadings and cohesion between sentences and ideas. It also refers to students' knowledge that there are many different types of structures to suit different genres of writing.

Sentences Types - refers to the sentence structure used in writing.

Simple sentence - refers to a sentence which includes a subject and a verb.
For example: It was raining.

Compound Sentence - refers to a sentence with two or more independent clauses joining by a coordinating conjunction.
For example: It was raining so I took my umbrella.

Complex Sentence - refers to a sentence that has one or more independent clause and one or more dependent clauses joined together by a conjunction.
For example: As it was raining, I took my umbrella.

School Report Terminology

Mathematics Terminology

Working Mathematically

Working Mathematically is integral to the learning process in Mathematics. It provides students with the opportunity to engage in genuine Mathematical activity and develop the skills to become flexible, critical and creative users of Mathematics.

Working Mathematically involves six key skills students develop when working in the three main strands of Mathematics;

Fluency

Fluency is the recall of factual knowledge and concepts. It is also the ability to select and apply appropriate procedures to solve problems accurately and efficiently.

Communicating

Communicating is being able to describe, represent, express and explain mathematical situations, concepts, methods and solutions. Students can communicate using oral language, notation or diagrams.

Understanding

Students show understanding when they make connections between experiences and related concepts, and progressively expand and develop their ideas.

Reasoning

Reasoning is the ability to analyse, evaluate, explain, infer, generalise, deduce and reach conclusions.

Justification

Students justify strategies and use strategic thinking to draw conclusions and explain the reasonableness of findings, providing results where appropriate.

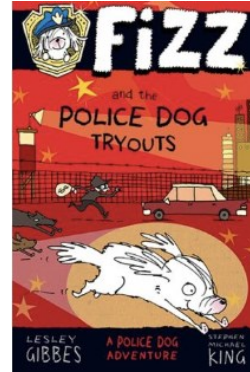
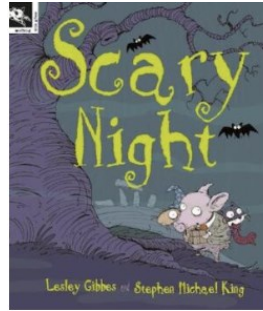
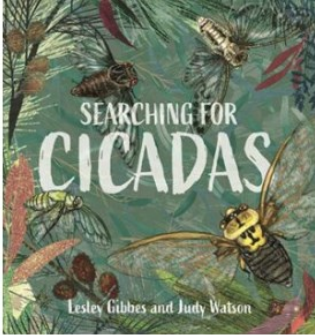
Problem Solving

Problem solving is where students interpret, formulate, investigate, model and solve mathematical problems in familiar and unfamiliar situations.

Learning

Author Visit

Last Thursday we had an incursion Author Visit to each stage at our school. On this occasion we were fortunate enough to have the critically acclaimed author Lesley Gibbes visit. She is most well known for some of the following titles:



Lesley captivated the audience by taking students along the journey of how she develops ideas, builds research and edits her ideas before refining the perfect idea that she believes will engage her readers. She was able to share unique and creative perspectives around the development of ideas as her stories are edited and changed. She also posed many interesting questions to the students.



"I like when she read the Scary Night book because it was scary and funny."
Harrison Year 1

"Lesley explained the cicadas are brave but not defensive"
Jadey Year 3

"I like how she explained to us about the cicadas and she really explained her story with a lot of detail because it was really funny. Then she showed us some dried up cicada shells"
Nox Year 4

Learning

L.E.A.D Leadership Day

On Tuesday 24 November, students in Years 4 and 5 participated in a leadership day. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience, led by a positive and energetic leader, Cameron, from L.E.A.D Leadership. Students were able to engage in different hands-on and interactive activities which taught them a range of skills and strategies to develop valuable leadership qualities. The students learnt about the importance of working as a team, building one another up through encouragement and giving everything a go. Here are some pictures of their fantastic day!



What did we do?

We did a lot of team building activities. For example, putting a book back together with no page numbers and only pictures, and most groups didn't realize that the answers were on the blurb. Another example was, getting your team from one end of the playground to the other using circles. If there was no pressure on it, it would be taken away, and we only had a small amount to place. We also did fun activities like shoe toss.

What did we learn?

We learnt about teamwork, growing as leaders and much, much more. - Isabel Year 5

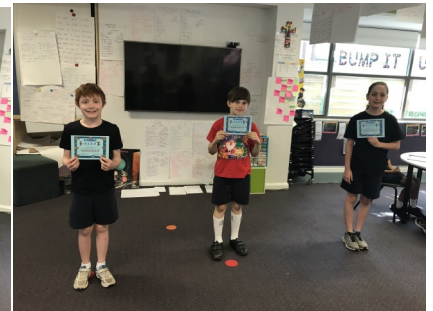
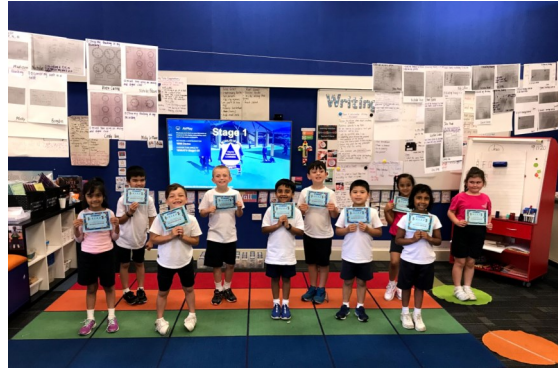
On the Leadership Day I liked all the activities. My favourite one was pizza. We did a lot of teamwork games like the frog game that was really fun. On the Leadership Day the writing on the paper taught me about leadership - Jayden Year 5

I thought it was really fun because we were learning through games that required listening to other students ideas, teamwork and communication. Some of the games we played were cross the lake, the cup stack and zoom. I feel like it's made me the best leader I can be- Oliver Year 4

H.E.R.O Awards

Chris YANG	K
Juleina LOTONUUBROWN	K
Kristina ROSARIO	K
Naoelle TIPLER	K
Natalie ROZARIO	K
Parv GULATI	K
Adhya DEY	1
Amos INGEGNERI	1
Andros SOURLAS	1
Esha NATH	1
Harrison DONALDSON	1
Janelle ROSARIO	1
John WOOD	1
Karthik CHIKKA	1
Michael REALES	1
Olivia ANDERSON	1
Olivia ARMITSTEAD	1
Cindy GUO	2
Eden BLASZCZYK	2
Harmoni HILL	2
Sophia YANG	2
Grace MEYER	3
Hannah REBERNIK	3
Holly RIGO	3
Lola GIBBS	3
Rishi RENJU	3
Zain DANIL	3
Abby MCINTOSH	4
Jacob WHITE	4
Nox HILL	4
Alena TEREPO	5
Jayden MENDONCA	5
Mark DANIL	5
Skyla HILL	5
Ellie MOEN	6B
Joseph EZEKIEL	6B
Joyce FAWZY	6B
Lara WHITE	6B
Richard REALES	6B
Sakethram HARIPRASAAD	6B
Ethan JOINES	6G

Congratulations to these students who have achieved the H.E.R.O. Award (Here Everyday, Ready Ontime) with full attendance for Term 4, Weeks 1—5.



Correspondence

- ☺ Year 6 Graduation Mass - Nomination of Adults and Health Screening Forms
- ☺ MAI Interview Bookings - Years 1—6 2021
- ☺ Best Start & MAI—2021 Kindergarten
- ☺ St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal and St Nicholas Feast Day

St Nicholas of Myra Parish

326 High St Penrith
4721 2509

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
Sunday 7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am & 6:00pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday 9.30am
Tuesday 6:45am, 9.30am
Wednesday 6:45am, 9:30am
Thursday 9:30am
Friday 6:45am, 12:10pm

