

St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 3 Week 1 2020

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

200 Years of Catholic Education in Australia

In 2020, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta celebrates 200 years of Australia's first Catholic school through continued commitment of growing opportunities of Catholic education for all.

The first Catholic school in this country opened in Parramatta in 1820 by a layman George Marley, Parramatta Marist Brothers. George became the first teacher working with the support of one of the first Catholic priests Fr John Therry. Together, they made school possible for the most disadvantaged. Later, the work of lay teachers would be supported and grown through the service of so many religious women and men. This work, this service, this belief in the role and place of Catholic Education in the lives of young people and their families, is now our work.

The Parish of St Nicholas of Myra is one of the oldest in the Sydney area. Established in 1852, St Nicholas is the oldest of three primary schools in the area. In 1879, Saint Mary MacKillop founded her first convent in NSW in Penrith and in 1880, the Sisters of St Joseph were given leadership of the school community.

Bishop Vincent reminded all leaders at a System Leaders Day that our pioneers were "fundamentally meeting the great cultural challenges of their times" and "had the courage to launch into the deep. We stand on their shoulders and continue their spirit of missionary and innovative leadership."

At St Nicholas of Myra, we are tremendously proud of our Catholic heritage and are committed to celebrating and showcasing the faith, learning and achievements of students in our school. We are delighted about the teaching and learning that occurs in our learning spaces every day, as well as the contributions made to our local communities, in particular the more vulnerable and disadvantaged members.

Two hundred years of continuous Catholic Education is an impressive achievement. We will celebrate 200 years of Catholic Education with a special school celebration later in the year.

Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic
Principal

Staff Development Day is tomorrow!

A friendly reminder that the Staff Development Day is tomorrow (Friday 24 July 2020). All staff (including the Office Ladies) will be in the learning and therefore the office will be closed and any phone calls will go through to the answering machine and will be responded to in the afternoon.

This learning is about our new Religious Education Curriculum and we are fortunate and privileged to have the theologian Anthony Maher give us background to the curriculum and challenge our thinking. This will build on our faith formation to assist our learning and teaching with the students.

General News

School Fees - Leaving Students

A term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during term for the next term. One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment, that is, the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived in this circumstance.

The requirement for a term's notice (10 school weeks) is recognition by the family of the commitment to assist with funding of the school by having their child take a place that could have been offered to another family.

Unless the student is present for the August census or the student is able to be replaced mid-year, which is unlikely, the loss of the student will most certainly result in the loss of significant government funding. Thus a term notice provides the school with an opportunity to replace the student within the next term. Special circumstances that would warrant a waiving of this notice, include:

- Moving due to employment transfer
- Sale of house
- The student has been offered full time employment (High School)
- The student has been offered an apprenticeship (High School)

COVID-19 in NSW

A number of new and emerging clusters of COVID-19 have been identified in various areas across NSW. Given the ongoing situation, we all are encouraged to keep up to date with information and advice from [NSW Health](#) and the [NSW Government](#). Even if you have the mildest of symptoms, it is recommended that you seek medical advice, self-isolate and get tested for COVID-19. [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) include, but are not limited to, fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, runny nose, nausea and loss of appetite.

As you would be aware, the NSW and Victoria border closed as of 12:01am 8 July. NSW residents returning from Victoria after this time must have a permit to enter NSW and are now required to self-isolate for 14 days on returning.

With Term 3 commencing on 20 July 2020, we are all reminded about practising good hygiene and to ensure that social distancing is adhered to for adults. Some practical things to consider are:

- maintain social distancing of 1.5m particularly where you may interact with adults such as the car park etc
- wash hands frequently with soap and water
- cover your nose and mouth (using a flexed elbow or tissue) when you cough or sneeze with your elbow
- no large gatherings
- stay home if you are unwell

Thank you for your continued patience as we make adjustments to keep and care for ourselves and one another by being proactive in getting tested, keeping unwell children at home as well as our good hygiene practices.

Birthdays

As we would like to continue to celebrate the individual particularly on their birthday, if you choose to send in something for their stage or friends, please ensure that these are store purchased and in individual-serving portions (cupcakes, lamingtons, donuts - obviously keeping in mind we are a nut aware school) so there is reduced risk to our children. This is a temporary measure during COVID-19. We will keep you updated to any further changes.

Learning - Reporting and Student Led Conferences!

Thank you for embracing the technology with one another as we zoomed our way through or had a teleconference regarding our students' learning. If you have any feedback or insights into this process we would love to hear from you. Please send us an email with your feedback.

2020 ICAS Assessments

Online payments cut-off date for parents has been extended to Sunday 2 August 2020. Please note no late entries will be accepted.

In 2020 Years 3-6 students have the opportunity to participate in the following ICAS Assessments:

Subject	Sitting date and time
ICAS Science	9am Wednesday 19 August 2020
ICAS Writing	No longer available in 2020
ICAS Digital Technologies	9am Monday 24 August 2020
ICAS English	9am Tuesday 25 August 2020
ICAS Mathematics	9am Tuesday 1 September 2020
ICAS Spelling Bee	9am Wednesday 2 September 2020



Cost per test: \$15.95 including GST

If you would like your child to participate in any of the subjects listed above, please visit the **new online Parent Payment System** to make a direct payment to UNSW Global. The Parent Payment System is a simple and secure online payment service specifically for parents to purchase ICAS Assessments.

Entries and payments will no longer be accepted at school.

The web link for the parent portal is: <https://shop.unswglobal.com.au/pages/pps>

Our school's unique access code is: OMN238

IMPORTANT: Please enter your child's name accurately into the System as it will appear on their ICAS certificate.

PBS4L Focus



Our PBS4L focus this fortnight is being Respectful to staff and peers when on the playground. Students can earn a double playground token when staff observe students following this expectation.



Library Days

- Early Stage 1 - Wednesday
- Stage 1 - Thursday
- Stage 2 - Wednesday
- Stage 3 - Thursday



For children to borrow they must have a **library bag** and **no overdue books**.

Overdue notes have been sent home with you child. Please check their note folder and or school backpack for these. Please return all overdue books ASAP.

Thank you

Sporting News

Sport in 2020

Towards the end of Term 2, staff from all schools have been working closely with the CEDP and NSW Government to work out solutions for sporting days in 2020. After careful consideration, the 2020 School Zone and Diocesan Athletics Carnivals have been cancelled. Gala days that were scheduled for Term 2 (Girls and Boys Soccer) have been cancelled.

Gala days scheduled for Terms 3 and 4 will go ahead with strict guidelines and for Stage 3 students only.

At this stage on health advice from the NSW government and the CEDP, no parents are permitted to assist before or on the day or attend as spectators. Unfortunately, we are not able to have parents coaching our teams prior to the gala days as well. This would mean parents are required to drop off and pick up students at the set times.

All gala days are subject to change on the advice from the NSW government and the CEDP.

Students will be selected for teams based on a strict criteria with the Stage 3 teachers working in conjunction with Mr Simpson. Students will be selected on their skills, teamwork and effort during team tryouts. Upon gaining selection into the team, students must be safe, respectful and a learner at all times to be able to represent the school. If it is decided that a student or students who have been selected are not following the school expectations, another student or students will be invited to take their place.

Advice on the Term 4 Swim Program and Swimming Carnival will be communicated once the information is available.

2020 Stage 3 Gala Days (subject to change)

Stage 3 Touch Football

Friday 25 September

1 Boys team- Strictly 9 students

1 Girls team- Strictly 9 students

Stage 3 Basketball

Tuesday 10 November

1 Year 6 Boys team- Strictly 7 students

1 Year 6 Girls team- Strictly 7 students

1 Year 5 Boys team- Strictly 7 students

1 Year 5 Girls team- Strictly 7 students

Gymnastics (Open to Years 3 to 6)

Friday 6 November

Strictly One Team of 10

It has come to our attention that the procedures around dropping off and collecting of children from the **'Kiss and Drive'** zone are not being adhered to and are causing some concern in relation to the safety and convenience of our children and families.

Essentially, the 'Kiss and Drive' zone allows for only a two minute period where a vehicle can be stationary and children may be dropped off or picked up

- The driver or adult passenger **MUST NOT** leave the vehicle.
- Children must vacate the car from the left hand side (footpath)
- Avoid putting school bags in the boot
- Make sure your child's school bag is packed and organised and zipped up before you leave home
- Do not park across our neighbours driveways

We are very fortunate to have a well developed 'Kiss and Drive' zone that operates smoothly when all concerned follow correct procedure



Congratulations to Miss Hannah Khalifeh and Mr Isaac Aumua on their recent engagement! We wish you both much happiness now and in the future as Mr and Mrs!

Attendance

Absent Notes

If your child is absent, a reminder to send a Skoolbag notification to explain their absence. If no note has been received within 7 days, this is automatically marked as an unexplained absence and is not able to be changed.

What will happen if my child is unwell at school?

NSW Health advice states that children who become ill while they are at school should be sent home as soon as possible. In the event that your child presents unwell at school, parents and carers will be contacted.

If your child becomes sick at school, they will be sent to the sick bay where parents will be called to collect their child. If staff or students at school are experiencing symptoms compatible with COVID-19 (e.g. fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, fatigue, shortness of breath), a temperature check will be conducted using a forehead thermometer provided by the CEDP. Anything at or above 38 degrees will require students or staff to be isolated in an appropriate space and to be collected by a parent/carer as soon as possible. We ask that you collect your child in a timely fashion.

If your child is sick they should not be at school until they are well.

Protect yourself from viruses



Clean your hands with soap and water, or hand sanitiser.



Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze.



Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.



Stay home if you are sick.

H.E.R.O. Awards

Cassandra RIBEIRO	K
Chris YANG	K
Emily WANG	K
Jae LIM	K
Jake MEYER	K
Juleina LOTONUUBROWN	K
Natalie ROZARIO	K
Natasha HOWDEN	K
Andros SOURLAS	1
Isabella RAMIREZ-SAW	1
Michael REALES	1
Sophia ZHAO	1
Lachlan MCINTOSH	2
Lilah SURENNE	2
Madison HERRERO	2
Max HANLEY	2
Molly LEMAIRE	2
Nicholas FALZON	2
Scarlett PARKES	2
Simone HARVEY	2



H.E.R.O. Awards

Everlyn STEEN	3
Grace MEYER	3
Hannah REBERNIK	3
Le Thanh Son NGUYEN	3
Rishi RENJU	3
Travis HOWDEN	3
Abby MCINTOSH	4
Christian FALZON	4
Jacob WHITE	4
Leo ALEXANDER	4



Isabel MRSIC	5
Jeremy KENNEDY	5
Willow ALEXANDER	5
Audrey SULLIVAN	6B
Ellie MOEN	6B
Joseph EZEKIEL	6B
Julian FALZON	6B
Lachlan PERRIN	6B
Lara WHITE	6B
Marina BROZ	6B
Nash NEILL	6B
Nathan HOWDEN	6B
Richard REALES	6B
Sakethram HARIPRASAAD	6B
Benjamin WALKER	6G
Jayden HARVEY	6G
Keeva LEMAIRE	6G



Correspondence

- 😊 Updates on COVID19 Cases—
sent via email



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

Uniform

Parents are asked to ensure that their child/children are in the correct uniform when they leave home in the morning.

All items of the uniform should be clearly marked with the owner's name. Neatness, tidiness and cleanliness of uniform are essential, variations are not accepted.

The way in which the School uniform is worn has a strong influence on how we feel about ourselves and the ways in which we are viewed by others. Every student's standard of dress and grooming is expected to reflect well on both the individual and the school as a whole, even if outside of school hours.

Sports Uniform

Students are able to wear sports uniforms on the following days:

- **Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)**- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)**- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)** - Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- **Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6B & 6G)** - Tuesdays and Wednesdays

All other days, students are to be in full winter uniform.

Tip!

Cut this out and put on your fridge or noticeboard at home



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

2020 WINTER APPEAL

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

AWARDED TO

St Nicholas of Myra Primary, Penrith

IN SINCERE APPRECIATION OF YOUR PROVEN COMMITMENT TO BRINGING DIGNITY,
COMFORT, CONFIDENCE, HOPE AND JOY TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.

M. Musolino

Mary Musolino, Manager, Metropolitan Youth and Schools Engagement

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY IS AN INTERNATIONAL, VOLUNTARY, CATHOLIC ORGANISATION OF LAY MEN AND WOMEN,
WHO SERVE THE POOR, HOMELESS AND UNEMPLOYED, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR RACE, SITUATION OR BELIEFS.