

St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 2 Week 10

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

What an eventful first half of the year!

Opening Prayer: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There is no law against such things. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit." Gal. 5: 22, 23, 25, 26.

Holy Spirit we ask you to be with us as we look to deepen our commitment to teaching in light of the Catholic faith. May your fruits be ever-present as we learn, grow and teach for the sake of Christ's Gospel. We make this prayer to you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Scripture Reading: "Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid'."
John 14:15-17, 25-27.

Response Prayer

We pray for our Catholic school that it be a place where the fruits of the Spirit are evident in all facets of school life.

We pray for members of our school community who might be suffering in hidden ways, that our prayers and witness to God's compassion might support them in their struggles.

We pray for consistency and perseverance in helping our students see the relevance of a Christian value system in their daily lives.

We pray that the Spirit, through us, guides our students to look beyond consumerism and see the needs of the poor, to be as important as their own.

Pause for Personal Reflection

If Catholic schools are to attain the aims and objectives of Catholic education, it is not enough that teachers be academically well qualified, nor is it enough that they know the right things to say about the Catholic faith to the students. First and foremost, teachers must be and must live what they teach.
Catholic Ed. British Columbia.

Concluding Prayer: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you and you will be my witnesses.... to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8.

Holy Spirit, your gifts came to us at Baptism and Confirmation and have led us to share the privilege of teaching in the faith community. We ask that your indwelling will strengthen us to be true to Christ's Gospel teachings, as we engage with the students and other members of this Catholic School Community. Amen.

Take Away Thought: Progress might have been alright once, but it has gone on too long. Ogden Nash.

I wish for you all a very safe, restful and healthy holiday!

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic

LAST DAY OF TERM 2 IS TOMORROW—FRIDAY 3 JULY 2020.

SCHOOL RESUMES FOR TERM 3 ON MONDAY 20 JULY 2020

General News

It has come to our attention that the procedures around dropping of 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 **MUST NOT** leave the vehicle
- Children must vacate the car from the left hand side (footpath)
- Move car seat position to the left hand side of your car
- Avoid putting school bags in the boot
- Make sure your child's school bag is packed, 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 the correct procedure.



Staffing

A continued welcome and congratulations to Miss Jessica Ishac for accepting the Monday to Friday Term 3 - Term 4 additional teaching position in Stage 1. During this first semester, Miss Ishac along with Mrs Hinchliff and Miss Hamlin were teaching in the Stage 1 space over the week.

2021 Kindergarten Enrolments

During the midst of the current climate this can be something that easily slips our mind. Thank you to all of the new and existing families who have already completed their enrolment forms. I am disappointed to not be meeting you all face to face as this is a time I really enjoy!

In the interest of everyone's health and safety, the usual process of a welcome interview with the child, parent/s and the Principal is unable to take place at the moment. Here is the current process for you to follow:

- Please download the enrolment application from the school's website
- Once completed email this into the school
- The application will be reviewed
- If questions arise from the application the Enrolment Officer or Leadership Delegate will make a phone call to clarify
- A letter of acceptance or recommendation will be sent to you via the post.

2021 is an exciting year and we have currently received 27 applications which is fantastic and we usually only accept 31. So please act today, don't delay!

Staff Development Day Term 3

On Friday 24 July, all staff will be involved in a formation staff development day focused on the Draft New Curriculum in Religious Education. In preparation for the 2021 implementation, teachers are continuing to participate in extensive theological formation and professional learning. Using experiential learning through student inquiry, students in all Stages will engage with one Learning Cycle (unit of work) from the Draft New Curriculum in Term 3.

We look forward to sharing this journey with you throughout the term and will keep you updated about opportunities that will extend the learning experience further for students and their families.

Unlike during COVID19, on this day there will be no onsite supervision for students by classroom teachers. COSCH will be open if you need to send your child on the day, please book through COSCH.

Catholic Culture

Tell Them From ME (TTFM) Surveys 2020

The 2020 TTFM online survey for students, teachers and parents will be accessible from Monday 10 August to Friday 28 August 2020 (Term 3, Weeks 4-6).

Pyjama Day

On Friday 26 June 2020 students and teachers wore their pyjamas to school to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul Winter COVID Appeal. We had a huge range of fabulous pyjamas, onesies and nightwear. It is always one of our favourite days as we are warm, cozy and comfortable in our learning. Thank you for all the donations received totalling \$281. This will go to families in our local community who require extra support during this time.

School Fees

Many families are concerned about fees in the current environment. There are two links below which explains how fee relief support is available to those experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19.

The letter sets out a clear process for parents and carers to receive the help they need. Please note:

- There are multiple ways that families can apply for fee relief, including via an electronic form (Qualtrics), a downloadable PDF and hard copy (available from the school)
- A Fee Relief 'Frequently Asked Questions', as well as a link to electronic form and the downloadable PDF will be placed on the CEDP and school websites
- There is no cut-off date for applications for fee relief at this time.

[COVID - 19 Fee Relief Information](#)

[Fee Relief Request](#)

We are here to help. If you would like to have a confidential conversation about any of these matters, please contact Rhonda Shirvington at the school to discuss.

[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
- The student has been offered an apprenticeship



PYJAMA DAY



Learning

Semester One Reports and Zoom Student Led Conferences

Thank you for all of your support and flexibility as we conferenced via zoom and reported on learning during this first half of the year.

I came across this article from Alexandra the creator of Big Life Journal and thought this was apt to share this with you at this time of the school year when we receive a report and have valuable conversations about our children's learning progress.

How can you help your child understand that **what THEY think of themselves and their work is WAY more important than what others think of them?**

You can do so by helping them develop *internal validation so they stop seeking validation from other people.*

Easier said than done, right?

Our human's primitive brain is wired to seek validation from others. We want to be accepted by the "tribe" so that we're safe and protected from external threats.

Nevertheless, you can make a big difference on how much your child values their own opinion of themselves and their work.

Begin by paying attention to **how you give them feedback.**

Next time, instead of immediately jumping to praise or even criticism about something your child has done, ASK them questions instead:

“What do YOU think you did well?”
“What do you think YOU could have done better?”
“How did YOU feel when you were making this?”
“How does your work make YOU feel?”

And if your child answers with "I don't know," it's a great reason to continue to encourage them to self-reflect.

When we ask our children for their own assessment instead of immediately jumping in with our opinion, we're giving them a *chance to self-reflect and self-evaluate.*

This helps them develop internal validation, which is the most important voice to be listening to and nourishing.

Alexandra
Big Life Journal Creator



Learning

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) - new syllabus

This year St Nicholas of Myra began working with the new **New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA)** and **Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)** PDHPE curriculum. The key three strands of the new curriculum are; (1) Health, Wellbeing and Relationships, (2) Movement Skill and Performance and (3) Healthy Safe and Active Lifestyles. The new curriculum has a few changes in content for different stages of learning. One change we would like to bring to your attention is within the Health, Wellbeing and Relationships strand (NESA).

These changes are also reflected not just in ACARA but NESA as well. Below are statements from the ACARA website, they show the progression from Early Stage 1 to Stage 3 when learning about how our bodies grow and change.

Early Stage 1 will name parts of the body and describe how their body is growing and changing.

Stage 1 will describe physical and social changes that occur as children grow older and discuss how family and community acknowledge these changes.

Stage 2 will learn and discuss physical, social and emotional changes that occur as individuals get older and explore how these changes impact on how they think and feel about themselves and different situations.

Stage 3 investigates resources and strategies to manage changes and transitions associated with puberty understanding that individuals experience changes associated with puberty at different times, with differing levels of intensity and with different responses. They research and identify age-appropriate text and web-based resources to enhance understanding of changes associated with puberty examining the range of products available to manage the physical changes associated with puberty.

Positive Behaviour Support for Learning

Congratulations to Stage 1 for winning the Playground Behaviour Award for the last 2 weeks. Our focus until the end of this term has been; "to be in the right place playing non-contact activities at playtime." Students have come up with various alternative games to play during this time to ensure safe play is maintained. Well done to both students and teachers in responding to this playground initiative!

Attendance- Punctuality

Regular and punctual attendance at school is essential to assist children to establish positive attendance habits. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

The school day commences at 9am at St Nicholas of Myra. The morning music begins at 8:57am and concludes with the bell at 9am. We are currently not having assemblies due to Covid-19 restrictions so students are entering their classrooms and beginning their learning at 9am.



Arriving at school before the bell allows students to experience positive interactions with their peers through play in the morning and develop morning routines which can reduce the anxiety of coming to school for some students.

Arriving late means that students are missing part of their literacy block, instructions have not been heard and routines have not been set in motion. As a consequence, students can find themselves taking longer to settle into their learning.

Please ensure that students are on time at school every day. Should unforeseen circumstances prevent you from arriving on time, please ensure that children are signed in at the office by an adult.

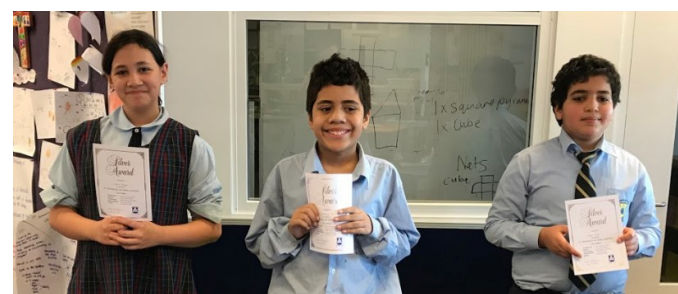
Week 8 Awards

Gold Awards

1	Olivia ANDERSON
2	Avaleigh FAUCETT
2	Cindy GUO
2	Eliza KASSOUF
4	Sofia CAMPORA-KAAL
5	Gabriel SULUAPE
6G	Hayley TEUMA

Silver Awards

K	Chris YANG
K	Emily WANG
	Juleina LOTO-NUUBROWN
K	Naoelle TIPLER
K	Ozias AROKIANATHAN
1	Anna DISSANAYAKE
1	Annabella CHRISTIE
1	Esha NATH
1	Loreley LESTAL-BRAID
1	Olivia ANDERSON
1	Sophia ZHAO
1	Sophie EDWY-SMITH
2	Avaleigh FAUCETT
2	Cindy GUO
2	Deante MERENDA
2	Eliza KASSOUF
2	Knox CURREY
2	Sophia YANG
3	Hailey LAU
4	Beau BROWN
4	Sofia CAMPORA-KAAL
4	William DOUGLAS
5	Alena TEREPO
5	Gabriel SULUAPE
5	Mina KEDIS
6G	Benjamin WALKER
6G	Hayley TEUMA
6G	Ishan SWARUP
6G	Mia BARRETT
6G	Verity RODRIGUES



Merit Awards

K	Cassandra RIBEIRO
K	Naoelle TIPLER
K	Ozias AROKIANATHAN
K	Parv GULATI
1	Adhya DEY
1	John WOOD
1	Skye GALE-VERIKETIS
1	Sophie EDWY-SMITH
2	Avaleigh FAUCETT
2	Eliza KASSOUF
2	Marcus RICHARDSON
2	Molly LEMAIRE
3	Adrian BURDANOWSKI
3	Ella HERBERT
3	Isaac JOINES
3	Rishi RENJU
4	Beau BROWN
4	Leo ALEXANDER
4	Maryam YAMAYAN
4	Zachary HERRERO
5	Aubrey PARKER
5	Mark DANIL
5	Skyla HILL
5	Willow ALEXANDER
6B	Rachel IDRIS
6B	Rhiarna MIRUKAJ
6B	Sakethram HARIPRASAAD
6B	Sarah CANNING
6G	Amrita KARKI
6G	Jayden HARVEY
6G	Raymin LESLIE
6G	Te-Aroha WHARERAU-DANIELS



Truth Through Learning

Week 10 Awards

St Nicholas of Myra Awards

6B	Joshua CHRISTIAN
6B	Lara WHITE

Gold Awards

2	Brayden WATTS
2	Lachlan MCINTOSH
2	Max FAAPOI
3	Joseph HADCHITI

Silver Awards

K	Bridget Cara DELA PAZ
K	Cherish COLLENTINE
K	Dominic GOUSKOS
K	Ella HANNAFORD
K	Irene HARRIS
K	Kristina ROSARIO
K	Sofia BURGESS
K	Vivien CHANPOWSEE
1	Adhya DEY
2	Brayden WATTS
2	Harmoni HILL
2	Jadey LAU
2	Lachlan MCINTOSH
2	Lilah SURENNE
2	Marcus RICHARDSON
2	Max FAAPOI
3	Hailey LAU
3	Nevaeh-Rae SULUAPE
3	Joseph HADCHITI



Merit Awards

K	Auri PALMA
K	Dominic GOUSKOS
K	Lincoln STEEN
K	Natalie ROZARIO
1	Josiah COLLENTINE
1	Loreley LESTAL-BRAID
1	Michael REALES
1	Olivia ANDERSON
2	Alyssa MIRUKAJ
2	Harmoni HILL
2	Michael NAGARETNAM
2	Samara COULTON
3	Holly RIGO
3	Lola GIBBS
3	Nevaeh COULTON
3	Nevaeh-Rae SULUAPE
4	Amisha NAGARETNAM
4	Angela DANIEL
4	Ashton GALEA
4	Oliver FELTON
5	Alena TEREPO
5	Benjamin DELA PAZ
5	Kalai BEEDLE
5	Mina KEDIS
6B	Anita STEED
6B	Ellie MOEN
6B	Harmony CULLEY
6B	Nash NEILL
6G	Ethan JOINES
6G	Lylah CLARKE
6G	Monette BANDA
6G	Ryan CAMPORA-KAAL

Personal Best Awards

K	Iravan CHOWDHURY
1	Ethan TEUMA
2	Lachlan MCINTOSH
3	Everlyn STEEN
4	Thomas MUELLER
5	Lachlan MUELLER
6B	Joyce FAWZY
6G	Keeva LEMAIRE



Truth Through Learning

Smartwatches and Fitbits at School

Smartwatches and fitbits are amazing pieces of technology that we can use to make our lives better. They offer a wide range of features and functions. Many students have started wearing these devices to school on a regular basis. Like any piece of technology at school, we must learn to use them in the appropriate way.



Appropriate use of smartwatches and fitbits at school;

- using it as a watch during class time e.g. check time, date
- checking fitness activity such as steps and heart rate during break times only
- setting a timer to complete an activity
- turning off all notifications and alerts for watch apps

Inappropriate use of smartwatches and fitbits at school;

- checking fitness activity such as steps and heart rate during learning time
- using features other than to tell the time or read the date e.g. voice recording, using apps, setting alarms, using music services
- checking alerts, and notifications
- anything that is in breach of any the CEDP and school policies

No smartwatches or fitbits with **access to cellular networks** are permitted at school. This includes all watches and fitbits that have access to message, chat and communication features either through the phone or wifi.

Any reported misuse during school will be investigated and communicated following the school's PBS4L procedures. The final decision will be with the Principal, Leadership or the appointed Delegate of the day.

16 Everyday Activities That Count as Learning



During the holidays all of these fun things count as learning in daily life! Of course praying and attending or live streaming Mass are learning to be in relationship with God.

Stage 2 Dance

Stage 2 have been learning 'Street Dance' this term in Creative Arts. They have worked with Mrs Omakaro from Captivate to create some super moves! This week they performed their dance for their teachers. Well done Stage 2!

Student's Reflection

I liked all of it. The hardest part was learning to do the plank but it got easier the more I practised. **Lola**

My favourite part was when we pretended to fall out of the space ship. **Nox**

I liked that we got to add our own section to the dance and working with Mrs Omakaro was great. My favourite move was when we had to do a push up move. **Zachary**



Work, Health and Safety (WHS) Audit

Each year we conduct an internal audit to ensure that our school is a safe place for everyone. This year we had an external audit conducted by Minerva. The auditor was very impressed with our school grounds not only in appearance but more importantly; how safe and well maintained our school is in its learning spaces and on the playground. I would like to thank the following staff members who are a part of our WHS Team; Susan Masters, Rhonda Shirvington and John Attard. This is an additional role and often a thankless team to be apart of as it is often behind the scenes, with a great deal of paperwork! They do this work with care and concern for all, pride and thoroughness. Thank you for keeping us safe !

Correspondence

- ☺ Sacramental Programmes
- ☺ New PDHPE - Stages 2&3

ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA PARISH, PENRITH RECOMMENCEMENT FIRST RECONCILIATION 2020

First Reconciliation

All candidates attended ONE Family session prior to the COVID pandemic. They were also given the student workbook. It is assumed that this workbook has been completed over the past weeks. If not please complete with your child prior to the meeting listed below as it will be beneficial that each candidate has their workbook to refer to:

First Reconciliation Final Family Session (25th and 26th July)
Please bring the student workbook and attend ONE of the following sessions:

Saturday 25th July at 4:30pm (Parish Hall)
OR
Sunday 26th July at 8:30am (Parish Hall)

First Reconciliation Ceremony
Thursday 6th August at 5pm OR 7pm



All enquiries St Nicholas Parish Office
Ph: 4721 2509
Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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 9:30am, 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am
Friday 6:45am, 12:10pm
Saturday 9:00am



St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith Sacramental Program Confirmation 2020

Parents wishing to enrol their children in the program **must attend an information session**, which will be at St Nicholas of Myra Church on **Tuesday 13th October 2020 at 7.00pm**. Further information regarding the program will be given at this meeting.

To be eligible for Confirmation, **children must be in year 5 or above. They must be baptised and have made their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

Ph: 4721 2509
Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au



St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith Sacramental Program First Holy Communion 2020

Parents wishing to enrol their children in the program **must attend an information session**, which will be at St Nicholas of Myra Church on **Tuesday 28th July 2020 at 7.00pm**. Further information regarding the program will be given at this meeting.

To be eligible for First Holy Communion, **children must be in year 4 or above. They must be baptised and have made their First Reconciliation.**

If your child has not been baptised, and you wish to enrol them in the program, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator: Mary Gale.

Ph: 4721 2509
Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au