

# St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 4 Week 5 2020



## Friday 13 Nov

World Teachers Day  
being celebrated at  
St Nicholas

Year 7 2021

Orientation Day at  
St Columba's

## Tuesday 17 Nov

Year 7 2021

Orientation Day for  
St Dominics, Caroline  
Chisholm and Penola  
Colleges

## Thursday 19 Nov

Author's Visit—  
Lesley Gibbes K-6

## Friday 20 Nov

Year 7 2021

Orientation Day  
Xavier College

## Tuesday 24 Nov

Years 4 & 5 2021

Leadership Day

Wednesday 25 Nov

Feast of Christ the  
King

## Thursday 26 Nov

Newsletter Day

Kindergarten 2021

Q&A Zoom Session  
Child Surnames A—G  
12:10—1:10pm

Child Surnames H—Z

1:40—2:40pm

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

## Remembrance Day

On November 11 we stop to remember those who have served with the Armed Forces. We remember their sacrifices for the sake of peace and pause to honour them in reflection and prayer.

At this time, we are praying for peace throughout the world and asking God for His gift of peace and safety for the whole human family. When it is hard for us to find peace in our hearts, peace with our neighbour or peace in the world, we turn to Jesus, Prince of Peace to show us the way. Before His passion and death, Jesus said to His disciples: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you." He told them to trust in God and to trust in Him as He went away to prepare a place for them. After His resurrection, He appeared to His disciples saying "peace be with you." The disciples were fearful and in hiding. They had abandoned Jesus in His moment of greatest need. Still, Jesus returned to them with love, understanding and compassion to give them His peace. We are followers of Jesus. He calls us to trust him and to trust that God the Father has a wonderful plan for us. Jesus gives us His peace – a peace that is beyond all understanding, a kind of peace that only He can give - so that we can become all that He has called us to be.

On Remembrance Day we especially 'remember' those who have given their lives through war in service of our country. They have left home and family often to foreign lands in the search of justice, freedom and peace; the effects of which we feel in our society today. The world could have been a very different place for us without their sacrifice, which cannot and should not be forgotten.



Let us take time to reflect on the prayer of St Francis:

***"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.***

***Where there is hatred, let me sow love;***

***where there is injury, pardon;***

***where there is doubt, faith;***

***where there is despair, hope;***

***where there is darkness, light;***

***where there is sadness, joy.***

***O, Divine Master,***

***grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;***

***to be understood as to understand;***

***to be loved as to love;***

***For it is in giving that we receive;***

***it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;***

***it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life."***

As we go out into the world, let us remember Jesus' words "peace be with you" and carry them in our hearts. We ask the Holy Spirit for the courage to share Jesus' gift of peace through acts of kindness, as a sign of His Kingdom's everlasting peace.

Peace and Joy  
Anita Knezevic  
Principal

### **Mrs Suzanne Bannister's Farewell Mass**

On Friday 6 November we gathered virtually as a school community to farewell Mrs Suzanne Bannister. Suzanne worked in education for 50 years and is to be congratulated on the care and dedication she showed to everyone throughout her service. After Mass, Mrs Bannister travelled to each Stage space where the students farewelled her in different ways.

Early Stage 1 students spoke about activities they thought Mrs Bannister could do in her retirement.

Stage 1 students did actions to the Irish Blessing for Mrs Bannister.

Stage 2 students wrote retirement advice for Mrs Bannister.

Stage 3 students wrote letters of gratitude and thanks for the service Mrs Bannister.





# Religious Education

## Remembrance Day

On Wednesday 11 November we stopped as a school community to remember Australian men and women who have served in war and peacekeeping activities. As a mark of respect to those who have served, we stopped to observe one minute's silence. This year will mark the 102nd anniversary of the Armistice, which ended the First World War. One thing we can do for the people who fought for our country, is to continue the tradition of remembering them.





# Sporting News

## Physical Education- Golf Clinics

During Sport time in Weeks 5 - 7 all students K - 6 are participating in golf clinics run by The 19th Golf. This is an opportunity to have access to coaches and specialised equipment and has been made possible through funding acquired from Sporting Schools Australia.



# General News

## Enrolments for 2021

We understand that family circumstances alter and that children sometimes need to change schools. If you know that you will not be attending St Nicholas of Myra in 2021 please advise the school and complete a notification of leaving form that is available from the school office. You are reminded that concerns regarding financial difficulties is not a reason for seeking another school, as the Catholic Education Office and St Nicholas of Myra can and will assist families with meeting these costs when genuine financial difficulties arise.

We have healthy enrolments for most classes in 2021, with some children on waiting lists, so in fairness to these families we ask you to let us know if you are changing schools. If you know of anyone considering a Catholic school education for their child at St Nicholas of Myra from 2021, in any grade, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible to assist us with our planning.

## SWEAT and WET weather

As in winter when it is rainy (wet weather) we keep the students inside; as is the same in summer when the weather is too hot. Each day is determined at the point in time as we also need to care for not only our students but also our teachers wellbeing and safety as they are outside on duty. Thank you to the parents who pack a water bottle and extra drinks on warmer days. This is where the students wearing the hats is paramount as well as the application of sunscreen prior to arriving at school.

## Uniform Notes

There have been newsletter reminders regarding correct summer uniform and unfortunately as some parents are aware we have had to send home uniform notes to some students. I would prefer our teachers and students focus on the learning and teaching. The best way this can happen is if we work together to have pride in our school and how represent this to ourselves and to the community.

A BIG thank you to those parents who have already supported us by having their children already in full uniform each and every day! As well as the parents who have quickly responded to the notes. It is very much noticed and appreciated!

***A reminder that we do have some second hand uniforms available. Please contact the office via email or phone regarding items and sizes available.***



The fact is that the sheer volume of cars during pick-up and drop-off poses a hazard. It just takes one impatient adult behind the wheel to create a tragedy. We are kindly asking parents to be more proactive and follow a few simple instructions.

- Gates close at 2:45pm
- Infant students (K - 2) and their siblings are dismissed at 2:50pm
- Please **DO NOT** start queuing up before 3:10pm unless you are an Infants (K - 2) Family
- Suggesting parking in a side street and walk to collect your child



Samantha Arnold is not only a valued member of our St Nicholas of Myra Staff, Samantha is now part of Sydney Thunder Cricket Team. Samantha has been a part of Sydney Thunder before. Last year she travelled to Tasmania with the squad as a replacement. Thunder coach Trevor Griffin said, "Samantha made such a positive impression during her time with the team I didn't hesitate to recall her again".

"It's exciting, but at the same time it is unfortunate that Olivia (another team member) has suffered an injury, and I really feel for her," Samantha said. "I am so super excited for the opportunity – it's come out of the blue – and I'm so keen."

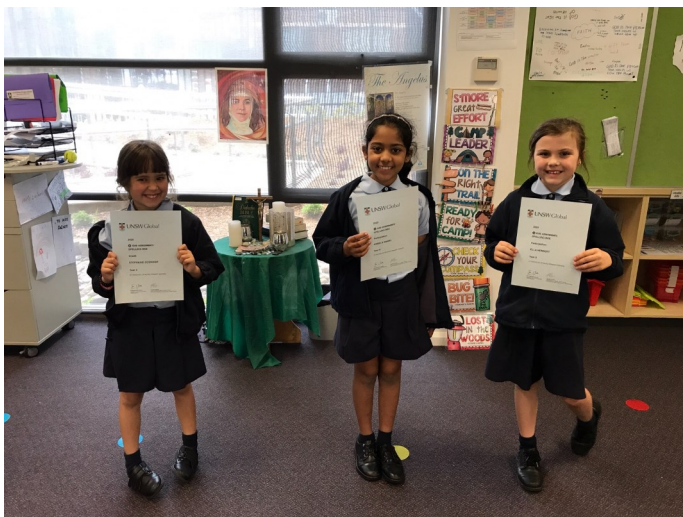
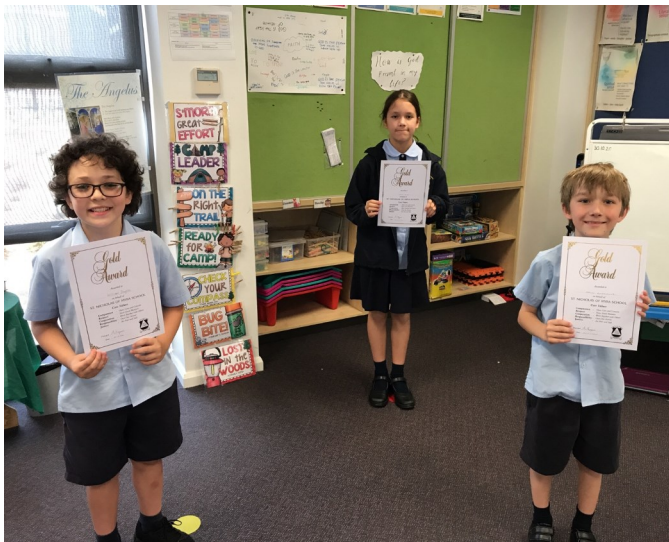
Samantha who has also represented Australia in Indoor Cricket, Futsal and OzTag, was thrilled to have another chance – as a Local Replacement Player - to immerse herself in Thunder's culture.

## Go Miss Arnold!

# Awards - Week 3 (Friday 30 October 2020)

## Gold Awards

K	Irene HARRIS
K	Jake MEYER
K	Juleina LOTONUUBROWN
K	Natalie ROZARIO
K	Sofia BURGESS
1	Levi FENECH
1	Loreley LESTAL-BRAID
1	Sophia ZHAO
2	Brayden WATTS
2	Lilah SURENNE
2	Nicholas FALZON
3	Adrian BURDANOWSKI
3	Grace MEYER
4	William DOUGLAS



UNSW Awards ICAS

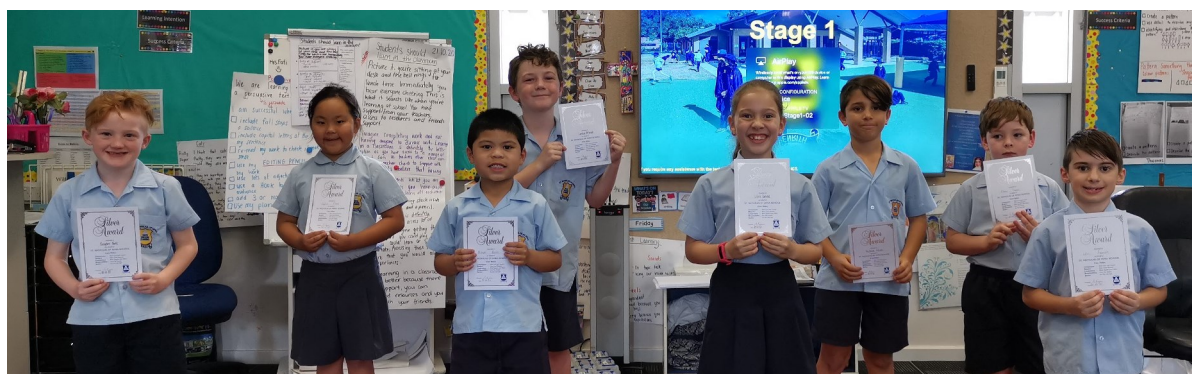
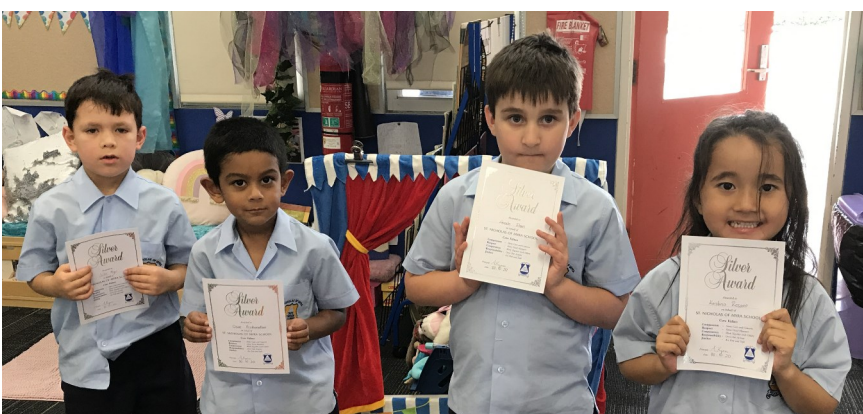
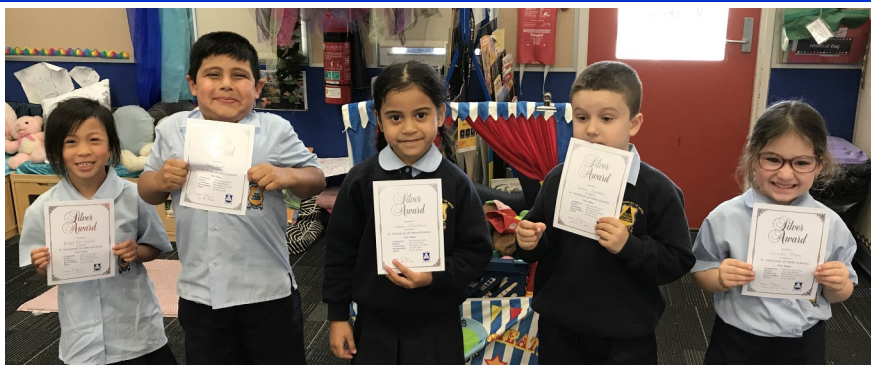
*Truth Through Learning*



# Awards - Week 3 (Friday 30 October 2020)

## Silver Awards

K	Ashton HADCHITI
K	Bridget Cara DELA PAZ
K	Cassandra RIBEIRO
K	Dominic GOUSKOS
K	Irene HARRIS
K	Isabella TRAN
K	Jake MEYER
K	Juleina LOTONUUBROWN
K	Kristina ROSARIO
K	Lincoln STEEN
K	Lucas DUMONT
K	Natalie ROZARIO
K	Ozias AROKIANATHAN
K	Parv GULATI
K	Sofia BURGESS
1	Ethan TEUMA
1	Levi FENECH
1	Loreley LESTAL-BRAID
1	Michael REALES
1	Sophia ZHAO
2	Brayden WATTS
2	Lachlan MCINTOSH
2	Lilah SURENNE
2	Nicholas FALZON

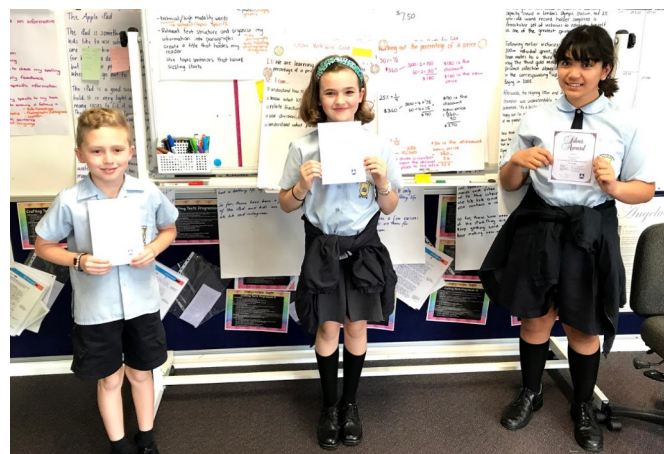




# Awards - Week 3 (Friday 30 October 2020)

## Silver Awards

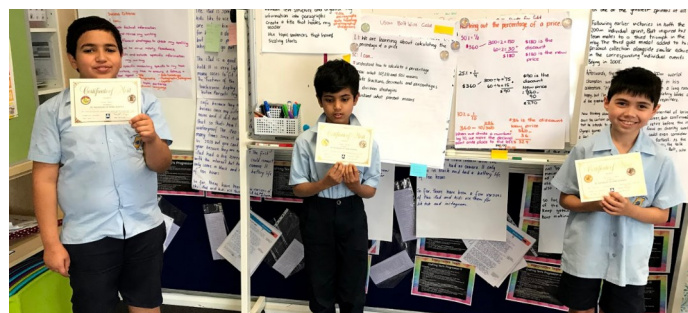
3	Adrian BURDANOWSKI
3	Grace MEYER
3	Hailey LAU
3	Holly RIGO
3	Joseph HADCHITI
3	Rishi RENJU
4	Abby MCINTOSH
4	Allanah WALKER
4	Amisha NAGARETNAM
4	Angela DANIEL
4	Ashton GALEA
4	Jayden TEUMA
4	Nox HILL
4	William DOUGLAS
4	Xavier ISAAC
4	Zachary HERRERO
5	Aubrey PARKER
5	Lolah LESTAL-BRAID
5	Matthew FIDLER
5	Skyla HILL
6B	Anita STEED
6B	Ellie MOEN
6B	Joyce FAWZY
6B	Lachlan PERRIN
6B	Nathan HOWDEN
6B	Sarah CANNING





### Merit Awards

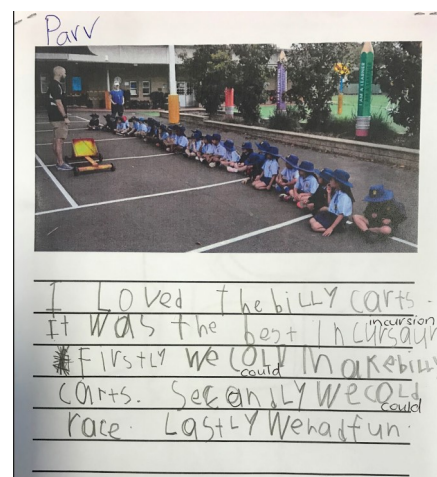
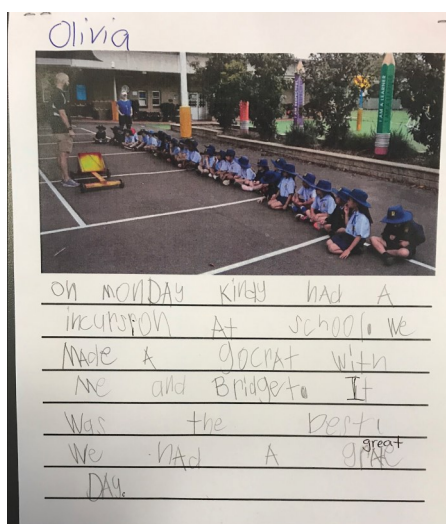
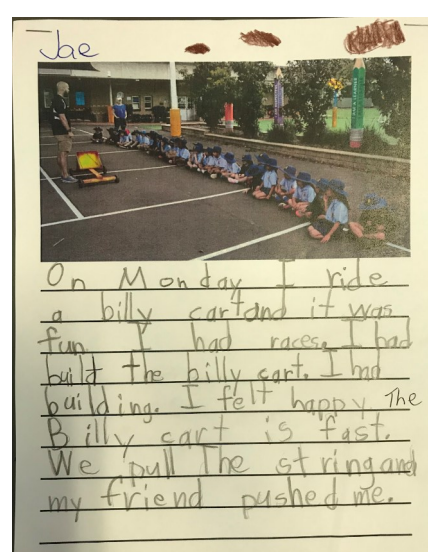
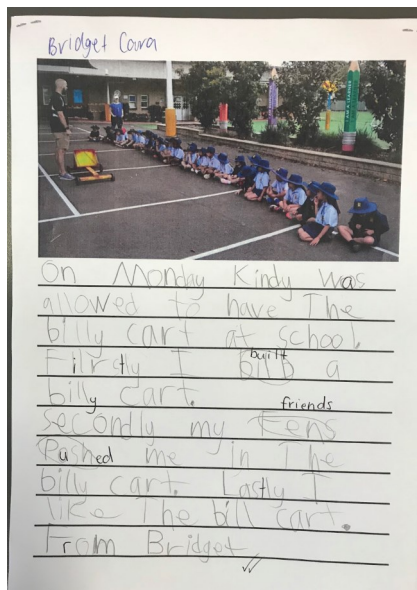
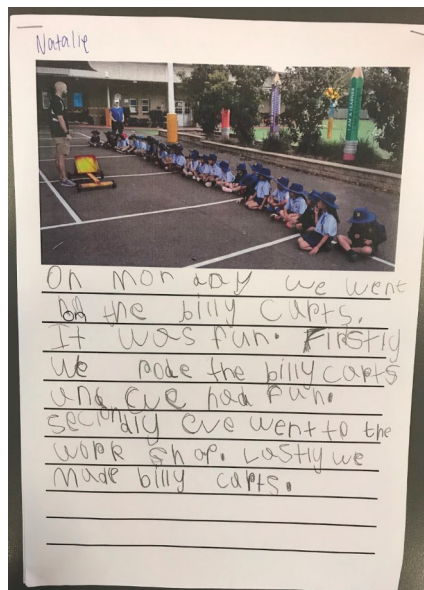
K	Ashton HADCHITI
K	Irene HARRIS
K	Juleina LOTONUUBROWN
K	Natalie ROZARIO
1	Anna DISSANAYAKE
1	Annabella CHRISTIE
1	Jake HANNAFORD
1	Karthik CHIKKA
2	Eliza KASSOUF
2	Lachlan MCINTOSH
2	Megan BAC
2	Molly LEMAIRE
3	Joseph HADCHITI
3	Brian NGUYEN
3	Lola GIBBS
3	Noah EDWY-SMITH
4	Amisha NAGARETNAM
4	Beau BROWN
4	Jacob WHITE
4	Oliver FELTON
5	Brendan LESLIE
5	Lolah LESTAL-BRAID
5	Mina KEDIS
5	Weskerr ALAMGIR
6B	Audrey SULLIVAN
6B	Harmony CULLEY
6B	Joyce FAWZY
6B	Sakethram HARIPRAAAD
6G	Monette BANDA
6G	Ryan CAMPORA-KAAL
6G	Samuel RICHARDSON
6G	Te-Aroha WHARERAU-DANIELS





## Kindergarten Billy Cart Incursion

On Monday 2 November, Kindergarten participated in a Billy Cart incursion where we had the opportunity to build billy carts and race them on a set track. We had a fantastic time, here is some of our writing about the incursion.





# Learning

## Stage 2 PBL- Earth and Space

This term Stage 2 has been learning about Earth and Space. Our focus question was;  
*What occurs as a result of the interactions between the Earth and the Sun?*

Students spent time creating presentations showing their understanding of the main interactions of day and night as well as the seasons. Throughout the unit, students conducted experiments, researched key ideas and made models to show their understanding.

### Liana

For Science, we did a day and night presentation and wrote how day and night works and how the sun interacts with the earth. We recorded information in the form of a foldable poster and included labelled diagrams. I was able to point out the Northern and Southern Hemisphere which linked to how the seasons worked.

### Xavier

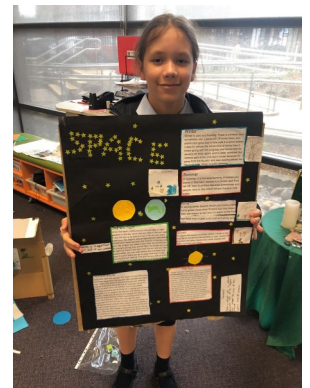
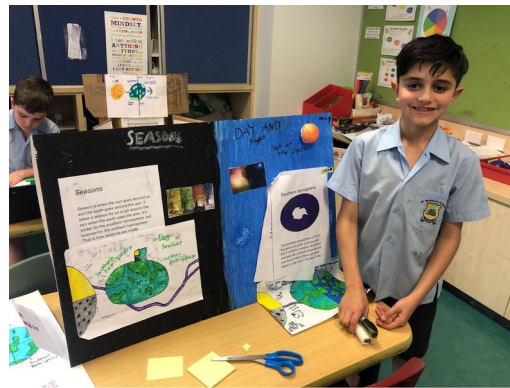
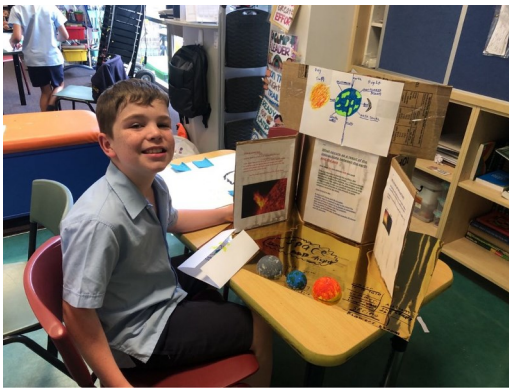
In Science, we had to make a presentation on day and night and the seasons so we could explain and show the way the sun interacts with the earth. I created a box with five labelled diagrams and lots of supporting information.

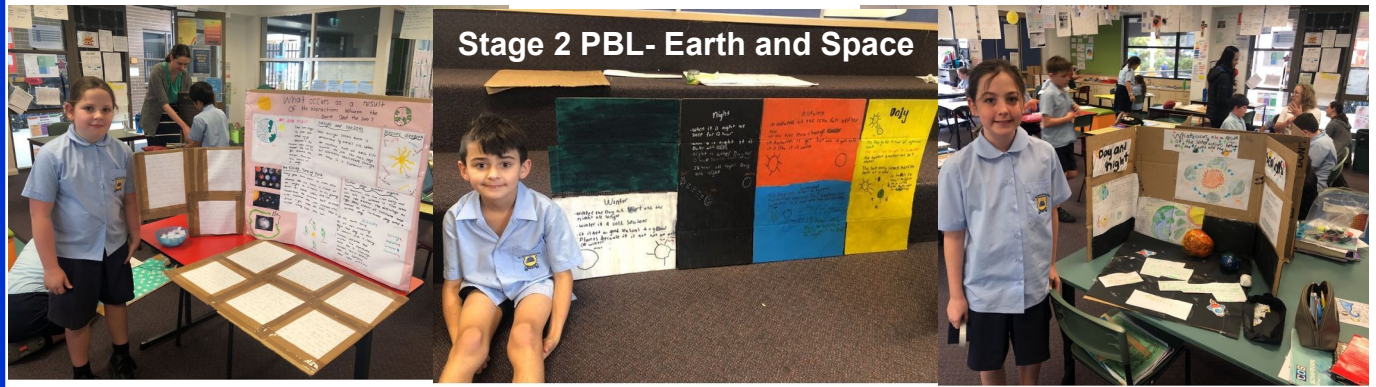
### Maryam

In Science, I created a book that showed my information about the sun, the seasons and night and day. I also created a model of earth and bought a torch to see how the sun shines light on one side of the earth during day and darkness on the side which is night.

### Zain

In Science, we had to draw labelled diagrams about the seasons and day and night. I had to explain the seasons and day and night. I created a poster to show what I had been learning.





Congratulations to Stage 2 for winning this round of the playground initiative token collection. As a stage the students had a choice of their outdoor play activity between dead sea, handball and basketball.





## Yearly Reports and Grade Scales

Reporting time is fast approaching. Before you receive your child's report in Week 9 we would like to explain the grading scale that constitutes a part of our reporting.

This year, we have moved to a new reporting system called Compass. As you know, your child's achievement for each Key Learning Area is reported using a five point scale. Moving to Compass, the Grade Title has changed, the Grade and its Description has not changed. Please see the table below which will appear on all K - 6 Semester 2 reports.

Grade Scale	Grade Title	Grade Description
A	Learning is beyond stage outcomes.	The student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.
B	Learning deeply within stage outcomes.	The student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and has a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition, the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.
C	<b>Learning at stage outcomes.</b>	<b>The student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.</b>
D	Learning towards stage outcomes.	The student has a basic knowledge and understanding in a few areas of the content and has achieved a limited competence in some of the processes and skills.
E	Learning with assistance towards stage outcomes.	The student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in a few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.

You may already have heard the phrase – “**C is for Celebrate**”- and that is certainly the case! Your child's progress is tracked by the teachers using various methods of assessment including informal observations, practical activities and specific assessment tasks. These are then matched to the expected outcomes for that particular grade. **Students who are achieving as expected for their grade are then awarded the overall grade of “C”.** This is indeed something to celebrate!

The scale is designed to be broad so that it is able to reflect even the most capable student who is in actual fact working well beyond the expected stage level. To explain it further:

A – The student would be working and achieving **well beyond** the stage level by transferring knowledge, skills and understandings in their learning.

B – The student would be working and achieving **at a level beyond** that which would be expected at that time for that stage. The student demonstrates depth of knowledge, skills and understandings in some areas of their learning.

**C – The student is working and achieving at the level expected for their grade.**

D – The student is working with some assistance to achieve at the stage level expected and may participate in small group focus lessons with a teacher or on individualised programs. Students who do not apply themselves and fail to complete tasks due to this lack of application may also find themselves here.

E – The student is not yet working at the stage level and requires support and intervention to achieve. Their learning tasks are modified and they receive small-group or individual learning support structured to meet their needs.

We hope that this clarifies the grading scale for you.



It is important that this “snapshot” of your child’s performance at this point in their learning is placed in some context. The purpose of this document is to inform you of a number of considerations when reading and discussing your child’s report.

Firstly, the Government legislation regarding A - E grading is non-negotiable. In determining these grades, teachers set standards using the content and skills outlined in the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Curriculum documents. The grade indicates a standard across a number of tasks your child has completed since the start of the year and *in a two year stage cycle of learning*.

Secondly, comparative data is automatically included on all reports for children in Years K- 6. This data informs you of the number of grades given across the cohort.

Other matters that must be considered relate to the “Staging” of the New South Wales Curriculum set by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). The Curriculum is set in response to research that states that it typically takes a child 18 months to 2 years to master a learning outcome. Outcomes are introduced at the beginning of each “Stage” and consolidated for most children by the end of each “Stage.”

Hence, children in Years 1, 3 and 5 (commencing Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3) typically would perform at a lower grade than children in Years 2, 4 and 6 (at the end of Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3). This is because those at the end of the Stage of Learning have had 2 years to consolidate their understanding of the various learning outcomes. Our program of learning is therefore implemented over two years, which ensures no repetition of content while allowing ongoing practice of skills.

### **So what might this mean for your child?**

This may mean for a child in Year 2 or 4 in 2019 that their 2020 grade seems to indicate that they are not performing at the same level as they did the previous year.

For example a child’s standard of work in English at the end of Stage 2 (Year 4) in 2019 may have been assessed as a “B”, yet at the end of Semester 1 2020, (beginning of Stage 3 –Year 5), their standard of work in English may be assessed as a “D.”

Be assured your child’s work is not necessarily of a lesser standard. It is more likely to be that they are yet to master a particular outcome of learning that is new to them. As always, the level of your child’s effort must also be considered when discussing the grade given to their standard of work.

### **Awards and Events on Reports**

In the past, our previous reporting system FACES had the ability to add awards and events to the reports each Semester. This is not a function that is available on Compass reports as yet. Therefore, no awards or events students have attended will be able to be included on the reports this year or on a separate page.

### **Absences - Full Day and Partial Absences and Comments**

School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools. Every day of attendance adds to a student’s achievement and success at school. While we realise some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances, the more absences or partial absences a child has, the harder it is for them to catch up on missed work and stay connected to their school community. Due to frequent absences or partial absences (arriving late or leaving early), some student reports will include an attendance comment this semester.

Above the General Comment, you will notice the number of days your child has been absent or partially absent as at Friday 20 November 2020. The inclusion of this is a legal requirement. This year (due to moving to Compass Reports) both full day absences and partial absences on the reports will be split into explained and not explained absences and partial absences.

The full day figures represent the number of days your child has not been present at school, this includes any leave granted for holidays etc. The partial absence figures represent the number of days your child has been partially absent, this includes late arrivals and early pick ups.

If a written reason was provided to the school by the Parent and Carer (on an absent note, on sign out sheet etc.) these are marked as an ‘explained absence’ and ‘explained partial absence.’

If no explanation has been provided by the Parent and Carer within 7 days of the absence, this is automatically marked as an ‘unexplained absence’ or ‘unexplained partial absence’. After 7 days, this is unable to be changed.



## Correspondence

- ☺ Term 4 Calendar
- ☺ Year 6 Graduation Note
- ☺ Latest Covid-19 Restrictions for End of Year Events

## 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

**YEAR 7 2021**



Patrician Brothers' College Blacktown

# ENROL NOW

CONTACT US **8811 0300**

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