

St Nicholas of Myra School

PO Box 265, Penrith 2751. Phone: (02) 4752 3300 Fax: (02) 4752 3399

Email: stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au

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

Term 1 Week 3



Fri 14 Feb

St Valentine's Day

9:30am - Opening
School Mass

St Nicholas Church

10:45am - Morning
Tea for all parents
and badged students
in School Hall

Mon 17—Fri 21 Feb

Student-Led
Conferences at
allocated time.

Tues 18 Feb

Nepean Zone
Swimming Carnival

Late night for
Student-Led
Conferences

Thurs 20 Feb

Diocesan Swimming
Carnival

Fri 21 Feb

12:10pm- Stage 1
Parish Mass

2:30pm—Whole
School Assembly led
by Stage 3

Fundraiser—Fiver for
the Bushfires

Tues 25 Feb

Shrove Tuesday
Fun Food Day -
Pancake Day

7pm—Reconciliation
Parent Meeting St
Nichola Church

Wed 26 Feb

Ash Wednesday
12:10pm - Yrs 3—6
Parish Mass
2:30pm - Yrs K—2
Liturgy in School Hall

Thurs 27 Feb

Newsletter Day
Captivate Drumming

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

Welcome back to another wonderful year at our school!

During the holidays, with the fires we have witnessed and now with the flooding that is occurring, we witness the gift of service, kindness and faith being present in the daily. It is a great time to reflect and count our blessings. When we listen to the service of our firefighters, paramedics and ordinary Australians who have instinctively and without hesitation helped, we see God in their image.

Our Opening School Mass, which you are all invited to attend tomorrow will launch this theme for our faith year. Our theme is 'Children of God: Made in the Image and Likeness of God.'

From the beginning of the book of Genesis is one of the biblical accounts of the creation of humans. It is written in hymn form and could have been used in Israelite worship. In this account God's word creates humans whereas in the second account God creates humans by hand. In our account God delights in creation and gives to humanity the responsibility of caring for the rest of creation as much as God cares for it and for one another.

The key to this theme for us as adults is to ponder;

- "What challenges me in thinking of myself as God's image in creation?"
- Do we act responsibly and with care towards the life of our planet?
- Do we pause before responding, in order to speak to one another, as though we are all made in God?
- Do we forgive as generously and lovingly as God does?

Bless us, Creating God, with delight in our world, love of each other and the deep knowledge of being loved and made in your image. Amen.

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic
Principal

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

St Nicholas of Myra Church

TOMORROW (FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY)
at 9:30 am

Followed by morning tea in School Hall

All Welcome to Attend!

Learning

Action Plan Goals

Each new year provides us with an opportunity to build on the students' growth in their learning. In 2019 Term 4, as a whole staff we analyse multiple data sources to address the student's learning needs. This year we have two goals for Formation and Learning.

Formation:

For students to use their head, heart and hands to live like Jesus by making connections through the senses to the Gospel of Matthew.

Learning:

For students to know, apply and transfer a range of skills and strategies when reading and writing to be independent learners.

Student Led Conference

Student Led Conferences (SLC) will take place during Week 4. Students and parents both need to attend the conferences. The purpose of SLC is to open the eyes of students to their own learning and to help them take personal responsibility for their progress.


Our students must take an active role and realise that learning at school is important and has value to grow who they are as well as to maximize their potential for success. In preparing for a SLC, students see how their strengths, weaknesses and behaviours can affect them as learners, thus allowing them to take more responsibility for, and control over, their achievement in school. SLC are an experience that can also improve the communication patterns of both students and parents. In a SLC, students learn how to reflect on their learning, evaluate their progress and communicate this information to their parents. Parents learn how to listen to their children, how to encourage growth and how to best help their student with specific problems.

At their SLC, students will share their learning goals with their parents. Their goals have been discussed and co-constructed with their teachers. These goals can and will change based on the child's learning throughout the year.

At the end of Term 2, students will be leading the SLC and explaining to you what they have been doing in Literacy and Numeracy this year. Your child will be collecting information throughout the year and will be preparing to present to you these efforts and achievements. The teacher will also be at each SLC to offer their perspectives on the work and to answer any questions you have.


If you have not yet booked a time please do so by visiting www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow the 3 simple steps outlined below.

Bookings OPEN on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 9am and close Tuesday 18 February 2020 at 9am

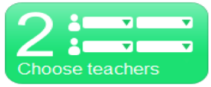


School event code
rg8p3


Enter THIS school event code **rg8p3**
Then follow the 3 simple steps.




1



2



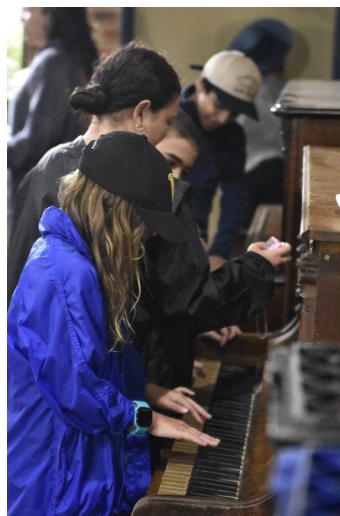
3



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

Teen Ranch Camp - Stage 3

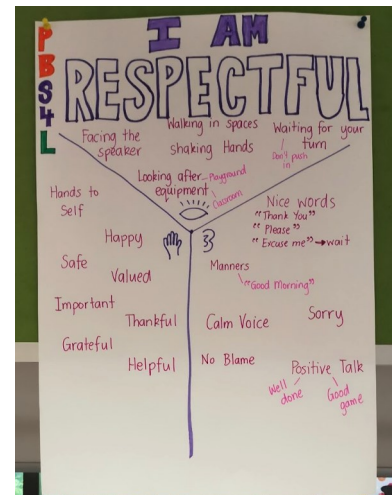
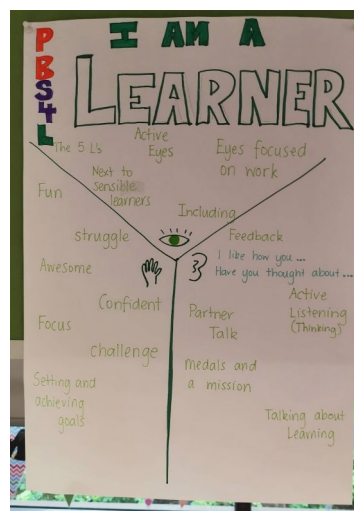
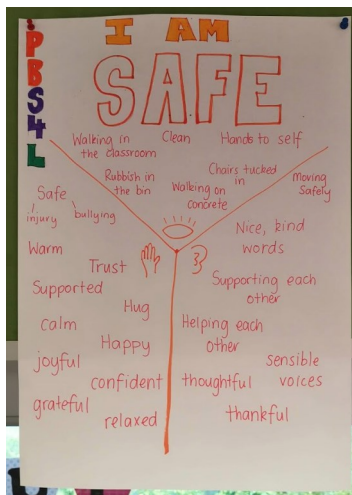
I had a terrific time albeit wet with the Stage 3 students at Cobbitty. Look out for the Newsletter in Week 5 where we will be able to read and share in some great photos of this experience. I would like to thank and acknowledge the teachers; Mrs Smith, Mrs Camilleri, Mr Cappadona, Mrs Khoury and Mr Simpson for giving up their time with their families to be at this three day camp with me!





Positive Behaviour Support for Learning

We have had a great start to the year in setting up our classroom expectations across the school. The playground initiative will continue this year where the students can receive a token for showing the set playground expectations and bonus tokens for the focus of the week. Our playground focus for next week will be 'I keep my whole body to myself'.



Processes and Procedures

Communication: Emails, Compliments, Grievances and Complaints

Emails Outside School Hours

We recognise that email is a fast and convenient way to communicate with your child's teacher. We wish to remind you that teachers read their emails at various times throughout the school day. Further, teachers are generally not expected to respond to emails from parents and students outside of normal working hours. In the case of a genuine emergency please contact the school office during business hours on **stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au** or phone **4752 3300**

If you wish to contact your child's teacher, please continue to direct your emails to **stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au** which will then be triaged, as per usual practice. We appreciate your assistance and understanding.

Grievances Forms can be downloaded from the Parramatta Catholic Education website.

We all like to hear good news stories too, please feel free to shoot us a quick email to tell us what we are doing well as well :-) !

Moved house? New Mobile?

It is important that the school has all relevant and updated information regarding you child. Please email the school with your new details.

School Uniform

School Uniforms are a partnership between home and school. Uniforms create a sense of belonging demonstrating pride and show our local community that we value our school by the manner in which we wear and adhere to the uniform policy. After this newsletter, teachers will be sending home uniform notes. Your prompt response in these matters is appreciated in advance.

Morning Tea

Late last year we noticed more and more students coming into the hall for parent morning teas. This presents a few different unsafe issues; hot tea/coffee, food allergies and numbers of people in the hall. With the exception of the Opening School Mass (where the badged leaders are allowed into the hall) and Year 6 Graduation (this is only for the leaving Year 6 students).

During the year, at our other events, unless otherwise advertised, we kindly request no other students be brought into the hall or given food from the hall. This will ensure the safety of all of our students. This does not include toddlers or pre-schoolers who are in the care and supervision of their parents.

Kiss and Ride Procedures

Laminated name please have this displayed -contact the office. If someone else is picking them up please ensure they have a sign to assist the promptness of this duty.

Toilet in the Office

We understand that every now and again you may be desperate and require the use of a toilet, however lately there have been many people/toddlers as well using the toilet in the office. The cumulative effect of one is often greater as you may be unaware that there have been 3 others before/ after you. The office is a professional work environment for our office staff and staff. If you require the use of the toilet please use the Church/ Parish Meeting Room toilets as the first options as this is where you will be redirected first.

Building Child Safe Communities

We adhere to the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and support the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

A range of checks and undertakings are required for people who work for or provide services to CEDP. These checks reduce potential risk and forms part of our strategy to build child safe communities.

In the Diocese of Parramatta we see parents as partners in your child's educational experience. Parents are encouraged to become involved in our schools in a variety of ways such as canteen helpers, coaches of sporting teams, supporting classroom learning, providing general assistance around the school and much much more.

Contractors may include architects, builders and tradespeople project managed by CEDP or services provided to students using CEDP rooms and equipment including music teachers, speech pathologists, canteen providers and repairs and maintenance workers, amongst others.

We thank you for the important role you play in supporting the ongoing learning of our students and the opportunities you provide. Please visit the link below for further information.

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Building-Child-Safe-Communities>

Attendance

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. Attendance will continue to be a focus in 2020 in order to raise awareness about the importance of attendance and to promote a healthy attendance culture. We are aiming for *above 90% attendance*.

St Nicholas Attendance H.E.R.O awards will continue in 2020. H.E.R.O stands for Here Everyday, Ready On time. Students will be recognised twice a term for perfect attendance (no partial or full absences). For example, in a ten week term, students will receive an award if they have 100% attendance in Weeks 1-5 and Weeks 6-11. These students will also be acknowledged in Newsletters.



We realise some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. It is for this reason that we have made the Attendance H.E.R.O awards to recognise attendance for half of the term, rather than based on the attendance of a whole term.

Emergency Procedures

We were very fortunate to be unaffected by the fires and floods and our heart certainly goes out to all of those communities affected by both of these disasters. These events act as a reminder for us to double check our Emergency Procedures and as we practice these with our students each term.

Building and Facilities updates Projector in the hall

As you may have been aware the projector in the hall was slowly fading. We are excited to have a brand new one installed ready for our first assembly.

Catholic Culture

Parent Group

Thank you to the parents who came along to our first Parent Group meeting on Monday 10 February. We spoke about Fun Food Days, up coming school events such as the Opening School Mass and fundraising events. All are welcome and our next meeting is on Monday 2 March 2020 at 9:10 am.

2020 Parent Group Roles

- Chairperson/President - Nicole Rebernik
- Pastoral Care - Nicole Khoury
- Canteen - **Volunteer Needed**

K - 6 Grade Representative

- Early Stage 1 - Felicia Meyer
- Stage 1: Sarah Lestal
- Stage 2: Nicole Rebernik & Clare Fidler
- Stage 3: Helena Steed & Sarah Lestal

Parent Group are organising the following events. If you are able to help on these days, please contact the office or your stage representative.

Term 1 Fun Food Days

- Pancake Day- Tuesday 25 February (Week 5) - Lunch time
- Sushi Day- Friday 27 March (Week 9) - Lunch time

Fundraising Events

Easter Egg Raffle

- Wrapping Dates- Monday 30 March & Friday 3 April

Mothers Day Stall

- Wrapping Dates- Tuesday 28 April & Friday 1 May (Term 2 Week 1)
- Mother's Day Stall- Friday 8 May
- Mother's Day Morning Tea Friday 8 May- Early Stage 1 parents hosting



Extra Curricular

2020 Sport Dates

Once again in 2020, St Nicholas students will have the opportunity to challenge themselves and participate in a range of sporting events and gala days. The upcoming dates for 2020 include:

Swimming

Tuesday 18 February- 2020 Nepean Zone Swimming
Thursday 20 February- 2020 Diocesan Swimming Carnival
To Be Confirmed- 2020 School Swimming Carnival
To Be Confirmed- School Swimming Lessons

Athletics

Wednesday 10 June- School Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 17 June- School Athletics Carnival Back Up
Friday 7 August- 2020 Nepean Zone Athletics
Friday 21 August- 2020 Diocesan Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 11 March - 2020 School Cross Country
Tuesday 5 May- 2020 Diocesan Cross Country

Gala Days

Soccer

Wednesday 27 May- Stage 3 Girls
Wednesday 3 June- Stage 3 Boys
Wednesday 24 June- Stage 3 Boys and Girls

Netball

Wednesday 26 August- Stage 2 and 3 Boys and Girls

Touch Football

Friday 11 September- Stage 2 Boys and Girls
Friday 25 September- Stage 3 Boys and Girls

Basketball

Tuesday 10 November- Stage 2 and 3 Boys and Girls

Gymnastics

Friday 6 November- Selected Stage 2 and 3 Boys and Girls

At St Nicholas we encourage fair play and giving students opportunities to represent their school at various events. Students will be selected representative teams based on their skills and ability in the sport, attitude towards team based games and students being safe, respectful and a learner throughout the year. Mr Simpson will work with all teachers to ensure students are selected following this criteria. We will also require parents for each of the gala days and carnivals. Helping at these events assists the teachers and students to get the most out of these days. Parents are required to complete their Building Child Safe communities to assist in these roles.

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Building-Child-Safe-Communities>

Fact Sheet for Parents and Caregivers - Explanation of Absences

CEDP promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education.

If your child is sick or absent you are required to notify their school on the first day of absence if at all possible. All explanations to the school must be provided within **7 days** from the first day of any period of absence.

Absences can be explained using one of the following methods:

1. Online: log the absence directly using the Skoolbag app
2. Email: the school at stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au
3. Telephone: the school office 4752 3300
4. Note sent with your child upon return to school

Where an explanation has not been received within the 7 day timeframe or the explanation has not been accepted, the school will record the absence as unexplained or unjustified on the student's record. The school will not be able to accept explanations which are not received within the 7 day timeframe.

Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Why do I need to notify the school if my child is absent?

Parents of children aged 6 to 17 years are legally required to ensure their children attend school every day or provide an explanation if they are absent. Notifying the school and providing an explanation for your child's absence will fulfil this legal responsibility.

The safety and wellbeing of students are the highest priorities for schools. Parents need to know if their child isn't at school, and schools need to know when and why a child is absent. Notifying the school of your child's absence helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in school.

What is your responsibility?

- Ensure your child attends school every day
- Notify the school immediately if your child is absent
- Provide an explanation for any absences within 7 days
- Make sure the school has your correct contact details so that you can receive attendance information about your child

every learner every day 

Correspondence

- ☺ Curriculum Overviews
- ☺ Term 1 Calendar
- ☺ Student-Led Conferences
- ☺ Stage 2—Request for Morning Tea item
- ☺ Kindergarten Dinner Invitation
- ☺ Online Homework
- ☺ Zone Swimming (selected students)

St Nicholas of Myra Parish

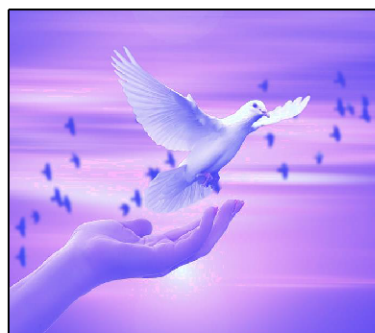
326 High St Penrith
4721 2509

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



*Walking with humility
in the way of Jesus,
serving all of God's people'*
Draft RE Rationale

Into the Deep



PARENT RETREAT DAY

Wednesday 13 May 2020
9.30 – 2.30

ST JOSEPHS RETREAT CENTRE
BARINA DOWNS RD, BAULKHAMHILLS

Join parents from the Parramatta Diocese in a day of personal TRANSFORMATION as you nurture faith through reflection, small group discussion and creative activities.

Explore the concept of WITNESS as you interact with Scripture, God, Self and Others.

For more information: Donna Dempsey 0407597426
ddempsey1@parra.catholic.edu.au

For Registration
click the
symbol ➡



Please RSVP
by
1 April

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH KINGSWOOD

YOUTH GROUP – S.K.Y.

INVITES ALL YEAR 6 TO 18 YEAR OLDS

EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 3-5PM

(During School Term)

Parish Hall, 12 Richmond Rd, Kingswood

Socialise in a safe Christian environment

U-Turn Youth Ministry (Servants of Jesus)



JOIN US FOR A FUN
AFTERNOON OF
GAMES, TALKS,
REFLECTIONS,
SOCIALS &
AFTERNOON TEA.

Parish Office: 4721 4080



ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE **OPEN DAY 2020** SUNDAY, 8 MARCH

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR OUR
ANNUAL OPEN DAY AT THE COLLEGE**

CENTRED ON THE NEEDS OF EVERY STUDENT
BY OFFERING AN EXTENSIVE CURRICULUM
AND CONTEMPORARY FACILITIES

MORNING SESSION

Commences at 10.00am, followed by a tour of the
College at 10.30am

AFTERNOON SESSION

Commences at 12.30pm, followed by a tour of the
College at 1.00pm



A 54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747 T 02 4731 1933
W www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au E info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au

ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE – YEAR 7, 2021 INFORMATION EVENING



Tuesday 25th February 2020

Bookings are not required, upon arrival please register at the College Library

Session 1:

- 3.15pm - Register for tour
- 3.30pm – 4.00pm: Address by the College Principal
- 4.00pm - 5.00pm - Tour of facilities

Session 2:

- 5.15pm - Register for Tour
- 5.30pm – 6.00pm: Address by the College Principal
- 6.00pm - 7.00pm - Tour of facilities

Tours will begin at 4.00pm and 6.00pm *sharp* to enable visitors to view all the College facilities.

Prospectus and enrolment applications will be available on the night.

Inquiries: Mrs Sandra O'Brien (Enrolment Secretary) 4754 8907

St Columba's Catholic College - 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood 2777

Phone: (02) 4754 8900 Email: stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.stcolumbaspringwood.catholic.edu.au

Xavier College Open Night

Tuesday 3 March—4pm-6pm. Prospective 2021
students and families are welcome to attend.
Tours and application forms available on the night.

Truth Through Learning

Enrolling now for all year groups 2021**Open Evening Tuesday 10 March 2020****5.00pm to 8.00pm**

- ◇ Meet the Principal, staff and student leaders
- ◇ Tours of the College facilities
- ◇ Enrolment packages available
- ◇ Principal Presentations

Enquiries: 4728 8100

Website: www.penolaemuplains.catholic.edu.au

Like us on Facebook: @PenolaEmuPlains

Follow us on Twitter: @PenolaEmuPlains

School Banking newsletter.

Term 1 update.

CommBank Bushfire Support

In light of the recent devastating bushfires, we want to share how we can help. Applications are now open for Bushfire Recovery Grants to help rebuild community facilities, schools, fire brigades and replace lost or damaged equipment. Please encourage your local community groups to apply by 31 March 2020, for grants of up to \$50,000. If you're a CommBank customer and you've been affected, we can also give you a hand with your finances. commbank.com.au/bushfirerecovery



2020 Treetop Savers Adventure.

This year, the Dollarmites (Pru, Addy, Spen, Lucas and Pat) are ready to take children on a Treetop Savers adventure to the enchanted Treehouse of Savings. Here they'll discover lots of fun financial activities and rewards for saving.

Many surveyed parents think it's important to make learning about money engaging and to reward good saving behaviour*. And this year, we're changing our School Banking rewards for the better. We're introducing new eco-friendly and reusable rewards, alongside other rewards that encourage creativity, as well as indoor and outdoor play.

Activity 1: Add up Addy's pocket money

Addy gets \$2 pocket money every time she does a job in the Treehouse of Savings. If she does 9 jobs, how much will she have earned?

A: \$ _____

Activity 2: Find and count how many frogs and butterflies you can see

A: _____ Frogs and _____ Butterflies.



Term 1 Treetop Savers rewards

When your child makes 10 deposits with School Banking, they can redeem one of our Treetop Savers rewards. Term 1 rewards are available now, while stocks last.



Terry Denton's
Activity Book



Mini
Soccer Ball

Any questions about the School Banking program? Ask your School Banking Co-ordinator for a parent's pack or visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

*Parents of Australian primary school children, School Banking Research, conducted by Filthyfives, May-June 2018.
Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124

Assessment Activity 1: 500 Activity 2: 10 Frogs and 11 Butterflies



Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience for the whole family

Welcome a new family member into your home

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED 2020

- ✓ Experience a foreign culture firsthand
- ✓ Be exposed to a new language at home
- ✓ Rediscover and share the beauty of Australia
- ✓ Develop friendships that last a lifetime

We have a wonderful group of students arriving in May, July and August 2020 for 3, 6 or 10 months and are excitedly waiting to hear news of their host family in Australia.

All students have a wide range of interests and hobbies.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today 1300 135 331 or info@studentexchange.org.au

www.studentexchange.org.au/hosting
experienceiseverything

