

# St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 4 Week 1

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop (Saint Mary of the Cross). Our school was fortunate to have four teachers, a student and parent attend the Canonisation in Rome 10 years ago.

St Nicholas of Myra was the first Josephite school established in the Diocese in 1852 and known to have been visited by Mary. Mary worked in the community, reaching out to the poor to raise them up through the service of education. Our school flag was taken to Rome and hung proudly at all the gatherings of Australian Pilgrims. Mrs Khoury was one of the teachers who attended the canonisation in Rome and remembers the day fondly.



*"I remember waking up early in the morning and arriving at a packed St Peter's Basilica. We were all so excited as we waited a few hours in line to get to our seats. As the Pope drove past, it all became real for me that we were about to be part of something truly special. I remember seeing the image of Mary MacKillop hanging from St Peter's Basilica and feeling so proud to be an Australian working in a school that was started by the Sisters of St Joseph. We waved the school flag proudly as Mary's name was called out and she was officially canonised a Saint. After this celebration we went with all the other Australian pilgrims to the church of St Peter and St Paul where there was an Australian gathering. The church was full of Aussies proudly professing their faith. It is something that has never left me and I feel truly honoured to be a part of it all."*

The theme for the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of St Mary MacKillop is **"Take Fresh Courage"** a quote written by Mary MacKillop on 21 May 1877. Over the past few months many of us have had to take courage during this constantly changing world. Whether it was the courage to use online platforms like Zoom for the first time, go back out in public after isolating ourselves or even the courage to say I am not ok today. We have been challenged to find new ways to live, work and play. What life will be after this pandemic is unknown and this is where we need to draw upon our faith and courage just as Mary did during her life. Mary wrote, 'Let us pray for the ever dear Will of our good God to be done, and in the end we shall see what peace and happiness will result from all our sorrows', she had complete trust and faith in a God whose love sees us through every evil.



Mary is a beacon of hope for our world and through her canonisation we were all invited to make a difference in the world. As one writer said, we can ask ourselves, "What aspect of her life can I embody so that, together, we can be a living portrait of her in our world?"

Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic  
Principal



# General News

## **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 as we move into Term 4. 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.

## **Term 4**

### **Week 8:**

- Monday 30 November to Friday 4 December 2020 - Swim School
- Thursday 3 December 2020 - Christmas Concert

### **Week 9:**

- Friday 11 December 2020 -
  - ♦ End of Year Mass,
  - ♦ End of Year Awards and
  - ♦ Year 6 Graduation Dinner

### **Week 10:**

- Monday 14 December 2020 10:30 - 11:00 am Transition to new learning spaces and/or stages
- Monday 14 December 2020 - Year 6 Farewell Arch
- Tuesday 15 December Swimming Carnival with Ribbons being awarded at the end of each race. LAST DAY for STUDENTS!

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

**Advance notice is given for these dates to support Parents and Carers.  
Catholic Out of School Hours Care (COSH C) will be only available on Wednesday 16 December.**

# General News

## **School Fees Statements**

Statements are being sent with a due date of the 18 December 2020. As always, if you are experiencing any hardship in paying school fees, please contact Rhonda Shirvington in the school office and we will endeavour to assist you with payment options.

## **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
- The student has been offered an apprenticeship

## **Changes to School Fee Structure for 2021**

Catholic Education Department Parramatta have made a decision to slightly alter the fee structure for 2021. The Family Levy had been merged with the Resource Fee, so the Family Levy will no longer be evident on your fee statement. The benefit of this is that, due to Covid-19, there will be no increase in diocesan tuition fees or the building levy and therefore you will find that the total school fees increase is within the bounds of normal annual increases. For most families, this will have little or no impact on the amount of fees being charged, however some families with three or more students at St Nicholas will find there will be a slight increase due to the combination of these fees.

## **2020 Excursion Levy**

As COVID-19 has changed our ability to attend some excursions we have been able to provide incursions for all stages this year. Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 normally attend a farm or zoo experience; instead they had the farm visit including a sausage sizzle. Stage 2 usually visit Nepean Lakes; instead they had a Science incursion which included a sausage sizzle. Stage 3 were able to experience their excursion of Teen Ranch just before COVID-19 occurred. Our other whole school events still occurred, for example; Life Education, World of Maths and Musica Viva. At this point in time we are gathering Risk Assessments for the Swimming Program, Carnival and Bus Transport. We are able to, as advised by the NSW Government and CEDP Health Advice to attend these important excursions. Further details regarding parent attendance at these events will be communicated over the coming weeks as further advice is given.

# General News

## Uniform

As the weather is unpredictable, we require a transitional approach to school uniform.

Whilst technically we are in winter uniform still, if the weather is going to be hot then as long as the children are in their full summer uniform this is acceptable. Other day/s we may have cold rainy days, then their full winter uniform may be more preferable.

The final date for the changeover from winter to summer uniform is Friday 23 October 2020.

**From Monday 26 October full summer uniform is required.**

Please see the items of the full summer uniform below.

Girl's Summer Uniform	
Cullottes	Navy
Blouse	Sky blue with school crest
Jacket	Navy blue with school crest
Socks	Navy ankle
Shoes	Black leather (not black joggers)
Hat	Navy Slouch hat with school crest
	Tab Tie

Boy's Summer Uniform	
Shirt	Sky blue
Sloppy Joe	Navy blue with school crest
Jacket	Navy blue with school crest
Shorts	Navy blue blocker style (not cargo styles)
Socks	Plain navy blue ankle
Shoes	Black leather (not black joggers)
Hat	Navy slouch hat

## School Shoes

As per our uniform policy, girls and boys are required to wear **traditional style black leather school shoes** which can be polished for the summer and winter uniform. The leather shoes can either be lace up or velcro. **Black joggers/trainer style** shoes are unacceptable shoes to be worn with the school uniform.

### Acceptable Shoes



### Unacceptable Shoes



# Religious Education

## Religious Education New Curriculum

This term all Stages in our school will be working with a new learning cycle during Religious Education.

### HEAD (cognition)



BE ATTENTIVE

BE INTELLIGENT

BE REASONABLE

BE RESPONSIBLE

### HEART (affectivity)



BE CONTEMPLATIVE

BE EMPATHETIC

BE HUMBLE

BE LOVING

### HAND (praxis)



BE PRESENT

BE ACTIVE

BE COMPASSIONATE

BE EFFECTIVE

The following are the overarching questions the students will be engaging with this term:

### Early Stage 1: How is God the Father present to all in our world?

This learning cycle encourages students to develop an understanding of the presence of God in their lives and to realise they are uniquely wonderful.

### Stage 1: Why do we belong to communities?

This learning cycle asks students to appreciate the importance of belonging to a faith community for human flourishing.

### Stage 2: How is God present in my life?

This learning cycle invites students to begin grappling with a Trinitarian theology.

### Stage 3: How do we find hope and joy?

This learning cycle challenges students to articulate their own hope and joy, while at the same time having empathy for the hopes and joys of others, particularly the marginalised and the most vulnerable.

I encourage you to ask your child about what they are learning in Religion as we journey together with our new curriculum.



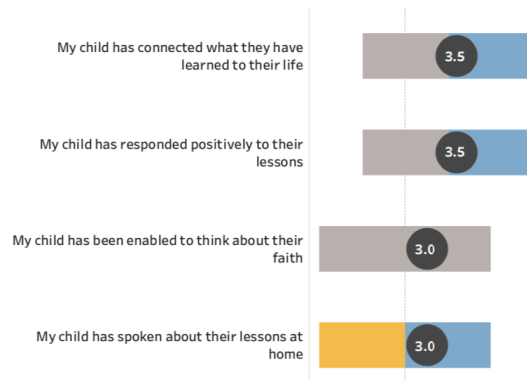
# Religious Education

## Religious Education Curriculum Survey Results

Last Term Stage 2 parents, students and teachers were invited to participate in a survey on the new Religious Education Curriculum. Please find below the results from the survey the range of responses was from 0-5.

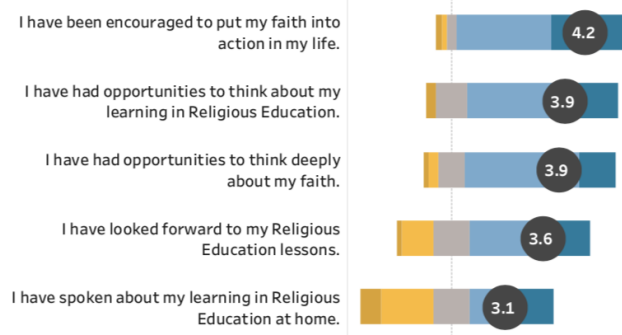
### Parent Survey

#### Average Score by Question



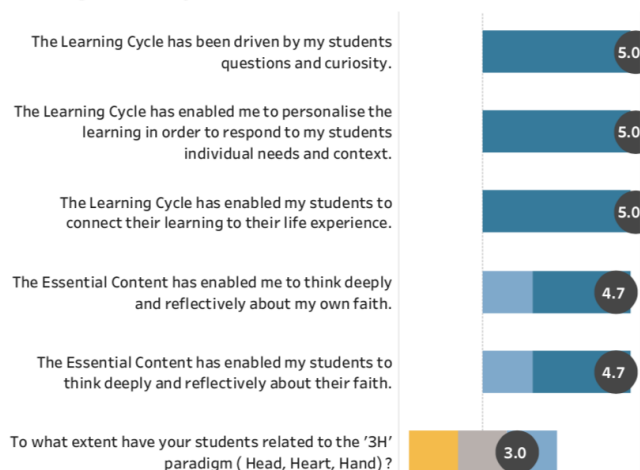
### Student Survey

#### Average Score by Question



### Teacher Survey

#### Average Score by Question



# Awards - Term 3 Week 10

## Gold Awards

Courtney HERBERT	K
Natasha HOWDEN	K
Vivien CHANPOWSEE	K
Andros SOURLAS	1
John WOOD	1
Max DYKE	1
Sophie EDWY-SMITH	1
Cindy GUO	2
Hailey LAU	3
Lola GIBBS	3
Rishi RENJU	3
Stephanie O'CONNOR	3
Benjamin DELA PAZ	5

## Personal Best Awards

Chris YANG	K
Michael REALES	1
Harmoni HILL	2
Stephanie O'CONNOR	3
Maryam YAMAYAN	4
Gabriel SULUAPE	5
Nathan HOWDEN	6B
Amrita KARKI	6G

## Voice of Youth - Overall 2020 School Champion

Lara WHITE	6B
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## Voice of Youth - Overall 2020 School Runner Up

Monette BANDA	6G
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## Voice of Youth - 2020 Social Justice Award

Richard REALES	6B
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## St Nicholas of Myra Award

Richard REALES	6B
Verity RODRIGUES	6G

## Silver Awards

Auri PALMA	K
Cherish COLLENTINE	K
Courtney HERBERT	K
Ella HANNAFORD	K
Isabella TEUMA	K
Natalie ROZARIO	K
Natasha HOWDEN	K
Olivia NKEMKA	K
Ozias AROKIANATHAN	K
Sofia BURGESS	K
Vivien CHANPOWSEE	K
Alana DEOLIVEIRA	1
Amos INGEGNERI	1
Andros SOURLAS	1
Harrison DONALDSON	1
Isabella RAMIREZ-SAW	1
John WOOD	1
Max DYKE	1
Skye GALE-VERIKETIS	1
Sophie EDWY-SMITH	1
Cindy GUO	2
Deante MERENDA	2
Eliza KASSOUF	2
Harmoni HILL	2
Jadey LAU	2
Knox CURREY	2
Marcus RICHARDSON	2
Nicholas FALZON	2
Sophia YANG	2
Brian NGUYEN	3
Lola GIBBS	3
Rishi RENJU	3
Stephanie OCONNOR	3
Zain DANIL	3
Allanah WALKER	4
Christian FALZON	4
Xavier ISAAC	4
Benjamin DELA PAZ	5
Brendan LESLIE	5

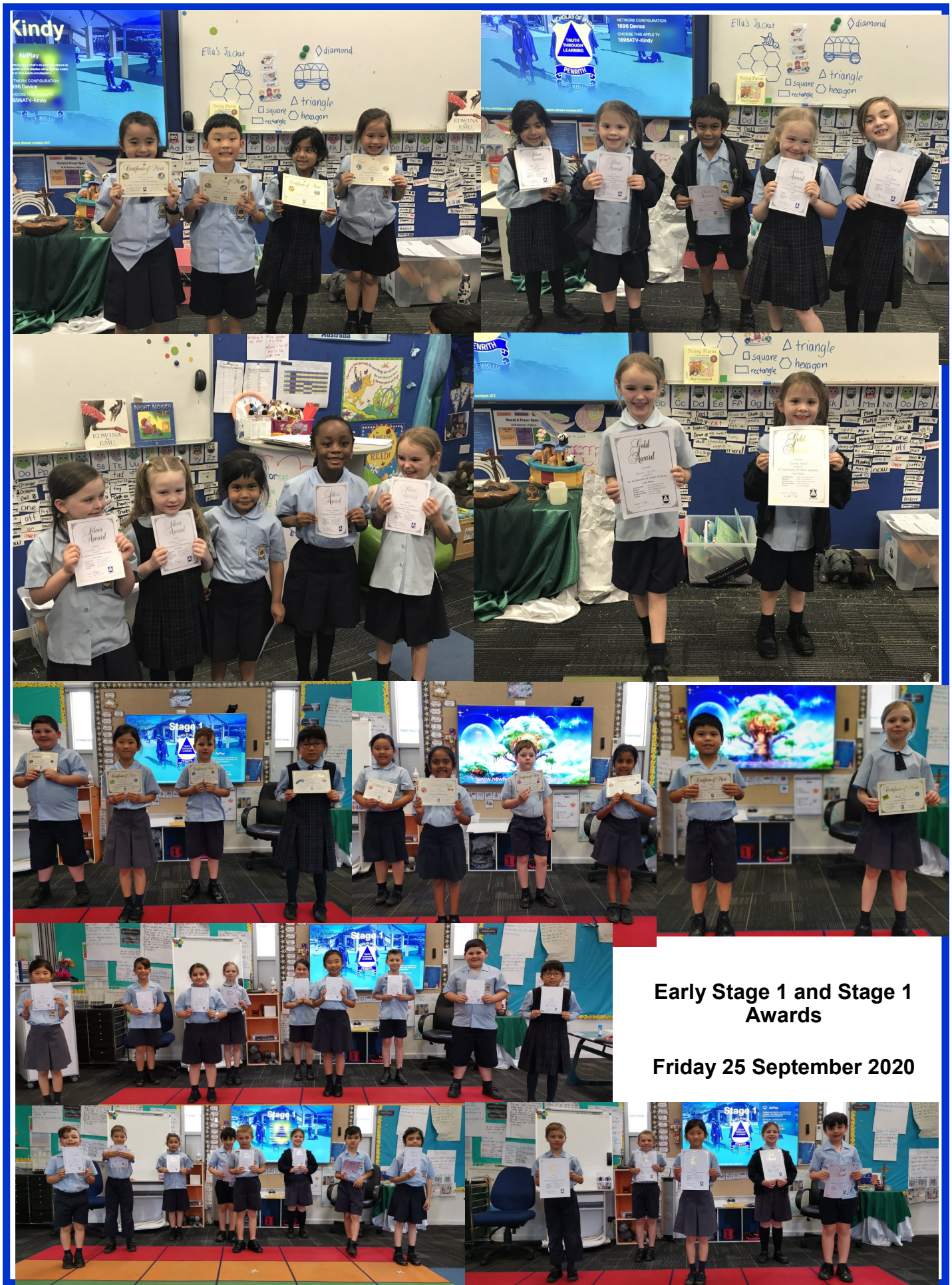
## Merit Awards

Auri PALMA	K
Elloise FLOOD	K
Isabella TRAN	K
Kristina ROSARIO	K
Esha NATH	1
Ethan TEUMA	1
Sophia ZHAO	1
Tvaritha VINOTHKUMAR	1
Cindy GUO	2
Deante MERENDA	2
Jadey LAU	2
Max FAAPOI	2
Adrian BURDANOWSKI	3
Angelo ISAAC	3
Byron FAAPOI	3
Ella HERBERT	3
Christian FALZON	4
Nox HILL	4
William DOUGLAS	4
Zachary HERRERO	4
Aubrey PARKER	5
Jayden MENDONCA	5
Jeremy KENNEDY	5
Willow ALEXANDER	5
Isabella SURENNE	6B
Julian FALZON	6B
Rachel IDRIS	6B
Richard REALES	6B
Benjamin WALKER	6G
Ishan SWARUP	6G
Mia BARRETT	6G
Verity RODRIGUES	6G

## Silver Awards (cont.)

Marina BROZ	6B
Richard REALES	6B
Ian GERALDEZ	6G
Monette BANDA	6G





**Early Stage 1 and Stage 1  
Awards**

**Friday 25 September 2020**





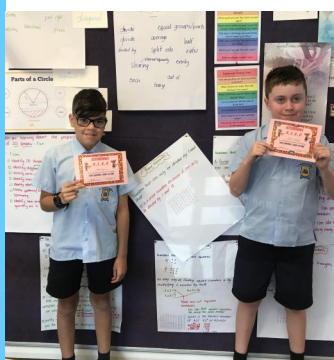
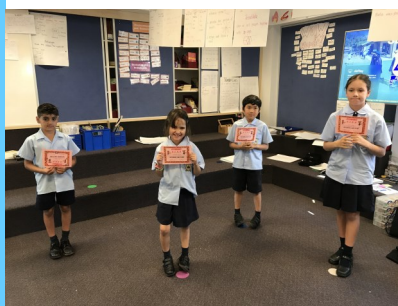
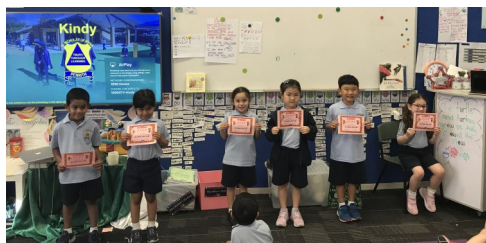
**Stages 2 and Stage 3 Awards  
Friday 25 September 2020**



# H.E.R.O. Awards - Term 3 Weeks 6 - 10

Cassandra RIBEIRO	K
Chris YANG	K
Emily WANG	K
Naoelle TIPLER	K
Natalie ROZARIO	K
Ozias AROKIANATHAN	K
Adhya DEY	1
Andros SOURLAS	1
Anna DISSANAYAKE	1
Harrison DONALDSON	1
Max DYKE	1
Michael REALES	1
Olivia ANDERSON	1
Sophia ZHAO	1
Tvaritha VINOTHKUMAR	1
Eden BLASZCZYK	2
Megan BAC	2
Nicholas FALZON	2
Sophia YANG	2
Grace MEYER	3
Brian NGUYEN	3
Stephanie OCONNOR	3
Zain DANIL	3
Allanah WALKER	4
Christian FALZON	4
Jacob WHITE	4
Jeremy KENNEDY	5
Mark DANIL	5
Ellie MOEN	6B
Isabella SURENNE	6B
Joseph EZEKIEL	6B
Joyce FAWZY	6B
Julian FALZON	6B
Lara WHITE	6B
Marina BROZ	6B
Rachel IDRIS	6B
Richard REALES	6B
Sakethram HARIPRASAAD	6B

**Congratulations to these students who achieved the H.E.R.O (Here Everyday, Ready Ontime) Award for full attendance in Term 3 Weeks 6 - 10.**



## Correspondence

- ☺ Reminder email for Stage 3  
for Sacrament of  
Confirmation Parent Meeting

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



**YOU COULD PLAY WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST FOR FREE!**  
Claim your voucher today

**Woolworths CRICKET BLAST**

**HAVE A BLAST!**

GET INTO WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST. IT'S A FUN AND ACTIVE PROGRAM FOR KIDS OF ALL ABILITIES - WHETHER IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME WITH A BAT OR YOU'RE A BACKYARD CRICKET STAR!

Penrith RSL Cricket Club Master Blasters  
Saturday Mornings starting 17th October  
Fast, Fun, All equipment provided  
\$99 for 8 weeks, or FREE with Active Kids Voucher  
Head to [playcricket.com.au](http://playcricket.com.au) and enter your postcode!

\*BASED ON PROGRAM RRP OF \$99. MORE INFO AT [SERVICE.NEW.GOV.AU/ACTIVITIES](http://SERVICE.NEW.GOV.AU/ACTIVITIES)



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OFFICIAL BALL PROVIDER



**Woolworths CRICKET BLAST**

**HAVE A BLAST. BE PART OF THE CREW!**

Get into Woolworths Cricket Blast. It's a fun and active program for kids of all abilities - whether it's your first time with a bat or you're a backyard cricket star!

- ✓ It's easy to join a crew and make awesome new friends.
- ✓ Wear the colours of your Big Bash heroes.
- ✓ Parents warm up, you can join in too!
- ✓ Outdoors, non-contact.

**JUNIOR BLASTERS**  
AGES 5-7 | 60 MINS | 8+ WEEKS

Learn new skills, including catching, throwing and teamwork, through fun game based activities.

Sign up now for your Starter Pack. Returning Junior Blasters score a Starter Pack with a Backpack, Ball and choice of bonus item!

**STARTER KIT** **RETURNER KIT**

**MASTER BLASTERS**  
AGES 7-10 | 90 MINS | 6+ WEEKS

Everyone gets a chance to bat, bowl and field in short, modified games of cricket. For kids with basic cricket skills.

Sign up now for your Master Blasters Pack!

**YOU COULD PLAY WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST FOR FREE!**

Thanks to the NSW Government, every student (K-12) is entitled to 2x\$500 Active Kids vouchers each calendar year. Remember to use your voucher when you sign up at [playcricket.com.au](http://playcricket.com.au)

Woolworths Master Blasters (Ages 7-10)  
Saturday Mornings Starting 17th October  
Fast, Fun, All equipment provided  
\$99 for 8 weeks or FREE with Active Kids Voucher  
Head to [Playcricket.com.au](http://Playcricket.com.au) to register today!

\*BASED ON PROGRAM RRP OF \$99. MORE INFO AT [SERVICE.NEW.GOV.AU/ACTIVITIES](http://SERVICE.NEW.GOV.AU/ACTIVITIES)



JOIN A CREW NEAR YOU TODAY



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# School Travel for 2021



## 2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

\*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2020 to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator, this may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. Note: some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

### **New Concession Entitlement Cards**

Transport for NSW will be replacing the below cards with Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCEC) from October 2020:

- Senior Secondary Student Concession Card (16 years and over) – also used by Mature Secondary Students (18 years and over), Distance Education Students and Home School Students
- Proof of Age card (when a student under 16 years of age looks older)
- Boarder Rail Pass.

All previous cards will be valid until they expire. Students who require a Transport Concession Entitlement Card should speak with their school administration staff.

Enquiries regarding school student travel can be submitted to Transport for NSW at:  
<https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback>