



We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians whose land we educate our students

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

As our year draws to a close it is a time for reflection and hope! I am always pleasantly humbled by the power of the Holy Spirit and the hope that lives in the heart, minds and sparkling eyes of our students. Even though we have had a most unusual year, these students have shown resilience, hope and a joy of being with one another as they moved from Remote Learning to Face to Face Learning.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Fr Joe and the Parish Team who always show their support of us as one faith community. Once again our Sacramental Parish Programs were able to proceed.

I would like to thank all of our families who once again supported their children's learning throughout the year. You have all done an amazing job. I am sure that your children have valued every moment that they have spent with you learning at the kitchen table, watching Zoom lessons, Family Fun Fridays, reading books, playing together outside. Although school has been different this year you have all made wonderful memories together.

This has been all supported by the dedicated and caring staff here at St Nicholas of Myra. All staff have been flexible in their thinking and made changes to their practice. I would like to thank and acknowledge their tremendous effort for Remote Learning. Together with the Drive Throughs, regular phone communications and student check ins as well as the Learning expertly crafted for each stage. Not to mention our staff's A game at bringing the fun; with the flattened teachers, Talent Quest, Family Fun Fridays and Christmas Concert etc Whilst for me the virtual world is a good option - for me nothing compares to the chattering noise and laughter of the students onsite.

I would like to formally thank the 2021 Parent Group who operated virtually but not in substance this year! We were still able to celebrate community events such as the Easter Egg Raffle, Mothers, Fathers, Christmas Raffle. As well as consult with you about our change of logo and uniform as well as the two building projects currently underway.

A special thank you and mention to Nicole Rebernik for being our Chairperson as well as to the following parents in

- Kindergarten - Sarah Edwy-Smith
- Stage 1: Krishni Arokianathan and Sarah Lestal
- Stage 2: Steven Head and
- Stage 3: Hamssa Danil and Clare Fidler



Leaving Colleagues

On behalf of our school community, I would like to formally thank all of our colleagues who are leaving this year for a variety of professional and personal reasons. Each colleague has positively contributed and helped one another grow as people as well as professionally.

Liam - You realise who is important in the life of school very quickly when the IT does not work - it is you! Thank you for being the calm troubleshooter for our students and staff when our IT devices or connectivity is down. You have always conducted yourself in a professional manner and been great at providing the staff ways to develop their troubleshooting skills also. More importantly than being the IT or "IT" guy you are a genuine person who we have all had the pleasure to get to know and work with. We wish you all of the very best in your future years.

Miss Cusi - Thank you for being a reliable teacher both in Stage 2 and 3 during your time here. Thank you for being a role model of faith and learning. Thank you for being a teacher who consistently supported "The Arts" in our school. Your singing gifts you shared in being involved and in the Masked Singer. I know everyone who has you in their professional learning groups will miss your rapid typing. As well as the way in which you nourished the staff with your baking skills! We wish you all of the best.

Mrs Sorbara - Your laugh is infectious and energising. You brought life, laughter and a keen sense of humour to our school. Your drive to advocate for our school and the students was a great gift and blessing here. You embraced any change or goal I set with a 'can do attitude.' Each and every role you have been you have made it your own and improved the students' learning; whether that be our EMU Infant Specialist, Reading Recovery, Third Wave Intervention Specialist, K-2 Literacy Coach as well as our Leader of Diversity. Our students (and staff/families) have gained the most from you without knowing the hours of love, problem solving and effort you placed into your various roles here at our school....nothing was ever a problem or a mountain too big for you!

It has been a pleasure to work with and also get to know you as someone who embraces life. I am in a privileged position as a Principal, as you get to see not only professionals develop and grow but people move through the stages of life. To be a part of your life; to see you marry and have your gorgeous baby girl is such an honour to be included and witness. And who knows where or when we will meet again... our roads have often intertwined in so many ways and over the years.....nevertheless we thank and wish you all of the very best for yourself and your beautiful family in the coming years.

Miss Teulan - Where do I start! I can't believe it has been 5 years - WOW. The hardest but most rewarding part of being a Principal is working with someone who you can truly trust, see grow and develop their leadership capacity and then letting them fly into a new school. Much like our parents when their last child leaves Primary or High School. These times often bring about conflicting emotions of sadness, a sense of time passing and joy when this happens.

I thank you for the collaborative leadership in leading the learning agenda of our school with me. I love your roll up the sleeves and get into the learning spaces approach. Your expertise in Reading Recovery for our most vulnerable students to improve their reading and writing over the five years is often an underestimated skills set and so challenging to navigate to each individual child's needs which can differ not only between children but also within their own needs which can be different for their reading as well as writing.

Your coaching and leading of Mathematics K-6 and then in the K-2 learning spaces has and will be missed. This insitu approach is what I know our staff will miss from you. We all know its not just about coaching it is the manner in which you coach and your approachability.

You have been so collaborative and supportive when opportunities arose; and I pitched these ideas to you.. I reminisce and realise that we have achieved so much in our time together; a fete, travelling to America for our students to compete in a Science competition known as Destination Imagination, Parent Group, a new Logo, uniform, learning space renovations and playground, being the DJ at our many discos over the years.

One key event which has affected so many of our lives and one we will never forget will always have as our first is our first Pandemic together..... The changes, communication and decisions in this complex situation continued to demonstrate how well we were able to be flexible, communicate and dig deep. During this period and unbeknown to our families, a job which I have done before are the rosters of a school, in a normal term it is a task to complete. But during the pandemic, it became an endless weekly, sometimes daily adjustment to the rosters and timetables throughout this period which then also grew exponentially. This is often a thankless task but a very necessary and important job which keeps all of us safe and the school running smoothly. Not once did you complain or give up - instead it became a mastery level of skill! I look back on the time when COVID started and realise our differing strengths to draw upon from each other lead students, staff and families allowed us to make the most of a continuing unknown changing landscape.

Most importantly you've been a trusted sounding board for me and this is the most critical and invisible gift any Assistant Principal can do and be in their role. I don't usually share personally publicly but I feel it necessary today; to have trust in someone as a person and in the role at one of my most challenging times will always be cherished and from the bottom of my heart I thank you for being there for me.

Now I know you will be sad but you don't know it yet.... About the 3 phrases you will not hear from me again

1. "sooo....I was thinking.....,"
2. "If something happens to me this is where the information is...." and
3. "so I had an idea..."

So much so that over the five years of working together Miss Teulan has heard these and given me 'that look' that she has even brought me an idea book to write these in.... Miss Teulan has a keen sense of humour...

Miss Teulan, know you have made a difference within our whole school community, know you will be missed but also know we wish you all of the success at your new school.

MESSAGE TO OUR ADULT KIDS

My children ask me each year.....
"What do you want for Christmas?"

After thinking about it, I decided to give them my real answer:

I want you to keep coming around.
I want you to ask me questions. Ask my advice.
Tell me your problems.
Ask for my opinion. Ask for my help.
I want you to come over and rant about your problems,
rant about life. Whatever.
Tell me about your job. Your worries. Your classes.
I want you to continue sharing your life with me.
Come over and laugh with me, or laugh at me.
I don't care, hearing you laugh is music to me.

I want you to spend your money making a better life for you.
I have the things I need. I want to see you happy and healthy

When you ask me what I want for Christmas I say "Nothing"
because you've already been giving me my gift all year.

I want you.

To our leaving Families and Year 6 Students and Parents, I would like to share this reflection onto the Year 6 Parents to the students of Year 6.

Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic
Principal

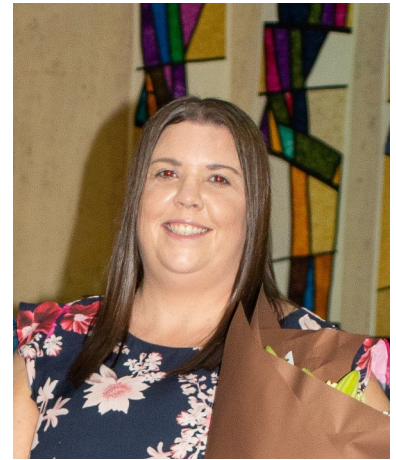


Farewell message from Rebecca Teulan

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

It is with both sadness and excitement that I leave St Nicholas of Myra to be the Assistant Principal of St Michael's Blacktown South.

It has been a privilege to be the Assistant Principal at St Nicholas of Myra for 5 years. From my very first day, I was impressed by the warmth and openness of this school community. It has been a privilege to work with such wonderful and articulate children, passionate and dedicated staff and caring parents. It is the community that makes a school special and each and every one of you plays a role in making St Nicholas of Myra the place it is.



Thank you for the experiences and memories that you have gifted to me during my time here. I have had some amazing experiences with the students including going to America for Destination Imagination, athons, excursions, carnivals, dress up days and the daily learning experiences that the students engage in each day.

Thank you to all of the students, parents, staff and Anita Knezevic who have made my time at the school such an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Hopefully, I will be able to drop in from time to time, especially to see the final completion of the new learning space and playground next year.

Thank you for the wonderful expressions of thanks and best wishes I have received in the last few weeks.

I wish you all a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Rebecca Teulan
Assistant Principal



End of Year Awards

Class	Christian Living	Academic Achievement	Academic Growth	Outstanding Effort
K	Audrey Burgess	Olivia Spain	Pranit Joshi	Robert Wood
1	Isabella Teuma	Parv Gulati	Chris Yang	Natalie Rozario
2	Sophie Edwy-Smith	Anna Dissanayake	Annabella Christie	Andros Sourlas
3	Molly LeMaire	Cindy Guo	Avaleigh Faucett	Lilah Surene
4	Amelia Fidler	Stephanie O'Connor	Noah Edwy-Smith	Lola Gibbs
5	Leo Alexander	Jacob White	Beau Brown	Abby McIntosh
6	Willow Alexander	Isabel Mrsic	Lachlan Mueller	Matthew Fidler





End of Year Awards

Stuart Ayres (All rounder)	Isabel Mrsic
Melissa McIntosh Quiet Achiever Award (previously known as Lindsay Award)	Odessa Gibbs
St Vincent De Paul Award- \$50 book voucher	Jeremy Kennedy
Museum of Fire Award (All rounder)	Skyla Hill



SNOM Awards
Sophia Yang
Benjamin Dela Paz





Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday 14 of December the infants and primary students participated in the 2021 Swimming Carnival at Penrith Ripples. Our students competed in a range of races on the day including 100M freestyle, 50M and 25M freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke, 50M butterfly and the 200M Individual medley. The students also had the opportunity to enjoy some novelty events and activities on the grassed area such as the parachute games.... So much fun!

Congratulations to all our competitors, you all did such an amazing job! Well done!

A special thank you to all our helpers on the day; Cynthia Busstra, Amanda Falzon, Hamssa Danil, Angela Gibbs, Tim Spain, Krishni Arokianathan, Nicole White, Nicole Rebernik, Talya Arokianathan, Issac Brown and Will Brown.

Thank you for volunteering your time and helping throughout the event... It is greatly appreciated!

Each year we give the Year 6 medal to the Year 6 Boy and Girl champion. We also give a boys and Girls Swimming Champion and Runner Up.

2021 Award Winners

Year 6 Girls Medal- Aubrey Parker

Year 6 Boys Medal- Mark Danil

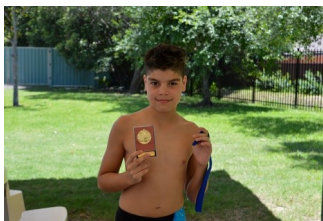
2021 Girls Swimming Champion- Alexa He

2021 Girls Swimming Runner Up- Abby McIntosh

2021 Boys Swimming Champion- Christian Falzon

2021 Boys Swimming Runner Up- Nicholas Falzon

Congratulations to Bradman as the winner of the 2021 Swimming Carnival.







General News

AIR PURIFIERS

The school has taken delivery of an air purifier for each Learning Space which were purchased by CEDP. Our Air Conditioner/s were cleaned and checked to be compliant with the models as stipulated by CEDP earlier this Term. The air purifiers along with cross ventilation and our Air conditioning system itself are all a part of the school's COVID Safety Plan to improve the air quality of learning and work spaces and help mitigate against airborne pollutants.

MEDICAL ACTION PLANS

If your child is on a Medical Action Plan, could you please take the time over the holidays to check that it is still valid. Medical Action Plans are valid for 12 months. A visit to the doctor may be required if your child's plan is approaching the end of its validity. We would appreciate it if updated Action Plans be sent to us via the school email or sent with your child on return to school. Thank you!

The image shows two forms from ASCIA (Asthma and Allergy Society of Australia). The left form is an 'ASTHMA ACTION PLAN' and the right form is an 'ACTION PLAN FOR Anaphylaxis'. Both forms include sections for 'WHEN WELL', 'WHEN NOT WELL', and 'IF SYMPTOMS GET WORSE'. They also provide instructions on how to use inhalers and how to give EpiPen. The forms are designed to be filled out by a healthcare professional and then used by the patient or caregiver.

2022 Parent Group Nominations are now complete and we would like to introduce...

Thank you to the Parents and Carers who have already submitted their interest in being the 2022 Parent Group. Thank you to the parents who have offered to assist the additional Stages.

- Chairperson/President - Nicole Rebernik
- K - 6 Stage/ Grade Representatives
 - * Early Stage 1: Kindergarten - not filled yet, please email the school, if you change your mind.
 - * Stage 1: Krishni Arokianathan
 - * Stage 2: Sarah Edwy-Smith and Sarah Lestal

Learning Space Update





Dates to Remember

Staff Development Days (SDD): Wednesday 15, Thursday 16 and Friday 17 December 2021 (.

COSHC Vacation Care will be available at COSHC Bethany, Glenmore Park Monday 10 January – Friday 28 January 2022 for bookings from 6:30am to 6:30pm. Please ensure you book your child in if you are wanting this service. Vacation care programs and booking forms will be distributed during November.

COSHC will accept booking requests for a Pupil Free Day (SDD) on Monday 31 January, with confirmation given to families if their booking request is successful based on interest registered closer to the date.

COSHC resumes Before and After School Care on Tuesday 1 February 2022.

2022 Start of Year Important Dates

- **Friday 28 January 2022 (8:30 am – 11am)** - 2022 Kindergarten Best Start Assessments and Years 1- 6 MAI Assessments.
- **Monday 31 January 2022 (8:30am – 4:40pm)** - 2022 Kindergarten Best Start Assessments and Years 1-6 MAI Assessments
- **Tuesday 1 February 2022 (9:00am – 3:10pm)** - First day of school for Years 1-6.
- **Tuesday 1 February 2022 (8:30am – 3:00pm)** - 2022 Kindergarten - MAI Assessments
- **Wednesday 2 February 2022 (9:30am - 2:30pm)** – Kindergarten first day at school - part day!
- **Wednesday 2 February 2022 - 9:30am** - 2022 Kindergarten Cheers and Tears Morning Tea for the Parents *to be confirmed based on current NSW Health & CEDP advice.*
- **Thursday 3 February 2022 (9:00am – 3:10pm)** – Kindergarten ***first full day with the rest of the school.*** **Welcome to ALL K- 6 students!**

CORRESPONDENCE SENT HOME

- Christmas Raffle Reminder
- Reminder—Christmas Raffle and St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal
- Semester 2 School Reports
- 10 December 2021—End of Year Graduation Mass and End of Year Awards
- Hazardous Material Notification



Christmas Raffle Winners

1 st Prize	Family Pass (2 Adults and 2 Children) to Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo - donated by Western Plains Zoo \$100 Voucher – donated by Sittanos Penrith Hamper donated by Officeworks Valued at approx. \$337	Scarlett Findlay
2 nd Prize	iFly Gift Voucher Basic(FOC) - donated by iFly \$100 Voucher – donated by Sittanos Penrith \$50 Voucher donated by The Chop Butchery Valued \$259	Anita Knešević
3 rd Prize	iFly Gift Voucher Basic (FOC) – donated by iFly \$50 Voucher – donated by Product of Italy \$50 Voucher – donated by The Chop Butchery 2 x Complimentary Coffee Voucher – donated by Mr Brightside Cafe Valued approx. \$217	Eloise Flood
4 th Prize	10 visit Aquarobics Pass - donated by Nepean Aquatic Centre \$50 Voucher – donated by The Lakeside Restaurant \$50 Voucher – donated by The Chop Butchery Valued \$210	Nevaeh-Rae Suluape
5 th Prize	1 month Swimming Lessons – donated by Nepean Aquatic Centre \$50 Voucher – donated by The Lakeside Restaurant \$50 Voucher – donated by The Chop Butchery Valued \$186	Iravan Chowdhury
6A th Prize	Taronga Zoo Family Pass (2 Adults and 2 Children) - Valued \$152	John Wood
6B th Prize	10 visit Public Swim Pass – donated by Nepean Aquatic Centre \$50 Voucher – donated by Café Fred Valued \$110	Rhonda Shirvington
7 th Prize	Family Pass – donated by Museum of Fire \$25 Voucher – donated by St Marys Leagues Club Valued \$60	Adrian Burdanowksi
8 th and 9 th Prizes	Family Pass – donated by Arms of Australia Museum \$25 Voucher – donated by St Marys Leagues Club Valued \$55	Beau Brown Simone Harvey
10 th - 14 th Prizes	1 hour session – donated by FlipOut \$20 Voucher – donated by McDonalds Valued \$36.50	Knox Currey Diya Goel Naoelle Tipler Roman Leitritz Max Faapoi
15 th Prize	\$25 Voucher – donated by St Marys Leagues Club 2 x Complimentary Coffee Vouchers – donated by Mr Brightside Café Valued approx. \$33	Olivia Spain
16 th – 20 th Prizes	Free Burger Voucher – donated by Grill'd Penrith 2 x Complimentary Coffee Vouchers – donated by Mr Brightside Café Valued approx. \$22	Molly LeMaire Sophia Zhao Karthik Chikka Dominic Kassouf Vivien Chanpowsee
21 st – 30 th Prizes	Complimentary Burger with Purchase of another Burger – donated by Grill'd 2 x Complimentary Coffee Vouchers – donated by Mr Brightside Café Valued approx. \$22	Nevaeh-Rae Suluape Amisha Nagarethnam Scarlett Findlay Gabriel Suluape Jayden Mendonca Mary Vella Tiegán Maree Bryant Naoelle Tipler Xavier Isaac Michael Reales

Thank you to all our sponsors



H.E.R.O. Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved an Attendance H.E.R.O. Award (Here Everyday, Ready Ontime) for Weeks 7 –10 in Term 4:

Aaron HE
Celine CHANPOWSEE
Ciaran HEAVIN
Cyndianna FORRESTER
Felix DYKE
Isaiah TUITU'U
Kacey BAC
Lucas GAYAGAY
Natania DESILVA
Nerissa ROZARIO
Olivia SPAIN
Pranit JOSHI
Roman LEITRITZ
Saathvik CHAITHRA
Siddhu PRAKASH
Tiegan-Maree BRYANT
Dominic GOUSKOS
Juleina LOTONUU BROWN
Natalie ROZARIO
Olivia NKEMKA
Parv GULATI
Vivien CHANPOWSEE
Andros SOURLAS
Harrison DONALDSON
Michael REALES
Sophia ZHAO
Nicholas FALZON
Samara COULTON
Sophia YANG
Holly RIGO
Stephanie OCONNOR
Zain DANIL
Amisha NAGARETNAM
Christian FALZON
Jeremy KENNEDY
Mark DANIL
Mina KEDIS
Willow ALEXANDER





Farewell

