

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 3 Week 7

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

I am sure you will join me in; Congratulating to Miss Rebecca Perreira on her Leader of Learning appointment! I thank Miss Perreira for being the successful applicant as well as accepting this position until the end of the school year. Miss Perreira throughout her years here, has led many different events for the benefit of our students and school community!

I would like to wish Our Lady, Mother and Queen a happy birthday from last Sunday (22 August).

Saints are a diverse group of characters with varied and interesting stories. The Church recognises more than 10,000 saints most of whom we don't even know. All have one thing in common - during their earthly life they dedicated themselves to the service and the mission of Christ. So which saint do you know best?

I would imagine that the answer to this question for most would largely depend on perspective, experience and situation;

- If you have misplaced your keys, it may be St Anthony.
- A traveller would say St Christopher.
- For teacher's it could be St Thomas Aquinas.
- Nature lovers would look to St Francis of Assisi.
- Lost causes - Saint Jude.

This week is a huge week of Saints ! We had/have;

- This Tuesday 24 August St Bartholomew.
- Wednesday 25 August is St Louis of France and St Joseph Calasanz
- Tomorrow Friday 27 August St Monica
- Saturday 28 August St Augustine.
- Sunday 29 August St John the Baptist.

This fortnight I have chosen St Joseph Calasanz (Wednesday 25 August).

Joseph was born in Spain and grew up in a wealthy family. While working as a tutor in Rome. He began to minister to many people suffering from plague and floods. Some consider him an apostle to the poor. He was especially troubled about the children of the poor. These young ones were growing up in violent and rough surroundings with no hope for a good future or Christian training. To help them, Joseph opened free schools in Europe. Getting good teachers who would be loving and patient with the students became more difficult as the number of students increased.

Two popes encouraged Joseph to form a religious order of men to staff the schools. Joseph founded the "Clerks Regular" of the Religious Schools, (also called Piarists). Joseph saw them as coworkers of the Lord in service of education. More and more schools were opened. When Joseph was elected head of the order, a terrible attack on the schools began, both from without and from within his order.

When the students from private schools switched to the free schools, their former teachers were angry. Many rich people were threatened by the thought that poor people were learning new ideas. These powerful people tried to abolish Joseph's free schools.

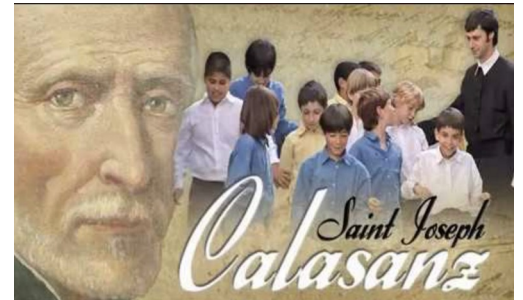
Worse still, first one member and then another of his own order began to campaign against Joseph. These men, who were jealous of Joseph, convinced the pope that something might be wrong with the order. At the age of eighty-six, Joseph was arrested and had to stand trial before the Holy Office. As a result of this trial, Joseph's work was stopped and the members of his order became part of the regular diocese.

In spite of all, Joseph respected his persecutors and protected them from angry comments of others. He never lost hope that one day religious order would be restored and the poor children would be served through its members. Joseph died in Rome without seeing his hope fulfilled. Twenty years later the pope completely restored the order, which continues to this present day.

St Joseph Calasanz, pray for us!

What do we learn from St Joseph Calasanz?

We learn that everyone has the right to an education. In order to do the right thing even if it is not popular you personally need to have steadfast faith and never lose hope in God's master plan. Although St Joseph Calasanz didn't see the finished product without his actions the future of these schools would have not been in existence. Therefore you never know the right and hard decision you make today and have such a positive impact in the future.



THANK YOU to the PARENTs, CARERs, GRANDPARENTS and SIBLINGS !

- Thank you for taking on yet another role in your life at very short notice.
- Thank you for installing a school in your home.
- Thank you for persisting with online classroom applications and programs.
- Thank you for listening and being encouraging when school work felt too hard.
- Thank you for offering to find out the answers together.
- Thank you for sharing motivation when the days felt so long.
- Thank you for balancing this on top of so much that has changed for you.
- Thank you for the hot meals and the full fridge at lunch time.
- Thank you for bringing some fun to home-school.
- Thank you for reading books together and sharing ideas about them.
- Thank you for the late nights that you are working to fit everything in.
- Thank you for continuing to try.
- Thank you for turning up every day.
- Thank you for not giving up.
- Thank you for being a teacher to us not just now, but throughout our lives.

Years from now, we probably won't remember much of what you said or tried to teach us. But we will remember that you were there, beside us, day after day. We will remember how you looked after us. We will remember the laughs we shared. We will remember that it was so different to what normal school was like. We will remember how much you tried. Most of all, we will remember how much you loved us and cared about our education.



Australian
Childhood

childhood.org.au

HOW TO MOTIVATE YOUR CHILD WHEN THEY WANT TO QUIT

SAYING "BUT THIS WAS EXPENSIVE" OR "I WON'T SIGN YOU UP FOR ANYTHING AGAIN!" DOESN'T WORK.
INSTEAD, MOTIVATE THEM TO KEEP GOING.



1 SHOW HOW FAR THEY HAVE ALREADY COME

- ★ "Look how many new skills you learned to get to where you are now!"
- ★ "Think back to a month ago. You didn't know how to do any of these things."
- ★ "You can easily play this piece. When you started you couldn't play more than two notes."

2 GIVE THEM SPACE AND TIME

- ★ "Take a break for a bit. You'll come back with new energy."
- ★ "Let's pause and talk. What are the reasons you want to quit?"
- ★ "Let's talk about why you wanted to do this activity in the first place."

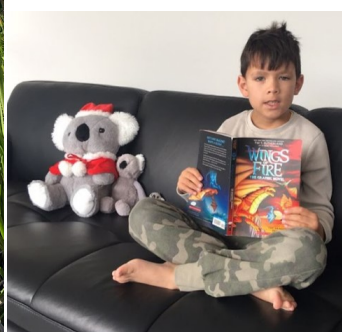
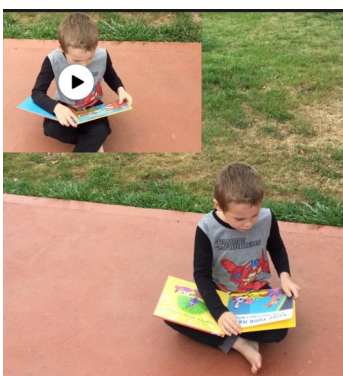
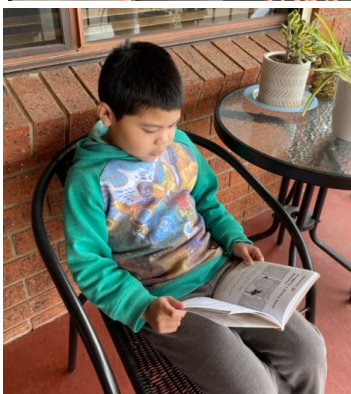
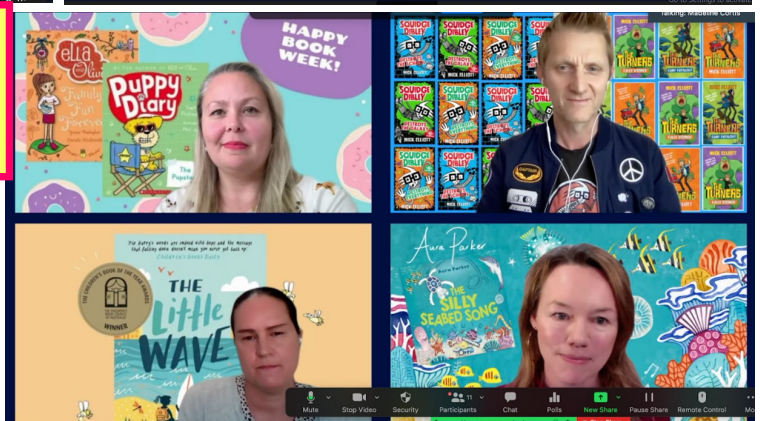
3 TEACH PATIENCE AND SELF-COMPASSION

- ★ "I know you're feeling very discouraged. Remember that your brain needs some time to learn new things."
- ★ "I see this is frustrating for you. What can I do to help you feel better?"
- ★ "Show yourself patience. Your brain and body are working so hard!"

We're Celebrating Book Week



There is still time to submit your reading challenge photos. Week 9 newsletter will be showing more Book Week activities.



Formation

Gospel Mk 7:1-5. 14-16. 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The English translation of the Gospel Verses from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. Lectionary for Mass, Copyright © 1998, 1997, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; All rights reserved.

A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

What are some favourite things you like to wear?

When do you wear them?

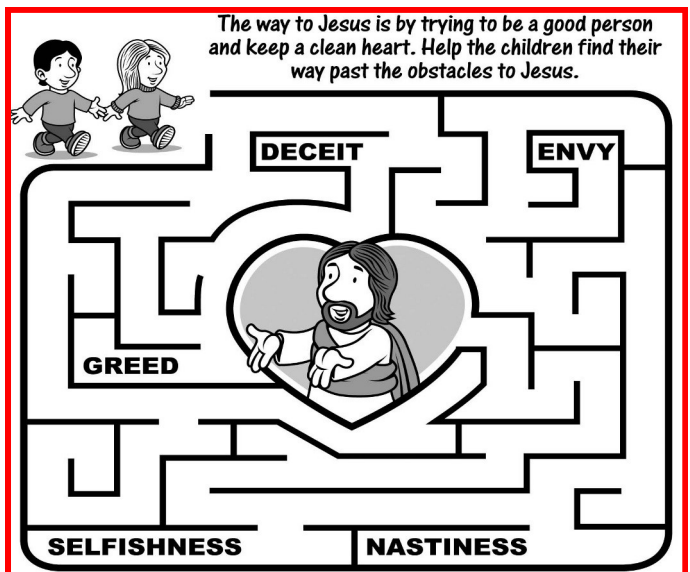
Can you tell if a person is good inside by the clothes they wear?

In today's Gospel Jesus talks about being good on the inside. He says that our hearts should be pure.

What does it mean to have a pure heart?

Jesus asks us to be good on the inside, in our thoughts and in what we do.

Let us pray that we will have pure hearts and love others as Jesus has shown us.

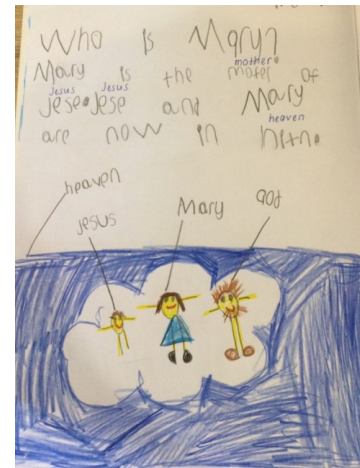
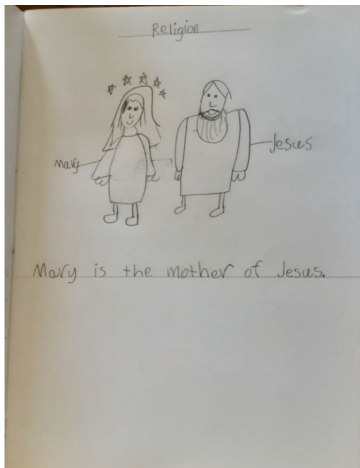


What have we been learning in RE?

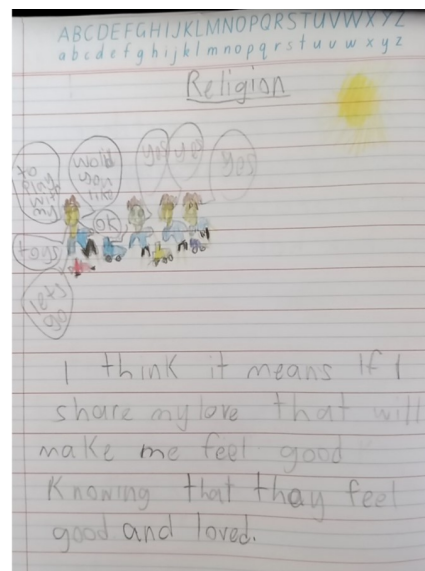
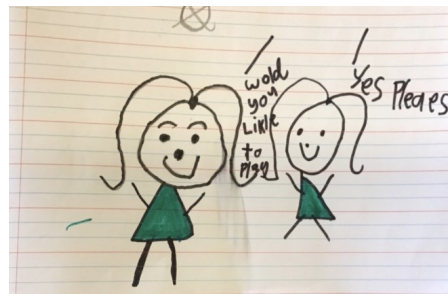
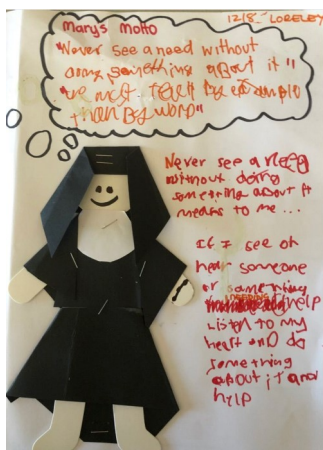
Remote Learning Style

Take a look at some of the work samples being shared with us during this time of remote learning. Thank you for all you are doing to help develop the Faith of our students.

Kindergarten: Kindergarten students have been learning about Mary. Here are some things they have learned about Mary.



Stage 1: Stage 1 students have been learning about who Mary MacKillop was, understanding more about her messages "Never see a need without doing something about it" and "Happiness is found in making others happy".



Stage 2: Students have been learning about St Mary MacKillop and the wonderful things she did throughout her life. They had the choice of presenting their research in various ways. Here are some pictures of their great work:

This is a great start, Sophia!
I wonder how you could use the strategies you have learnt in writing to make this even more interesting for your reader? :-)


Saint Mary MacKillop

Early life

Mary MacKillop was born on the January 15th 1842 in Melbourne, Australia. Mary grew up in Melbourne and in her school year she went to a school called Camerons. Her parents were from Scotland and was the eldest of the eight siblings she had. Mary started to learn things at a young age. Mary became a saint by the Roman church.

Challenges that Mary had

Mary suffered in a stroke and had a paralysed right arm, she also had to be on a wheel chair for the rest of her life. A big challenge when Mary was young she had no fundings to go to a school. Mary also had a challenge to overcome the sadness when Bishop Sheils died.



Mary MacKillop's impact

When Mary was alive she did many good things for us like opening a school for free, becoming a nun for us and to relate to the school became a teacher at St. Joseph's school in a barn.

What has Mary done for us that now she is not alive well, many things she left her kindness and became a saint for us she also wanted us to believe in God even though you're not going to be a saint. Mary also taught us to always keep trying before you ask for help.

How was Mary canonized by Pope John Paul and Pope Benedict recognized Mary as a saint.

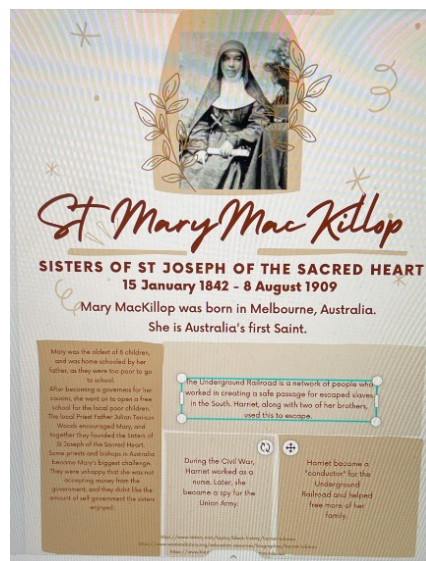
How can you describe Mary's legacy? I would say poor and not much but she had a big heart.



Mary's school when she taught children



Did you know that roses were Mary MacKillop's favorite type of flower.



St Mary MacKillop
SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH OF THE SACRED HEART
15 January 1842 - 8 August 1909
Mary MacKillop was born in Melbourne, Australia.
She is Australia's first Saint.

Mary was the eldest of 8 children, and was home educated by her father, as they were too poor to go to school. After becoming a governess for her cousin, she went on to open a free school for the local poor children. The local Priest Father John Francis Woods encouraged Mary and together they founded the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. Some priests and bishops in Australia saw Mary's biggest challenge. They were unhappy that she was not accepting money from the government, and they didn't like the amount of self-government the sisters enjoyed.

The Underground Railroad is a network of people who worked in creating a safe passage for escaped slaves in the South. Harriet, along with two of her brothers, used this to escape.

During the Civil War, Harriet worked as a nurse. Later, she became a spy for the Union Army.

Harriet became a "conductor" for the Underground Railroad and helped free more of her family.

Stage 3: Stage 3 students have been learning about prayer and how we can pray in different ways.

Green sticky notes = what I know

Pink sticky notes = help from the prayer flowchart

Prayer is A way to speak to God and for him to speak to you

Contemplation

A way to have a conversation with someone up in heaven

Rosmary

Hail Mary

What are some ways that people pray?

Actions

Our father

Ohm (different religions)

Kneeling and hands together

Sitting and thinking about God or someone else in heaven

Angelus



Prayer for Grandparents

Dear God,

Thank you for Grandparents, the wise and joyful people in our lives. Thank you for Grandparents, and all the stories they share with us in the past, adventures, about relatives and their past. Please look over them especially at this time. I wish it wasn't like this so I could go and see them and see how they're going. I miss seeing them. I remember when ever I used to see them we always had a massive lunch and I would help cook.

Amen

Prayer Spaces at Home

It was so lovely to see the student's decorate a prayer space at home over the past week. Here is a sample of the prayer space photos sent in from remote learning last week.



Father's Day

Don't forget to send in a video or photo message for Father's Day by tomorrow Friday 27 August.

Send via Seesaw or to the school email.

You are all welcome to join the Father's Day Liturgy by viewing the link sent via Seesaw next Friday 3 September. Some students may wish to watch this with their family and carers at a different time to celebrate this special occasion.



HELP US CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY

RECORD A VIDEO MESSAGE TO YOUR DAD OR FATHER FIGURE FOR FATHER'S DAY.

It might start with:

- I love my dad because...
- My dad is a hero because....
- My favourite memory is...

You may just want to take a photo of you holding a message if you don't wish to be filmed.

Post your video to Seesaw or send to the School email address:
stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au

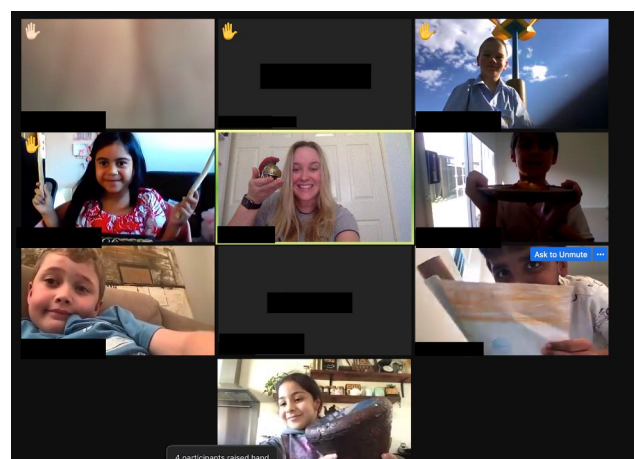
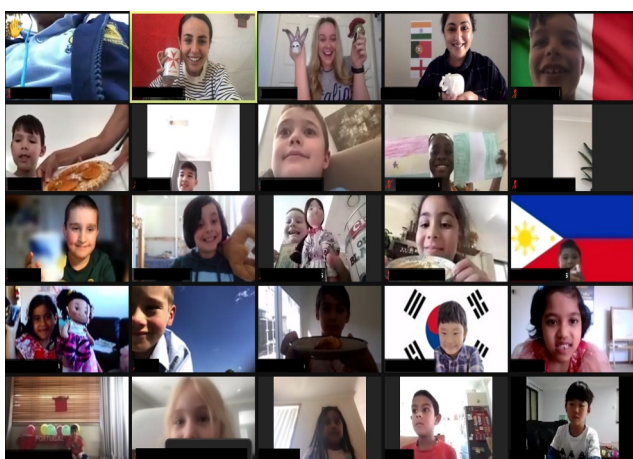
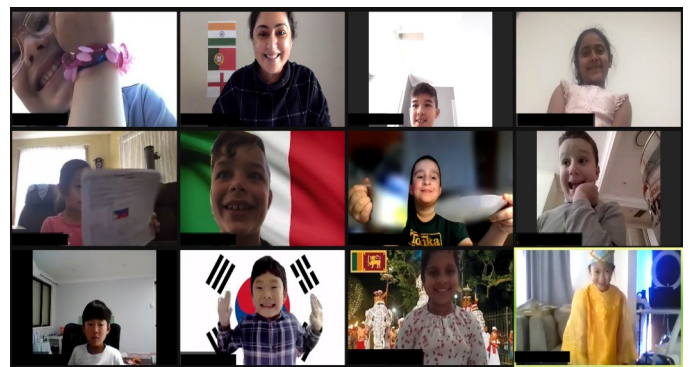
We will put all the videos and photos together to send to our school community.

VIDEOS OR PHOTOS DUE BY FRIDAY 27 AUGUST WEEK 7.

Stage 1 Multi-Cultural Zoom

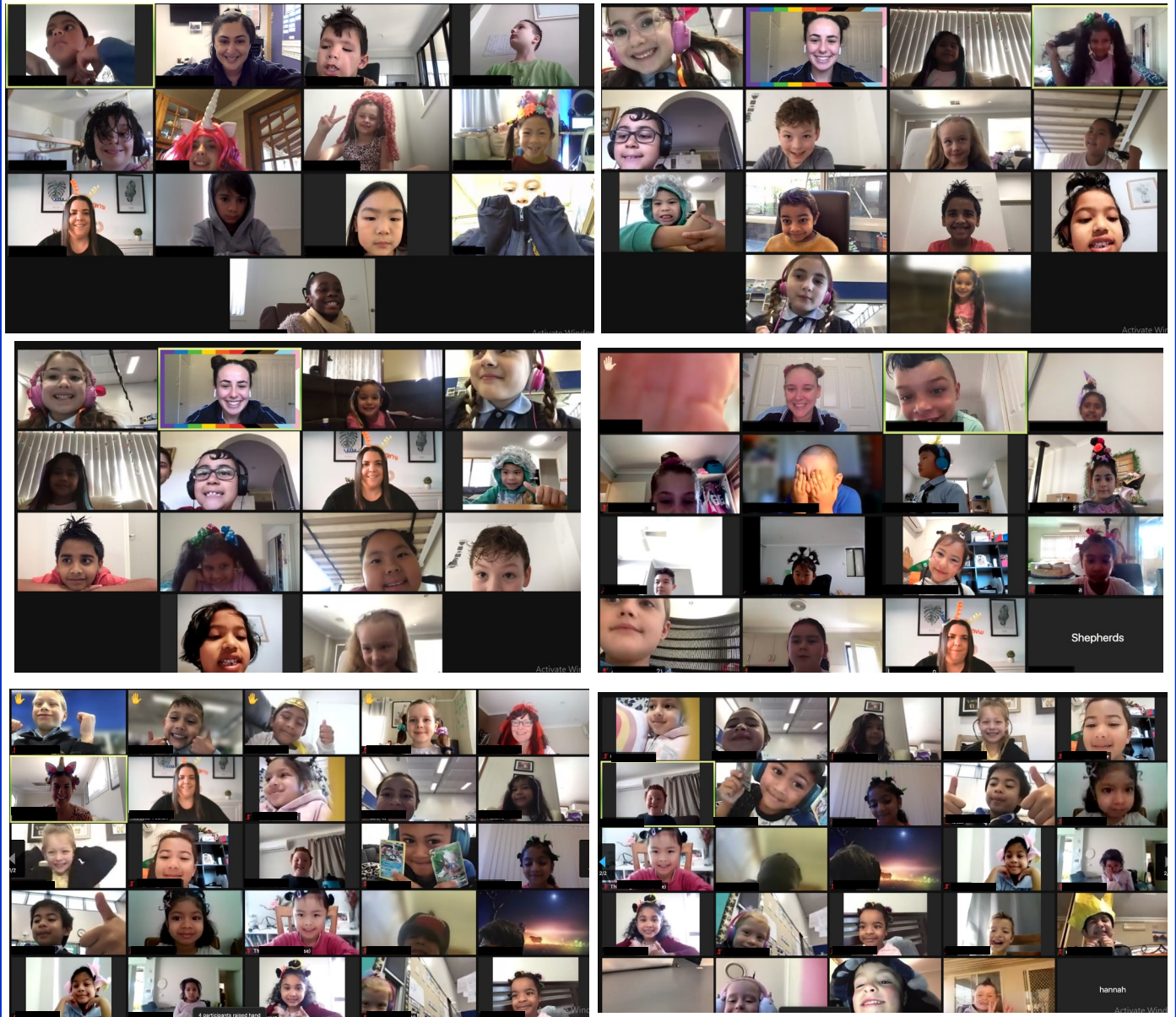
In Geography, Stage 1 are learning about 'People and Places,' specifically how we are connected to places. On Thursday 19 August, Stage 1 had an afternoon celebrating each other's cultures. Students each took turns to discuss where the country is located, types of traditional food, interesting facts, and their specific connections to the country.

Students decorated their learning space, cooked some traditional foods to share with the stage and even dressed up in cultural outfits.



Crazy Hair Day

Thank you for all of your effort with the Crazy Hair that we saw on the Zooms last Friday 20 August.



School Leader Challenge

The School Leaders have a challenge for you!

Record a video of you doing something fun during lockdown, it might even be with your family, and post to Seesaw or share to the school email address:

stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au

All videos will go into a raffle to win a prize. There will be one prize per Stage. The leaders cannot wait to see what fun things you are doing during lockdown!

SCHOOL LEADER CHALLENGE

Lockdown Fun!



What's a fun activity you've been doing during lockdown?



Make a video of you doing your fun activity and post it on Seesaw for a chance to win a prize!

All entries will be put in a raffle to win!

We can't wait to see your amazing activities



Submissions are due by Friday Week 8.

CEDP are encouraging/ requesting you to please complete the key information....

On Monday 16 August you should have received an email or SMS (for those parents without email) from the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) asking you to review and, where necessary, update the key information they hold about your children currently enrolled in CEDP schools.

The purpose of this review is to ensure that CEDP has the right details to correctly identify and support students, including contacting families in an emergency or to share important updates.

Steps have been taken to ensure this process is as secure as possible to protect your information and your family's privacy. Your information is only accessed by authorised staff when it is necessary and in accordance with our [Privacy Policy](#).

The process is ***open until Friday 3 September*** and I encourage you to complete the review/update as soon as possible to ensure that your family's correct details are on file. This is particularly important as Greater Sydney remains in lockdown due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

This [short "how to" video](#) may assist you with completing the process (use the closed caption icon to turn on subtitles). Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Only one person per family needs to complete the survey and it takes about 15 minutes to complete. If you have any questions or to seek help, please contact the CEDP Community Liaison Team on 9840 5796.

Correspondence

- Virtual Book Week Dress Up and Trivia
- St Nicholas Drive Through for Weeks 8 - 10 Learning Packs for K - 2 and Father's Day Gifts for ALL Stages
- Week 8 Remote Learning Survey
- Musica Viva Zoom Details
- Help Us Celebrate Father's Day
- ICT Zoom Impairment
- Busways - School Services not operating from Mon 23 August
- CEDP Communication regarding School Fees Support
- Message from The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC - Governor of NSW

Protect yourself from viruses



Clean your hands with soap and water, or hand sanitiser.



Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze.



Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.



Stay home if you are sick.

Business Sponsors - Christmas Raffle 2021

Thank you to the following sponsors for their contribution to the St Nicholas of Myra Christmas Raffle.



FREE ASTRAZENECA COVID-19 Vaccinations At Blacktown in collaboration with the Sudanese Community

Date:	Monday 16 August (1st dose), and Monday 13 September (2nd dose)
Time:	From 9 am to 3 pm
Location:	St Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown NSW 2148

Please contact

Abulla Agwa on 0448 056 688, or
Ngatho Mugo (Arabic speaking) on 0427 360 692, or
Daniel Apat (Dinka speaking) on 0419 800 912

for more information

For booking a spot (18 years and above) at the vaccine clinic please call any of the above numbers.

Please carry a photo ID to your appointment.



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District

Creative Kids Voucher

Don't forget to access your \$100 creative kids voucher per school age child for the NSW government through the Service NSW website.

Great to get resources to make Book Week costumes!

Here are some supplier suggestions you can use the voucher for:

- Cleverpatch
- Craftkids
- Creative Kids Wonderland



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

While some of our critical outreach services are unable to get out within communities to provide their usual support, we've been finding new ways to ensure help is there for those who need it.

Our staff and volunteers have recently distributed 900 snack packs, 250 self-care packs and 130 hampers through a range of services, including [Redfern Youth Connect](#), [Parramatta Mission](#) Meals Plus and many of our own local support hubs.

Help is here for those who need it right now, to find out more about what support is available head to vinnies.org.au/covidsupportnsw

NOBODY SHOULD HAVE TO GO HUNGRY



900 snack packs
250 self-care packs
130 hampers

Distributed to locals in need