



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

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

The Journey from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost.

For three months our attention is focused on the Lenten journey from Ash Wednesday until Good Friday and then from Easter Sunday to the feast of Pentecost. During this time, we ponder anew Jesus' life, the legacy He has left us, and the passing onto us of the work, the mission, the Father entrusted to Him.

***The journey of Easter to Pentecost Legacy will continue in this week's newsletter.***

What is the legacy?

***The journey to Emmaus***, shows us once again this legacy of presence, even though the disciples are slow to recognise Jesus in their midst. In hindsight, after a shared meal, they recognise and name 'the presence' that had joined them along the way. ***A legacy of recognition.***

***Finally at Pentecost*** God's mission is entrusted to us all. The universality of the mission highlighted by the message being understood in many languages. Jesus entrusted to us a mission of love and love is the language of all. ***A legacy of mission and love.***

So as we journey through this time may we respond to the constant invitation of God to be disciples attuned to the Spirit and fully engaged in mission in each aspect of our lives; family, home, school, parish, local community.

After Pentecost we step into **ordinary time** in the Church's year where, hopefully, the journey we have participated in over many weeks has attuned us more keenly to God within and among us in the daily. It is in those very ordinary tasks and events that faith is lived, nurtured and celebrated.

Thank you again for a wonderful Term 1 and I hope you and your families have a safe and Blessed Easter time with your family and friends!

**Staff Development Day (SDD) 26 April 2022.** The staff will be having a SDD on this date; *there is no supervision for the students at school. Therefore all students K-6 are expected to return to school on Wednesday 27 April 2022 where the school gates are open from 8:30am.*

Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic  
Principal





## Easter Hat Parade and Raffle

It was terrific to see all of the students who had used recycled items to show off their creativity for our Easter Hat Parade. Their creativity even inspired a special visitor to come and what fun was had by all! Thank you for all of the community support with this raffle we were able to raise \$682.00!

Congratulations to Yuna Lim and Family for winning the 4 tickets to the Easter Show for our Certified Egg Competition! We hope you have a hopping time!

Congratulations to the following students and their families for what will be their Egg-cellent feast of chocolate!

1st Prize - Maryam Yamayan

2nd Prize - Billy Douglas

3rd Prize - Maryam Yamayan

Other Prize Winners: Beau Brown, Darius Akbary, Auri Palma, Natania DeSilva, Leo Alexander, Amanda Varela Campos, Olivia Spain, Scarlett Findlay, Michael and Amisha Nagaretnam, Liana Tamer, Ms Kirsty Reynolds, Harrison Donaldson, Ciaran Heavin, Ozias Arokianathan, Lilah Surene, Byron and Max Faapoi, Eve Terepo, Aliana Minassian, Cyndianna Forrester, Angelo Isaac, Elloise Flood, Tiegan-Maree Bryant, Isaiah Tuitu'u, Naoelle Tipler, Zian Lorenzo, Alana DeOliveira, Avaleigh Faucett, Bryan Nguyen, Jaison Bhaskar, Reid Jones, Dominic and Eliza Kassouf and Sofia Burgess.







## Formation



### Fifth Sunday of Lent 2 & 3 April



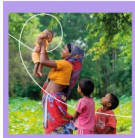
**Shaniella 23**, grew up in a remote village in the Solomon Islands in a province which has limited educational and job opportunities – and one of the country's highest poverty rates. After leaving school, she decided to move closer to the capital city, Honiara, to study hospitality and tourism. However, her vocational training school was hit by a landslide and cyclone in quick succession, destroying its water supply system and the vegetable garden that it relies on for food.

With your generous support, Caritas Australia has helped the school to install water tanks, re-establish its garden and provided training in disaster risk reduction. Shaniella can now complete her job skills training and the school has enough food and water for its students.



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 so this transformational program can continue to empower and strengthen vulnerable communities *For All Future Generations*.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow ***For All Future Generations***. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



## PROJECT COMPASSION



**Donate today using the Qkr! App.**

**Every little bit helps.**



### Sixth Sunday of Lent 9 & 10 April



Every day, more than 200 million children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water. In recent years, COVID-19 has also devastated vulnerable communities already living in poverty, with the health and economic impacts to reverberate for years to come.

It's through the generous support of people like you, even amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, that we are able to continue to help lift vulnerable communities out of poverty – support that is needed now more than ever. Thousands of schools and Parishes in Australia have supported Project Compassion over the past year alone.

**Thank you** for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow ***For All Future Generations***.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world lift themselves and their communities out of poverty.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow ***For All Future Generations***. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



## VINNIES NSW FLOOD APPEAL

**Your donation can help rebuild lives**



**Flood Relief Appeal** (so far) we have raised \$592.00 towards the Vinnies NSW Flood Appeal. Well done!

## Holy Week Reflection

As you are aware we do the fun of Easter to then lead into the reverent part of our Catholic Faith.

### Early Stage 1

Raahi: I liked listening to all the prayers and the songs in the Holy Week Reflection.

Reid: I liked that we lit the candles which symbolised that Jesus was with us on our journey. I liked seeing the palms on the floor and the donkey and also the footprints.

Emily: I liked when we sat in a circle because we could pray together. I liked seeing the pictures of other students.



### Stage 1



Parv: I like the Holy Week Reflection because it was about Jesus and we got to share questions about him.

Celine: I liked that we could go to each of the stations and ask questions.

Irene: I liked the songs that were played during the Holy Week Reflection.



### Stage 2

Tvaritha: I liked how each Stage set up each prayer space.

Anna: I liked the different prayers and songs.

Michael: I liked that we got to see different things. I also liked how it was time where we could reflect.

Molly: I liked how it was different to our Religion lessons in the classroom. I enjoyed reflecting about everything Jesus has done for us.



### Stage 3

Liana: It was really good. It helped me to reflect and feel closer to God.

Sofia: I liked that we had songs to go along with each part and reflect while listening to them. I liked seeing the artworks the other stages created for each day of Holy Week. It was really relaxing and spiritual.



## Dates to Remember

### St Nicholas of Myra Easter Schedule

Thursday 7th April	<b>2nd Rite of Reconciliation</b> 7.00 pm—8.30 pm
Sunday 10th April	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b> Vigil 7.00 am, 8.30 am, 10.00 am, 6.00 pm
Wednesday 13th April	<b>No 7.00 pm MASS</b>
Thursday 14th April	<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b> No 9.30 am MASS <b>Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.00 pm</b>
Friday 15th April	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Stations of the Cross 10.00 am The Lord's Passion 3.00 pm
Saturday 16th April	<b>EASTER VIGIL</b> 7.00 pm
Sunday 17th April	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 7.00 am, 8.30 am, 10.00 am, 6.00 pm

### St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith

#### Sacramental Program

## Holy Communion

Enrolments for the Sacrament of Holy Communion will open on our website, [stnicholasofmyra.org.au](http://stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

on

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

and close on

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 4.00pm**

The website contains the requirements and commitments for parents and children and the dates of the Parent Information Evening, Commitment masses, Family sessions, Practice / Trivia / Movie afternoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Masses.

To be eligible for First Holy Communion,  
**Children must be in Year 4 or above and must be baptised**



All enquiries to Rodney Howard at St Nicholas Parish

Ph: 4721 2509

Email: [sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

### 2022 Kindergarten Enrolments for 2023—Round 2 open until 4 May

We had such a great turn out to our Catholic Schools Week Tours (CSW) despite the weather!

To the families who have already completed an "Expression of Interest Form or have contacted the school; we have begun making appointments for the 2023 Kindergarten Enrolment Interviews.

As soon as we receive your application, the School Enrolment Officer will contact you to *make an interview time with one or both parents and the enrolling child attends. COVID check ins and practices are in place. Again if you would like to wear a mask during this enrolment interview that would be preferable.*

**Current St Nicholas of Myra families who have a child commencing school in 2023 are encouraged to complete an enrolment form as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.**

Enrolment forms can be found online at -

<https://www.stnicholaspenrith.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now/How-to-enrol>.



# Awards



## St Nicholas of Myra Award

3	Michael REALES
4	Cindy GUO



## Gold Award

2	Naoelle TIPLER
1	Roman Leitritz



## Silver Awards

K	Fouad SLAIBI
K	Leo SOURLAS
K	Yuna LIM
1	Roman Leitritz
2	Naoelle TIPLER

## Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

3	Anna DISSANAYAKE
3	Sophie EDWY-SMITH
4	Cindy GUO
4	Sophia YANG
6	Maryam YAMAYAN



## Personal Best Awards

K	Fouad SLAIBI
1	Diya GOEL
2	Olivia NKEMKA
3	Harrison DONALDSON
4	Simone HARVEY
5	Nevaeh-Rae SULUAPE
6	Riley LACROSSE



Merit Awards	
K	Harin SEO
K	Reid JONES
K	Vera ALIEVA
1	Orno PALMA
1	Roman LEITRITZ
1	Saathvik CHAITHRA
1	Tiegan-Maree BRYANT
2	Jake MEYER
2	Juleina LOTONUU BROWN
2	Ozias AROKIANATHAN
2	Parv GULATI
3	Alana DEOLIVEIRA
3	Andros SOURLAS
3	Skye GALE-VERIKETIS
3	Sophie EDWY-SMITH
4	Cindy GUO
4	Megan BAC
4	Nicholas FALZON
4	Sophia YANG
5	Hailey LAU
5	Holly RIGO
5	Lola GIBBS
5	Noah EDWY-SMITH
6	Allanah WALKER
6	Amisha NAGARETNAM
6	Jacob WHITE
6	Maryam YAMAYAN





# Sport

## Sporting Gala Days

This year St Nicholas will again be entering a range of sporting gala days. These days are open to Stage 2 and 3 students. Trials will be held in the weeks before each event. Parent helpers are welcome to attend the gala days as coaches or helpers.

## 2022 Gala Days

Event	Date
Stage 3 Girls Soccer	Wednesday 25 May
Stage 3 Boys Soccer	Wednesday 15 June
Stage 2 Soccer (boys and girls)	Tuesday 21 June
St Nicholas Netball Gala Day (boys and girls)	Wednesday 24 August
Stage 2 Touch Football (boys and girls)	Friday 16 September
Stage 3 Touch Football (boys and girls)	Friday 23 September
Basketball Gala Day (boys and girls)	Tuesday 25 October



Stephanie O'Connor in Stage 3 was graded on the weekend in a full 2 hour gruelling event to achieve her black sash in Shaolin Kungfu. Congratulations Stephanie!

## Term 1 Sports Clinics: Gymnastics

In weeks 9, 10 and 11 of this term all the students from St Nicholas of Myra participated in a gymnastics program. Gymnastics coaches from the YMCA at Penrith visited our school and taught the students a range of techniques and positions including the 'L' sit, tuck sit, pike, pencil, motorbike (landing stance), dish, superman, front support and back support. The students then used these positions and practised them in 3 different obstacle courses over each week of the program. We had an amazing time participating in the obstacle courses and different games we play... Thank you YMCA!!





### Stage 3 Camp - Teen Ranch!

A huge thank you to the Teachers and Mr Brown for attending our Teen Ranch Camp. We do this camp early so students have the opportunity to challenge themselves, encourage one another and build on their emotional and social skills as a Stage 3 Cohort. Please sit back and read some of their highlights!



#### **Adrian:**

My favourite things about camp were the giant swing, horse riding, the food and sleeping in the cabins. I like how we did wet games and we got to drench Mrs Smith!

#### **Stephanie:**

I loved the amazing activities at camp! My favourite activity was the giant swing and I loved how we got to go as high as we wanted. I screamed so loud!

#### **Abby:**

Camp was an amazing experience! From the activities to the food to even sleeping in bunk beds.

#### **Thomas:**

Camp was the most electrifying experience of my life. My most liked experience was horse riding because I learnt how to ride a horse and how to groom it.



## Correspondence

- ☺ Easter Hat Parade - Live Stream Link
- ☺ Contacting your child's teacher and other staff
- ☺ 2022 ACARA Student Background Data: Collection of Data
- ☺ Head Lice at school
- ☺ Compass Parent Portal - Letter 1
- ☺ End of Term Assembly
- ☺ Reminder - Mother's Day Orders
- ☺ Reminder—Compass Parent Portal



**Staff Development Day on Tuesday 26 April.**

**No students to attend school on this date.**

**All students return to school on Wednesday 27 April 2022.**

## Easter School Holidays



Holiday - learning at home: Many parents often ask how they can support or help their child(ren) at home and during the school holidays with their learning?

The best learning you can do with your child at home during the holidays is to read, read and read with them. Take them to Penrith

library, enjoy reading stories throughout the day, read and view stories online via Storybox or PM online. Reading builds your child's imagination, general knowledge about a wide range of topics, vocabulary and spelling. Skills everyone relies upon when learning!

Another great idea for the holiday break is to play board or card games as a family such as snap, go fish, snakes and ladders, scrabble, trivial pursuit, etc. Playing such games builds your child's number sense which can help their Maths skills in the classroom.

Giving your child different experiences like; catching a train to the city or the mountains, playing in the park, going to the aquarium, painting, playing with playdough, building forts, going on a bush walk etc taking photos of these experiences; the child could then orally retell their day out to another family member or keep a holiday journal or make a book about their holidays!

### LOCAL NEWS

# Spirit of Easter shines

Easter Hat Parades are back as students celebrate return of school festivities

CASSIDY PEARCE

**T**he end of lockdown has seen the return of beloved community events like concerts and football games. But, for many local school students, it's the Easter Hat Parade that they've been looking forward to most.

St Nicholas of Myra Primary Penrith is one local school who held their Easter Hat Parade last week, and Assistant Principal Kirsty Reynolds said that the festivities were back in full swing.

"We had an Easter egg raffle, which was really cool because a lot of our children liked winning prizes, and they were actually able to get the prizes because it wasn't virtual," she said.

"We were also able to have a visit from the Easter bunny, that's something that hasn't happened for a number of years. The students really enjoyed that."

Having been told about the Parade a few weeks before, children from kindergarten all the way to Year 6 spared no expense for their hats, with decorations ranging from felt to teachers, and even real chocolate.

"It was really cute to see some of our



Students from St Nicholas of Myra in Penrith at their Easter Hat Parade last week.

Kindergarten children had actual Easter eggs on them, and I think that brought back the sense of community for our families as well as home, doing something together," she said.

"I can say there weren't many children that forgot hats, and if they did, they got to

make it at school. A lot of our teachers even wore Easter hats, getting into the spirit!"

Not even the wet weather could ruin the day's festivities, instead showing off the students' crazy creations in a more unique way.

"Our learning spaces are quite adaptive,

so we were able to move furniture out of the way and we had a catwalk, with music playing as the children walked down the catwalk," she said.

But, Ms Reynolds said that the best part of the day was finally being able to bring the school community back together.