



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

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

A huge thank you to the students who have prepared and led their learning conferences with yourselves and our teachers!

One of our school's priorities is to facilitate the development of student voice, participation and leadership (in their learning not just of others) within our students. We aim to provide a range of opportunities to facilitate this across the classroom, school and community. Research shows that student voice, participation and leadership:

- increases engagement in learning
- creates a positive environment and culture
- builds connections and belonging
- develops personal and social capabilities

"We are currently preparing our students for jobs that don't exist, using technologies that haven't been invented, in order to solve problems we don't even know are problems yet." Karl Fisch

At St Nicholas of Myra, we believe and provide opportunities for our students to be faith filled, creative problem solvers, collaborative and articulate team members that can think critically about the issues being presented. This is the world we are living in. This is not the future; this is what is happening right now. This is why it is important that students are active in their learning conferences and are leading the conversation between school and home.

Look who's coming to Facebook!!!

Please join us by liking our page!



Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic
Principal





Social Media

Social media can provide an enjoyable way to socialise online and keep you connected with what is going on in the school community. While these technologies can be great for sharing ideas and keeping in touch, don't forget that comments about your school community can have greater impact than expected and can have very real consequences for the reputations of individuals including teachers, other parents, students and yourselves.

As we are launching our Facebook page, as a Parent or Carer, you are your child's first role model when it comes to online behaviour. Make sure your online conduct demonstrates how they can use social media respectfully and safely. Top tip for positive and respectful online engagement and communication with our school community.

- Try not to be emotive or hasty. Keep comments calm and polite.
- Be aware of what you are sharing and with whom.
- Get to know social media.
- Be proactive.
- Address inappropriate content.
- Avoid posting negative comments that identify your school or individuals. If you have any questions or concerns, please email the school first.

CEDP Website

On 27 January 2022, CEDP launched a new system website. It is the product of two years of research, planning and building, this vibrant and contemporary new site is easier to use and has many more features to create a better and more personalised experience for everyone.

Ensuring that prospective Parents and Carers can explore what a Catholic Education has to offer their child has been a primary driver for the way that the website has been built. It has lots of great photos, uses video wherever possible and the 'Find a School' feature has been completely revamped to make it easy to locate our schools. Another really cool feature is the social media mash-up that allows us to link social media posts straight onto the homepage. If you haven't already checked out the site, please do so. You can find it at www.parra.catholic.edu.au

Fundraising

Mother's Day Gold Coin and Donation Mufti

A friendly reminder about TOMORROW, the Mother's Day Gold Coin and Donation Mufti. Why now? And Why a gold coin as well as a donated gift?

Tomorrow (Friday 25 February), the Parent Group and St Nicholas of Myra School are hosting a Mufti Day for Mother's Day.

Each child is asked to come dressed in mufti clothing (comfortable, sensible clothing with closed in shoes and a hat)

AND

donate a gift towards our Mother's Day Stall together with a gold coin donation made via the Qkr! app. Some gift ideas include: soaps, toiletries, scented candles, jewellery, drawer liners (no scratchies, alcohol, food or beverage items please).



WHY so SOON?

Although this may seem a little early with Mother's Day being in the second week of May, this allows the Parent Group time to organise, collate and count these donated gifts from the students and use the donated money towards purchasing the number of extra gifts required for our families. This donation approach keeps this stall affordable for all.



General News

Highschool visits for Stage 3

Last week we had Penola, St Columba's, St Dominic's and Caroline Chisholm visit and speak to our students about the different options for High school. Soon Xavier will also come to speak with our Stage 3 Students. We offer this time to the students to assist with the beginning thoughts of transition from their primary school years into the beginning of their High School years. It's a great time to attend their High School Open Days during Catholic Schools Week as well as start researching which options would best suit your child's needs. It is always such a pleasure to see the previous year's students come and visit us again!



PBS4L News

Congratulations to **Stage 3** who were the winners for the Week 2-4 round of the playground initiative! The students in Stage 3 chose to have time in the classroom to either complete a Kahoot game or use a Chromebook to work on Scratch.





General News

School Photos

As you are aware from the Term 1 calendar, our School Photo Day is occurring on Monday 7 March. This week your child received their Photo Day order envelope for individuals (black print envelope) and family envelopes (red print envelope) were given to the eldest member of the family.

Please see the email sent earlier this week for details on how to order and pay - can be done online following instructions on the attached note, or paid with correct cash or card via the envelope.

Regardless of your payment method, ALL envelopes MUST be returned on PHOTO DAY (MONDAY 7 MARCH) and handed to the teacher. NO envelopes can be accepted earlier as these go straight to the photographer and the school cannot accept responsibility for this payment.

Please check you have the full summer uniform prior to this day (preferably this week) and email the office if you are interested in purchasing any item via our second hand clothing pool.



2023 Kindergarten Enrolments and Catholic Schools Week Twilight Tours

Each year in Catholic Schools Week (CSW), we hold two twilights tours one at 4 pm and the other at 6pm. This year it will be held on **Monday 7 March 2022.**

COVID practices will be put in place and we recommend the wearing of masks during this tour. The Principal and Assistant Principal will be wearing masks.

Each person will be required to sign in and to register via a QR code. If you are unwell or have any symptoms we ask you to keep everyone safe by refraining from attending.

We accept enrolment applications at any time.

However it is after our Twilight Tours, when we begin making appointments for the 2023 Kindergarten Enrolment Interviews. 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:

St Nicholas of Myra

Open Day
Monday 7 March
4:00pm-4:30pm
and 6:00pm-6:30pm

Scan QR code to register your interest

T 4752 3300
Higgins St, Penrith
www.stnicholaspenrith.catholic.edu.au

Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2023

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



Safety

Road Safety

As school returns for 2022, please be reminded that road rules are in place to protect all road users including pedestrians and all motorists are expected to follow the road rules when dropping-off or picking-up students.

Thank you to the Parents/ Carers who take great care each day to drive and park safely around the school. Your diligence contributes greatly to the safe arrival and pick-up of our students. Here is a friendly reminder about what some general road signs mean.

To help us keep all of our children safe and if you know in advance that a relative/ friend is picking up your child/children and when possible please share the following Kiss 'n' Ride procedures.

*Essentially, the 'Kiss and Ride' zone allows for only a two minute period where a vehicle can be stationary and children may be dropped off or picked up. The driver **MUST NOT** leave the vehicle.*

9 School zones



A school zone is the area around a school with a speed limit of 40km/h. Between the *School Zone* and *End School Zone* signs, drivers must obey the school zone speed limit.

The school zone speed limit applies on NSW gazetted school days and during the times detailed on the school zone sign. School zone hours are normally 8:00am–9.30am and 2.30pm–4:00pm.

Pupil free days fall within the gazetted school days, thus school zones are operating and enforceable.

Details on NSW gazetted school days can be located at: www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/vacations.html

Some non-government schools do not operate on gazetted school days. Motorists should be aware that school zones still operate and are enforceable on these days.

There are a small number of schools with different school zone times – these will be detailed on the school zone sign.

SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY TIPS

KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFE WHEN DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP AT SCHOOL

PARKING NEVER double park - which includes not blocking traffic while "waiting for a spot" in the NO parking area. Go around the block.	DROP OFF/PICK UP Always follow the rules of the No Parking, stay for 2 minutes while dropping off or picking up and stay within 3 metres of your car.
CROSSING NEVER park or stop across/on a pedestrian crossing.	NO U-TURNS NEVER conduct a U-turn around school especially over double white centre lines or near a crossing.
PEDESTRIANS Always use crossing facilities. Stop Look Listen and Think even when you have right of way.	BUCKLE UP Children stay buckled up until the vehicle has stopped.
EXITING THE CAR Make sure children use the kerb side door when getting in and out of a car.	BE READY Children be ready at the gate and looking for their car at pick up time.

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

penrith.city

COMMON PARKING OFFENCES

DON'T FORCE PEDESTRIANS ONTO THE ROADWAY...IT'S DANGEROUS!

Cars parking across driveways and footpaths are one of the most common obstructions to pedestrians.

All pedestrians using footpaths, especially those with disabilities, older people and the young, need an unobstructed, clear path of travel. Cars parked across the footpath force people onto the road, creating a dangerous situation.

NATURE STRIP



PENALTIES FROM \$268

As a general rule, parking is not allowed on nature strips.

DRIVEWAYS



PENALTIES FROM \$268

A driver must not park on or across (or partially across) a driveway blocking access to pedestrians and other vehicles.

FOOTPATHS



PENALTIES FROM \$268

A driver must not stop on a footpath. This blocks pedestrians and other footpath areas as well as sight lines for vehicles using the roadway.

DRIVEWAYS



PENALTIES FROM \$268

A driver must not park on or across (or partially across) a driveway blocking access to pedestrians and other vehicles.

PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

penrith.city



Safety

Sweat and Wet Weather

As the weather, at this point in time, does not seem to be following a season, we have the following Sweat and Wet weather procedures.

Sweat Weather

Sweat (Sun Safety) Weather procedure is multilayered which includes but is not limited to:

- wearing school hats in the playground
- playing in shaded areas, particularly during peak UVR times
- drinking plenty of water
- using 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- at break times if it is determined to be too hot we keep children inside for play



Wet Weather

Wet (Water Safety) Weather procedure is multilayered and includes but is not limited to:

- wearing brightly coloured raincoats
- use of umbrellas
- if the ground is too wet/slippery to walk, play or eat (usually Fruit Break) we keep children inside for play

Formation

Understanding Faith Online Resource

We are able to use an online resource to support our Religious Education. Students do have access to this site at home as well as at school. Why not check it out for yourselves..... <https://primary.understandingfaith.edu.au/log-in>

username: ceo.parra.1896

password: 32findJUMP

Opening School Mass and Commissioning of Leaders

Our Opening School Mass will be held on Tuesday 1 March at 11:45am. At the conclusion of this Mass the School Leaders, Sports Leaders, Student Representative Council (SRC) and Mission Team will be commissioned and receive their badge.

A letter/email with further updates will be sent on Monday 28 February—please keep an eye out for this note.





Sport

Sporting Gala Days and Carnivals

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. Parents 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 Boys Soccer	Tuesday 21 June
St Nicholas Netball Gala Day	Wednesday 24 August
Stage 2 Touch Football	Friday 16 September
Stage 3 Touch Football	Friday 23 September
Basketball Gala Day	Tuesday 25 October

In addition to gala days, students will have the chance to compete in a range of carnivals. These carnivals are a chance to gather as a school and aim for our personal best. Selected students will be able to progress to zone and diocesan carnivals.

Event	Date
Nepean Zone Swimming	Thursday 24 February
Diocesan Swimming Carnival	Friday 11 March
School Cross Country	Tuesday 15 March
Diocesan Cross Country	Tuesday 3 May
School Athletics Carnival	Tuesday 24 May Back Up: Monday 30 May
Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival	Thursday 4 August
MacKillop Athletics Carnival	Wednesday 21 September
Diocesan Gymnastics Competition	Friday 11 November
2022 Swim School	Monday 28 November- Friday 2 December
School Swimming Carnival	Thursday 15 December

All events are subject to change due to external venues or COVID restrictions.



SPORTS CELEBRATION

Congratulations to Max who participated in the second annual Rugby League Super 7's competition held at Federation Forest, Minchinbury on the 30 January. The U8's division featured teams from the Penrith, Parramatta, and Newcastle areas. Max was part of the gold medal winning team for the second year in a row, going through undefeated. Fantastic work!



YEAR 7 2023 COLLEGE TOUR

Wednesday 9th March 2022



WEBSITE BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

College tours will begin at 4.00pm and 5.00pm *sharp* to enable guests to view all the Campus facilities in small group tours led by Student Leaders.

On arrival please have your booking confirmed with our staff and complete the electronic attendance register. Tours commence in the College quadrangle.

TOUR 1

4.00pm: Welcome address by the College Principal, Mr Phillip Scollard

4.15pm - 5.00pm:
Tour of facilities

TOUR 2

5.00pm: Welcome address by the College Principal, Mr Phillip Scollard

5.15pm - 6.00pm:
Tour of facilities

Please leave the College site at the conclusion of the tour to comply with COVID safety. Our prospectus and enrolment application will be available on the night.
Enquiries: Mrs Sandra O'Brien (Enrolment Secretary) 4754 8907

a: 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood 2777 e: stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au w: stcolumbasspringwood.catholic.edu.au



ST DOMINIC'S COLLEGE

2022 OPEN DAY

SUNDAY, 6 MARCH

THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOUR SON

ENROLMENTS FOR YEAR 7, 2023
NOW OPEN

Book your guided tour

www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au

Enrolment Enquiries - 84159 136



Dates to Remember



XAVIER COLLEGE
Llandilo



Tours and Events

Tuesday March 8
4pm—6pm

Prospective 2023 students and families are welcome

Tours and application forms available on the night

YOU'RE INVITED

CAROLINE
CHISHOLM
COLLEGE

2023 ENROLMENTS FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12
Open Night Tours: Monday 7th to Wednesday 9th March 2022

Please book through Eventbrite



Follow us  



St Nicholas of Myra



Open Day
Monday 7 March
4:00pm-4:30pm
and 6:00pm-6:30pm



Scan QR code to register your interest



T 4752 3300
Higgins St, Penrith
www.stnicholaspenrith.catholic.edu.au

Enrolling Now for Kindergarten 2023



Correspondence

- ☺ Week 4—Distribution of the Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) Kits
- ☺ Term 1 Tea Towel Fundraiser
- ☺ Australian Government 2022 Student Residential Address and Other Information Collection
- ☺ Correction - 2023 and 2024 Kindergarten Enrolments Twilight Tours - Monday 7 March 2022
- ☺ Fun Food Day - Pancake Day - Lunchtime Tuesday 1 March 2022
- ☺ Week 5 - Distribution of the Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) Kits
- ☺ School Photos - Monday 7 March 2022
- ☺ Reminder—Fun Food Day - Pancake Day - Lunchtime Tuesday 1 March 2022
- ☺ COVID-19 Summary Update

Upcoming Events

Friday 25 February

Mother's Day Gold Coin and Donation Mufti

Monday 28 February

9:10am - Parent Group Zoom Meeting

Tuesday 1 March

Lunchtime - Pancake Day

11:45am - Opening School Mass and Leaders Commissioning

Wednesday 2 March

Ash Wednesday—beginning of Lent
Project Compassion begins

Monday 7 March - Catholic Schools Week

School Photo Day—Full Summer Uniform
4pm & 6pm - Twilight Tours - Enrolments



☺ Label all your child's belongings

- Lunch boxes
- Drink bottles
- Jumpers
- HATS
- Pencil Cases
- Toys or balls they bring to school

BECOME A CATECHIST!

Please contact us if you wish to teach Catechesis in our local primary public schools, classes are from Kindergarten to Year 6. This voluntary teaching in our parish assists the spreading of the Word of God to the children. You will be required to attend Catechists training and obtain a Working with Children Check. Please email Margaret Wilson on catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au or phone the Parish 4721 2509

To "be" catechists!

Not to "work" as catechists.

Catechesis is a vocation:

"being a catechist",

this is the vocation.

not "working" as a catechist.

Pope Francis,
Congress on Catechesis



 **positive partnerships**
Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

ONLINE LEARNING WORKSHOP SERIES FOR NSW SCHOOL STAFF



Join the Positive Partnerships team for two dynamic, interactive online sessions. Share your professional experiences and build on your knowledge through discussions with other educators from across NSW.

During the workshops, we will cover two topics:

Diversity of autism:

- build upon your knowledge of autism and the diversity of the spectrum
- complete a student profile

Sensory processing:

- consider the sensory profile of your student
- discuss strategies to support learning and engagement

This program is equivalent to three hours of self-identified professional learning.

Location:

New South Wales
via zoom online

Diversity of autism

Monday 21st March, 2022
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM (AEDT)

Sensory processing

Monday 28th March, 2022
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM (AEDT)

http://



For more information and to register, visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au or contact Trish Nicoll tnicoll@positivepartnerships.com.au