



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

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

Welcome back to Term 2 !

Also a warm welcome to our new families who have started this Term as well!

We held a very respectful and commemorative ANZAC Ceremony yesterday with all of the students. It was so lovely to be reunited together as a school community, especially for this occasion. Similarly this unity was also mirrored in our local areas across the nation; it is hard to fathom that for two years we were unable to gather as a nation!

Let us pray:

We remember those who have fallen.

Fallen defending us from tyranny and injustice, from the ravages of war.

We remember the young men and women who died defending Australia,

Who gave their lives that we might have so much.

May their sacrifice and memory never fade.

And so we pray and give thanks.

We give thanks to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us, our country and for us to have freedom.  
Lord Hear Us.

We pray for their families who lost their loved ones. Lord Hear Us.

We pray that we appreciate peace in our hearts, homes and community. Lord Hear Us.

We pray for peace in our global world. Lord Hear Us.

Of course we have Kindergarten's first ever excursion to the Farm with Stage 1 tomorrow ! What an exciting and faith filled first week of Term 2!

Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic  
Principal



## Mother's Day Mass and Stall Next Friday 6 May 2022

We warmly welcome all families to join us to celebrate Mother's Day with Mass being held next Friday 6 May 2022 at 9:30am at St Nicholas of Myra Church.

The Mother's Day Stall will be held after the student's lunchtime. We are looking for Volunteers to assist with running the Mother's Day Stall. If you are able to assist, please contact the school office via email or phone as soon as possible.



## Anzac Liturgy



**Slouch Hat**



**Rosemary**



**Poppy**



**Medal**







## General News

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

Thank you to the families who have already completed an "Expression of Interest Form" or have contacted the school; we begin 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>

### Building Child Safe Communities Training

As COVID restrictions are now easing and we are welcoming parent volunteers back on site it is a requirement from CEDP that all parent helpers and volunteers complete a training module called "Building Child Safe Communities". This training is valid for 12 months.

If you think you may like to be a parent helper or volunteer, if the need arises sometime during this year, you might have time during these holidays to complete the training.

**If you have volunteered to help with the Canteen or Mother's Day Stall for example, this training will need to be completed prior to being on site.**

Please find the link below for your convenience

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/about/student-safety/volunteer-and-contractor-training>

### Birthday Celebrations!

We love celebrating birthdays with your child! A friendly reminder that, due to COVID-19 food handling and hygiene restrictions, it is a requirement that food supplied for your child/ren's birthday needs to be individually wrapped. This may include individually store/supplier wrapped items such as chocolates (fun-size Freddo Frogs, Smarties, etc), Zooper Doopers etc. Please note we are a nut aware school.

### Extended Leave Application

As the borders have reopened for domestic and overseas travel, just a reminder that if your child is going to be absent for 5 days or more due to travel or a holiday, we do require an Extended Leave Application to be completed. This form can be emailed to you upon your request or downloaded from the school website.

When submitting the form we do require supporting documentation such as an e-ticket or a travel itinerary. Once this has been received, it will then be forwarded to Ms Knezevic to review and approve. Approval is based on the attendance rate of each student, please be aware considerations of Covid will be taken into account as well).

However, if we do not receive this documentation prior to the date of the planned leave then the absence may be deemed as Unjustified Leave.

## Compass Portal

Thank you to all the parents/carers who have logged in and are using the Parent Portal. This will be our school's **central means of communication**. It has replaced the Skoolbag app.

**At present the attendance tool is operational.** If your child is absent there are three (3) options for you to choose:

1. Respond via the link when you receive an SMS
2. Respond through your web browser (supplied on your email)
3. Respond by downloading the Compass School Manager app from the App Store or Google Play



### **Some of the other important features for parents to access soon will be:**

- Change of parent contact details
- Attendance notes
- School/ class notes
- School Newsletters
- Academic / School Reports
- School Calendar

More information will be available in the coming weeks, as the Parent Portal will be where you will receive your child/ren reports.

Compass will also be where you will find the Parent Calendar with what is happening for the term. Please see the steps below to help you locate the school calendar on the Parent Portal.

### **Step One**



### **Step Two**

You will then see what is happening for that week. You may wish to click on the individual day, the week or the month. This is a live document and will be updated regularly unlike our previous Calendar which was sent out at the beginning of each Term.

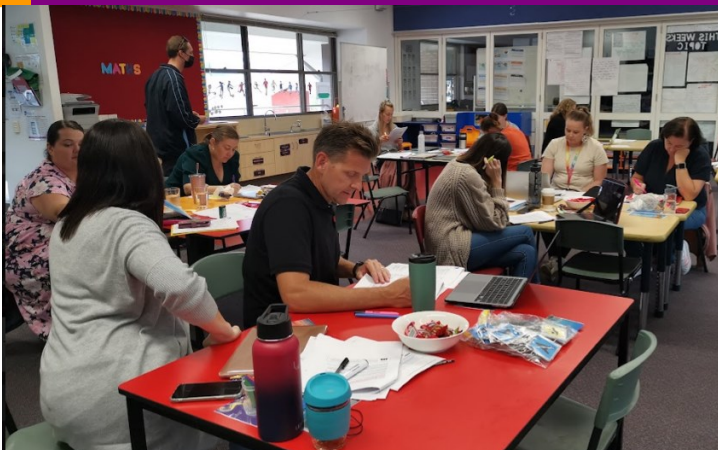
April 25, 2022	Tue 26	Wed 27 1:15pm	Thu 28	Fri 29	Sat 30	May 1
ANZAC Day - Public Holiday Week 1	Staff Development Day - no ...	Welcome back K-6 ALL stud...	Newsletter Easter Liturgy- Classroom S...	ES1 AND S1 FARM EXCURSI...		
8am						
9am						
10am		10:10 ANZAC Ceremony - Parents and				
11am						
12pm				12:00 Parish Mass: None		
1pm						
2pm						
3pm						

A list of frequently asked questions can be found in this [supporting document](#). If you have any other questions please contact our office staff who will be more than happy to assist with any questions you may have.

### Staff Development Day (SDD)

Thank you for your support with our Staff Development Day on Tuesday of this week which focused on our **Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L)**.

The PBS4L Team has 9 staff members who meet voluntarily and regularly throughout each term in their own time. This super team of teachers facilitated the learning of this day for our school. As new research and procedures come to light we continually evaluate and refine our processes not only in Key Learning Areas (KLAs) like Religion, English etc but also in our Student Well being.



**Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L)** is supported by CEDP with two coaches that we use internally to ensure fidelity to the 3 Tiers (layers) that are the basis of the framework. PBS4L is a framework ensuring consistent school wide positive approach to behaviour management. This framework is then adapted to each local school's needs.

### Our Local Context of PBS4L

St Nicholas of Myra's Positive Behaviour Support for Learning Policy focuses on the five core values. The five core values are Respect, Responsibility, Compassion, Cooperation and Justice. These five core values underpin this policy. Our whole school expectations are: **I am safe, I am respectful and I am a learner.** Each learning space has developed a positive behaviour approach to help students monitor and regulate their behaviour within these three expectations. Safe, Respectful and Learner Tokens are given to a student by any staff member. They are used for explicit reinforcement of an expectation. i.e. "Thank you \_\_\_\_\_, you are being respectful when you sit down and look at the person speaking."

Students then place their tokens into their stage box and once the tokens reach a selected amount, a whole stage reward is given. The rewards are thought of by all students in the stage and each time the box is filled, students of that stage vote on their reward choice from the list. The select reward is given and the box is then emptied and starts again.

Appropriate and inappropriate behaviour will be monitored by using the system in the learning space, which follows the school policy. Parents and Carers will be contacted when necessary. Positive behaviour is explicitly taught, encouraged and promoted through verbal responses, stickers and sharing of behaviour/work. In all we do however, it is hoped that the children will learn to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.

### Mascot Name of our Kookaburra Update

Thank you to all of the students, Parents/ Carers and Staff who voted. The PBS4L Team will meeting soon and will communicate this shortly - how exciting!! Keep an eye or better still an ear out ! We cannot wait to unveil the Kookaburra's name!

### COVID Updates

As the landscape regarding COVID continues to change it is important to note that there are still measures we are keeping in place at this point in time in order to minimise risk.

### Notification of COVID-19 absences

- All staff and students need to record positive RAT results on the [Service NSW website](#) or the Service NSW app as soon as possible.
- Schools are still required to record student COVID-19 absences in Chronicles.

This is to inform you of the measures we still have in place at this point in time unless further information is communicated to the contrary.

## MASKS/ SHIELDS

Masks/Shields are strongly recommended where physically distancing can not occur inside or outside.

- Primary school students are recommended to wear a mask indoors in such cases (except when eating or exercising).
- Any visitor to a school site who is a close contact is required to advise the school that they are a close contact before they come on site. These visitors should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result before attending. **They must also wear a mask indoors at all times in such cases.**

## PLAYGROUND

We are making progress! The levelling and gradient fall is the most important part of our playground even though it is not the prettiest to look at! However this foundational work is critical to the long term success of our playground. Due to the amount of unforeseen rain, which has subsequently delayed the completion of the playground, we will continue to have the two staggered break times for Primary and Infants (Lunch and Fruit Break). We will update you on the changes as required.

We are continuing to sanitise the sporting equipment, tables, hand rails and door handles etc as previously communicated.

## HAND SANITISING

Students, Staff and Visitors will be required to hand sanitise into the school and upon the re-entry of break times.

## RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING

As previously communicated, from Monday 28 February, schools will align with community settings of 'symptomatic testing.' Students and Staff can use this allocation of RATs at their discretion such as if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. A suggestion would be to test prior to whole school events, excursions for example tomorrow's infants excursion to the Farm. If you require any additional RATs please email the school.

Additionally, students who are close contacts attending school will need to adhere to the following in addition to the NSW Health guidelines:

- They must notify the school if they are intending to return under this provision.
- They should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result each morning before attending school **for 5 school days.**
- If they are unwell or showing COVID-19 symptoms, they must continue to isolate at home.

## QR CHECK-IN not required any more.

All visitors must 'sign in' using the Kiosk when attending a school site for Canteen, volunteer work or for a school event etc.

## WORKERS/ VOLUNTEERS and VISITORS on SITE

Workers and Volunteers must meet double vaccination requirements (proof of vaccination is required) including:

- Volunteers or staff operating uniform shops or canteens.
- Visitors supporting the school operations (coaching or supervising on sport or excursion days) or curriculum delivery.
- Allied health partners for the wellbeing of students.
- University or TAFE students coming onsite for their teacher training.

Visitors can be invited to the school regardless of their vaccination status.

## PARENT GROUP

These meetings are strongly encouraged to continue being virtual.

## EVENTS

We will continue to apply layered COVID-smart measures when planning to reduce risk. There are eleven items for the school to consider in order to minimise risk to families and staff when hosting events.

We really appreciate your support of our COVID-safe measures at school and will continue to keep you updated.



## *Hair Styling, Grooming & Jewellery*

Students are expected to keep their hair clean, neat and tidy at all times. Students are to keep hair off their face and out of their eyes. Haircuts are to be in a sensible and conventional style. There are to be no extremes of fashion in hairstyle cut or colour. Shaving of any part of the head, lines or undercuts, and haircuts with a number 1 or 2 blade are not permitted. Rat's tails of any sort and the use of gel and hairspray to spike hair is not permitted. For girls, long hair below the shoulder should be tied back by a ribbon, 'scrunchy', hair band or clip in school colours.

In the interest of safety and security, no jewellery should be worn. A watch, gold or silver bangle or bracelet that cannot be removed, are permitted. A plain gold silver or gold chain with a religious symbol or medal may be worn under the child's shirt out of sight. (However, this is not recommended due to valuable items being lost in the playground and children and parents being greatly upset at the loss).

If a girl's ears are pierced only one pair of sleepers or plain studs are to be worn in the lower ear lobe. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings at school or at any school activities. No other jewellery is permitted and teachers will ask students to remove inappropriate jewellery. Children are not to wear leather necklaces with beads or the like. In extreme cases, jewellery will be confiscated, secured and returned at a later time to the student or parent.

Make-up and nail polish are not part of the school uniform. Students wearing make-up or coloured nail polish will be asked to remove it.

Black leather lace ups are to be worn with our full school uniform. We are noticing a number of students wearing joggers on **non** sport days. Joggers are only to be worn on sports days.



***Uniforms give students a sense of belonging and enhance pride in their school. Wearing a uniform shows unity and identity. In much the same way football followers will wear their team's jersey or scarf, a uniform builds a sense of community.***

***Uniforms help students prepare for the workforce. Whether it's wearing safety gear in a construction job or corporate wear in an office, most jobs require a standard of dress.***



## Library

Congratulations to the following children who have completed the Premiers Reading Challenge:

**Robert Wood  
John Wood  
Eliza Kassouf  
Ozias Arokianathan**

There is still plenty of time to complete your challenge. Entries close Friday 19 August.

Challenge	Number of books needed to complete the Challenge	Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge	Maximum number of personal choice books	PRC booklist selection
K-2	30	25	5	K-2 , 3-4 , 5-6 , 7-9
3-4	20	15	5	3-4 , 5-6 , 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6 , 7-9

When your child visits the library each week we share a book. The following books can be added to your child's reading log. Children can also borrow PRC books from the school library. These books can be identified by the following stickers



Grade	Title	PRC Number
Kinder	The Sloth who came to Stay Emergency Emergency! Little Beauty	4787 Free Choice 94371
Stage 1	Little book of Hopes Mopoke Crocodolly Smallest Bilby and the Easter Games	Free Choice 3847 Free Choice 5487
Stage 2	Subbie and His Mate The Little Stowaway Happiness Box	Free Choice 5766 568907
Stage 3	Happiness Box The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe The Little Stowaway	568907 229 5766





## Correspondence

- ☺ Sacrament of Holy Communions—Years 4 to 6
- ☺ Changes to Close Contacts Requirements for Students



- ☺ If your contact details have changed i.e. new phone number, new address, please notify the office by email
- ☺ With the colder weather approaching please make sure those jackets are labelled



It has come to our attention that the procedures around dropping of and collecting of children from the **'Kiss and Drive'** zone are not being adhered to and are causing some concern in relation to the safety and convenience of our children and families as well as the residents of Higgins Street.

Firstly, please **DO NOT** block or park across resident's driveways.

Essentially, the 'Kiss and Drive' zone allows for only a two minute period where a vehicle can be stationary and children may be dropped off or picked up (according to school procedure). The driver **MUST NOT** leave the vehicle. Some people have been parking in the zone for much greater length of time and getting out of their vehicles to walk children to the entrance gates in the morning. This is inconvenient for other drivers.

We are very fortunate to have a well developed 'Kiss and Drive' zone that operates smoothly when all concerned follow correct procedure.

## Always obey the signs

