



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

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

What a terrific week of school spirit and community back for us all! The opening of our School Playground and a super Science-athon!

Playground Reflection by Oliver Felton Year 6

"Wow! Just look behind me.... What a transformation we have seen occur. From a dusty old field to a shiny new play space. I think the new playground is both wanted and necessary for the children of St Nicholas of Myra. I think we had to have a do over soon for all our sakes, and it's very different. The design was made based on some of the feedback from students and obviously the teachers (Staff) and architects. The slide, the track and the climbing wall are all such fabulous additions to this playground. I think it's important because the kids can enjoy themselves and now because it's finally done, finally we can play, run, walk and stand on this beautiful playground. We have all been waiting for 8 months, and I think I speak for everyone when I say it's about time as now there's infinitely more fun to have. I would like to thank the Staff of St Nicholas for organising this brilliant, exciting space for all the students now and in the future. I would like to thank the builders who spent lots of hard work and effort to get this playground finished even though it rained a lot during the time it was built. We are so blessed that we finally have this space and the whole school can come together at lunchtimes and fruit breaks to play. Let the fun begin!"



Well Oliver - I thank you for your impassioned words and spirit for representing our student voice with your message of youthful enthusiasm to remind us not only of how important play is but it is fun!

"Good afternoon and welcome to our students, parents, staff and distinguished guests!

As you can see from the people present and to those who also sent their apologies, that is truly a team approach to not only build a school community but literally a playground as well!

I would like to formally and publicly thank the following people;

Fr Joe who supported the project from the beginning and endorsed the work on the Parishes ground. As well being here today for the Blessing. The Parish Council members have also been a great support with the improvement of the school.

Mrs Christine Howe Strategic Director of CEDP and Mr Raju Varanasi Director of Data Intelligence have enabled the school to apply for the grant which was then made possible by The Honourable Stuart Ayres.

As you can hear this was just to get the background paperwork together it had already taken 7 people.

This was even before we had started planning and drafting. But I knew I wanted you all to be involved and you may not remember but we had asked you - the students to put in submissions of your dream playground.

From these submissions which I presented to the team we then began the work with Miss Teulan our Assistant Principal last year, Michael Pruscino Schools Development Officer from the CEDP, Mr Daniel Smith Managing Director of Leaf Architect (who could not be present with us today) and Peter Owen Project Architect of Leaf.

This dream team of architects with the great builders and site managers from Midson Bill Newson and Anthony Zadro our school playground was in safe but good hands. Despite Covid product delays, Christmas holidays and then the rain we all made it to today with a sensational playground.

PLAY is so vital for physical health and emotional wellbeing. We have designed and built this playground for active (running track, soccer field, slide, horizontal climbing wall) and passive play (seats to watch, the chalkboards and the musical instruments).

The variety of play we have been able to squeeze not only physically on the playground but with the budget we aim to see

- Improved flexibility and balance
- Improvement in development of overall motor skills, dexterity and hand eye coordination
- Opportunity to learn how to control your movement
- Improved instincts
- Promotion of healthy heart and lung function
- Stronger muscles
- Turn taking
- Supporting and encouraging friends who may be hesitant
- Choosing safety
- Feeling good about challenging yourself
- Most importantly laughing and having fun!

To the students of St Nicholas of Myra, I am so proud of the patience and care you have taken throughout this construction to play safely in a limited space. I know this patience and care for self and another will continue when the whole playground is opened!

I am so excited and can not believe that we are here today! This playground has been a 7 year dream and goal for me for you and this afternoon is a cumulation of everyone here today as well as the people who assisted with fundraisers throughout this time. Thank you for the trust you placed in me, the support to ensure this dream became a reality for the most important people at the school, our students!"

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic

Please enjoy some photos and reflections from the children about the Opening and Blessing of our New Playground on the following pages!



Opening and Blessing of our Playground

Raahi– Kindergarten

I liked opening the new playground and it was very exciting. I love the slide, climbing wall and new equipment.

Vera– Kindergarten

I liked the blessing for the playground and the prayer. I liked how the Priest came to visit. I love our new playground. I like the new climbing wall, slide and new race track.

Miguel– Kindergarten

I liked when we got to play together on the playground. We got to cut the ribbon and there was a video shooting above us.

Stage 1 are learning about blessing prayers in Religion. We wrote a prayer to bless our new playground!

Kacey (Year 1)

Dear God,

Please bless our playground to be safe and a place where we have fun with our friends. Amen

Annabella (Year1)

Dear God

Bless this playground to be a safe place. Please let our friends have fun. Please make this playground helpful. Amen

Rome (Year 2)

Dear God,

I want this playground to be blessed so all of us can have fun with our friends and we can spend time with them. Amen

Amos (Year 3)

On Tuesday our playground was blessed. This is when School Leaders, the Principal cut the ribbon to open the playground. My favourite part of the playground is the running track because you can race your friends and practise for the next Athletics Carnival or Cross Country.

Molly (Year 4)

On Tuesday 7 June our new playground was blessed. Special people, like our Parish Priest, Fr Joe and other special guests came. Ms Knezevic and the School Leaders cut the ribbon. Fr Joe and Ms Knezevic walked around it and sprinkled holy water. My favourite thing about the new playground is the soccer field. Another thing I love about the new playground is that it was made with love.

Hannah (Year 5)

I think the blessing of the playground was a nice thing to do. The children at St Nicholas have a great playground to play on now.

Holly (Year 5)

The playground is really fun and new. It's more exciting and I like the addition of the slide.

Sofia (Year 6)

I was very excited as the playground was finally opened after a long time. I was surprised at all the things we can now do on the playground.

Beau (Year 6)

The playground now has a good field to play soccer on. I like the goals as they are a good size and the markings on the ground really help. There are lots of options for when we play now.



Opening and Blessing of our Playground





Athletics Carnival

After our original date was postponed, we were very excited to have our Athletics Carnival for 2022 on Monday 30 May. Congratulations to the students for their participation and the effort they displayed on the day. Thank you to the St Nicholas of Myra Staff and the following Parents, Carers and Catholic Secondary School helpers that made this day possible:

Catholic Secondary School Helpers:

John Finianos Charbel Finianos Josiah Ishak and Marcus Bishop from St Dominic's College and Isaac Brown from Xavier College.

Our Parent Helpers—Cynthia Busstra Andrew Brown Chris Arokianathan Krishni Arokianathan and Timothy Spain who also assisted on the day.....thank you!

Congratulations to the 2022 Athletics Carnival winning house - Freeman!!!

Points Tally: Bradman - 516, Hackett - 538 and Freeman - 564

Congratulations to our Age Champions :

Senior Boys Champion: Christian Falzon, **Senior Boys Runner Up:** Xavier Isaac

Senior Girls Champions: Amisha Nagaretnam and Abby McIntosh

Junior Boys Champion: Lachlan McIntosh, **Junior Boys Runner Up:** Max Faapoi

Junior Girls Champion: Harmoni Hill, **Junior Girls Runners Up:** Cindy Guo and Sophia Yang





General News

Privacy Consent

If you do not give consent for the use of your child's image and/or works to be published in our School Newsletter, website, Facebook, please notify the school in writing. If you do not want your child to sell raffle tickets, please also inform the school office.

Thank you.

Complaints/ Grievances Forms

Parents, please note if you would like to make a complaint/grievances in regards to any school matter you can pick up a form from the school office or request via email for it to be sent to you. All matters will be attended to under strict confidentiality.

Leaving St Nicholas of Myra

A term's notice (10 school weeks) in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable. The notice can be given any time during term for the next term. Where appropriate notice has been received a pro-rata credit can be calculated based on a 40 week year. One exception is that notice in writing will be accepted at any time during Term 4 in relation to the following years' enrolment i.e. the notice period of 10 school weeks will be waived in this circumstance.

Parent Group

Thank you to the following Parents for their ongoing time and support with our school.

1. Kindergarten - Avani Reddi and Sylvia McIntyre
2. Stage 1: Krishni Arokianathan
3. Stage 2: Sarah Lestal & Sarah Edwy-Smith
4. Stage 3: Emma Williams

The next Zoom Parent Group meetings in Term 3 will be on Monday 1 and 22 August from 9:10am - 10:10am.

Any Parent/Carer is welcome to join us for this meeting. Please just email the school the Friday before the scheduled date and we will send you the Zoom link. Likewise if you wish to raise an item for discussion that is related to the whole school community, please email this on the Friday prior to the meeting as well or speak to your Stage Representative.

Fun Food Day Fried rice and Mac & Cheese

Thank you to the following parents Nicole Rebernik and Krishni Arokianathan for their organisation and helping hands for all of our students. We were able to raise \$290!

Canteen

Thank you to all our parent helpers for giving up your time and helping in the canteen. It was great to see Mona Flood, Miran Moon, Angelena Gouskas and Isabelle Bac - some of our new helpers on Tuesdays. Also a big thank you to our experienced canteen helpers Nicole Rebernik and Krishni Arokianathan for the time you have taken to help train our new parents. The students just love the canteen back open!



Please note that Canteen Tokens need to be ordered by 4pm on the Sunday in order for your child/ren to receive their tokens for the Tuesday of that week. Any orders placed on the Monday or Tuesday will receive their tokens for the following week.



Science-athon



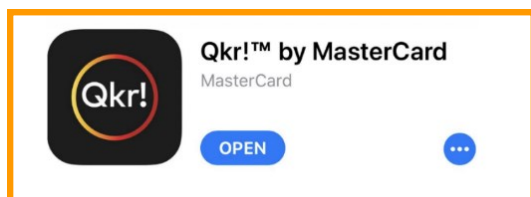
On Friday 10 June, Week 7, we held our Science-athon. This is our Term 2 major fundraiser for 2022 and it was an exciting day with many fun-filled activities for everyone (shhh .. don't tell the students that they were doing learning!)

To get into the spirit of the day the students dressed up as Scientists. The students participated in groups to complete a range of STEM activities including experiments, investigations, coding and robotics.

As this is our Term 2 major fundraiser for the year we are asking for sponsorship. For Parents/Carers who already have a Qkr account, please log on using your existing log in details and click on the Science-athon to add your sponsorship. So far we have raised \$1078!

These can be made by family and friends through the St Nicholas of Myra **QKr app**, this will be open until Friday 17 July 2022 at 4pm. There will be prizes for the students who have their sponsorships in early. Please see the steps below:

If family and friends would like to sponsor they can use the steps below



Using Qkr! as a guest.

1. Download the Qkr app
2. Sign up
3. Search for St Nicholas of Myra
4. Create/Add a profile using your own name and select 'guest'
5. Select Science A Thon
6. Add the amount you wish to sponsor
7. Add Child/ren's name who you are sponsoring

The day finished with a whole school Science Incursion run by Fizzics Education. This show looked at a variety of topics ranging from forces, light, materials and energy. It is designed to get students thinking scientifically in a fun way!

Raffle tickets were handed out throughout the day to students who dress up, who seek sponsorship/donations and for their participation in the STEM activities. Prizes were awarded to the raffle ticket winners.

Sausage Sizzle - Science-athon - Friday 10 June

Thank you to the Staff of St Nicholas of Myra for helping out with the Sausage Sizzle held on the Science-athon day particularly our chef at the BBQ, Mr John Attard. We especially would like to thank our parent helper, Mrs Angela Gibbs, who assisted at the BBQ and with our Science-athon activities.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their hot lunch and drink!

Money raised from the BBQ - \$470.30!



Tell Them From Me (TTFM)

We are inviting our students, Teachers and Parents/Carers to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

From Monday, 30 May to Friday, 1 July, we invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning* survey. *As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Nicholas of Myra*

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Last week we celebrated National Reconciliation Week (NRW). NRW is a time for us to reflect on our shared Australian history, Indigenous culture, struggles and achievements. It is also an opportunity to think about how we can all contribute to the cause of Reconciliation in Australia through our actions and our attitude. As citizens of this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit we all share a responsibility to do our part in support of Reconciliation in order to strengthen respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



PBS4L

From Wednesday 8 June the students have been partaking in lessons on how to safely use the playground within their stage first. After last week's teaching around safety and fun the playground times and play will return back to K-6 lunch being from 11:00 - 11:40 and Fruit Break being 1:10 - 1:40 pm.

Formation

A poster for Pyjama Day. The text 'Pyjama Day' is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, 'St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal' is written in a smaller, white, cursive font. The poster features illustrations of a person in a red and white striped pajama top and a person in a blue and white striped pajama top. It also includes icons of a toothbrush, a bottle of toothpaste, and a box of tissues. The date 'Monday 20 June 2022' is written at the bottom.

A poster for the Sacred Heart Liturgy. The text 'You are warmly invited to attend our Sacred Heart Liturgy' is written in a white, cursive font. Below it, the date 'Friday 24 June 2022' and the time '9:30am in the School Hall' are written. The poster features illustrations of two red hearts with crosses on top and a photograph of Jesus Christ with a Sacred Heart.



Awards

Week 6 Friday 3 June



K	Fletcher MORTIMER
K	Aishika SIDDA
K	Aishwarya ELANGO
K	Aliana MINASSIAN
1	Nerissa ROZARIO
1	Scarlett FINDLAY
1	Jaison BHASKAR
1	Alexander BROWN
2	Isabella TRAN
2	Sofia BURGESS
2	Irene HARRIS
3	Loreley LESTAL-BRAID
3	Annabella CHRISTIE
3	Michael REALES
3	John WOOD
4	Samara COULTON
4	Lachlan MCINTOSH
4	Avaleigh FAUCETT
4	Alexander MAYUGA
5	Brian NGUYEN
5	Grace MEYER
5	Henry PHAM
5	Alexa HE
6	Abby MCINTOSH
6	Ashton GALEA
6	Sofia CAMPORA-KAAL
6	Liana TAMER





Correspondence

- ☺ Reminder - Athletics Carnival - Mon 30 May
- ☺ Sausage Sizzle Juice/Water - Friday 10 June
- ☺ Penrith City Council - NAIDOC Event
- ☺ Reminder—Sausage Sizzle Juice/Water Day

Stage 3 Anne Stanton Visit

Thank you to Anne from CDEP who came out to talk with the students in Stage 3 during Religion about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, The Sacraments, particularly Confirmation and The Eucharist. It was a fantastic experience and the students in Stage 3 were engaged throughout the talk and were able to ask many questions.



Canteen Price List—2022

Item	Price
Moosies - Blue 85ml	\$1.50
Moosies – Chocolate 85ml	\$1.50
Zooper Dooper 70ml	\$0.50
Oak Milk – Chocolate 250ml	\$2.00
Oak Milk – Strawberry 250ml	\$2.00
Grain Waves – Sour Cream 28g pack	\$1.00
Chips Red Rock– Sea Salt 28g pack	\$1.00
Mini Pretzels 25g pack	\$1.00
Ovalteenies 15g pack	\$1.50
Original Springs Water 350ml	\$1.00
Just Juice Poppers – Apple	\$1.50
Just Juice Poppers – Orange	\$1.50



If you are able to offer to assist for serving at the school canteen, please email the school.

Your commitment can be as often as you prefer ie once a week, once a fortnight etc.

We are wanting to set up a roster with the help of many hands!



A very proud moment for Lilah Surenné our Year 4 student. Lilah was chosen to perform 3 shows in Candy Man which was held at the Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre. It was a wonderful experience for her and she enjoyed being a part of it. Well done Lilah!

Mrs Vella and Ms Knezevic attended on behalf of our School and Parish community the celebration of Andy's life and the sorrow of his passing. On behalf of the school community we sent flowers and the Stage 3 Children made a card for the family. Andy you will be missed and made an imprint on all of our hearts!



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.**

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