



St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 1 Week 3
2015

SAVE THE DATE

Staff Development Day
Friday 20th March

Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Money and Orders due
TOMORROW

Tuesday 17th Feb
7pm - 8pm
Reconciliation
Parent Meeting in the Church

Wed 18th Feb
Ash Wednesday
Yrs 3-6 in the Church at 12:10pm
Yrs K-2 in the School Hall at 2:30pm

Friday 20th Feb
Stage 3 Assembly
2:30pm
School Hall

Sat 21st Feb
Reconciliation
Enrolment Mass
6pm - 7pm in the Church

Tues 24th Feb
Captive Choir Rehearsal
10am - 2pm

Tues 24th Feb
Zone Swimming Carnival
Glenbrook

Fri 27th Feb
Diocesan Swimming Carnival
12:10pm Stage 2 Mass

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and what a great start to the year!

Thank you for your active support and participation with our MAI's interviews, our Parent Chats and at our Opening School Mass! All three of these examples are centred around the whole child, one about their individual learning needs, another around parent and teacher partnerships and the Mass about us as a faith community.

Today we prayed as a faith community at our Opening School Mass – what a beautiful way to begin our year! During this Mass we welcomed many new staff; Miss Inskip, Miss Westbrook, Mrs Spyrou, Mrs Higham and Mrs Lloyd, our Kindergarten students, as well as the students who have recently joined our school. We initiated our 2015 School and Sport Leaders and Student Representative Council.

School Leaders
Luca Carter
Levi Chia
Michaela Merkas
Bailey Thomson



Sport Leaders
Hackett
Jed Prior
Lara Tamer
Freeman
Diab Finianos
Jasmine Culley
Bradman
Yousha Majdoub
Jade Altman

Student Representative Council
Year 1B: Michaela Perera
Year 1G: Harmony Culley
Year 2B: Liam Wamsley
Year 2G: Jacob Perera
Year 3: Ethan Miskelly
Year 4: Raphaela Idris
Year 5: Joshua Busine
Year 6: Michael Polistina



We congratulate these students and are blessed that they will share their gifts with our school.
Peace and Joy

Anita Knezevic
Principal



User IT Agreements

Last week, your child/children will be receiving an User IT Agreement. The purpose is for students to take ownership of their cyber responsibilities and the ethical use of IT at school for their learning. The teachers will read, explain and answer any student questions in regards to this agreement. This agreement needs to be signed by the Parents/Carers before access is allowed to the student/s.

This agreement provides a great opportunity to discuss Cyber safety and ethical uses of technology in the car, around the dinner table etc. Giving examples of how in your workplace you also follow guidelines or agreements will help your child understand that it is always a choice.

Teaching Staff 2015

Early Stage I

Kindergarten: Mrs Megan Mann

Stage I

Year 1B: Mrs Lisa Cutajar and Miss Nicole Hoare

Year 1G: Miss Pascale Joseph and Miss Nicole Hoare

Year 2B: Miss Kristen Inskip

Year 2G: Mrs Nicole Smith and Miss Nicole Hoare

Stage 2

Year 3: Miss Daniella Biasi

Year 4: Mr Adam Simpson

Stage 3:

Year 5: Miss Jocelyn Westbrook

Year 6: Mrs Ros Cole



Learning Support: Mrs Suzanne Bannister

English Coordinator and Learning Support: Mrs Genevieve Lennon

Mathematics Coordinator: Miss Nicole Hoare

Religious Education Coordinator (REC): Miss Pascale Joseph

Assistant Principal (AP) & Reading Recovery: Mrs Rebecca Lloyd

Library Assistant: Mrs Sue Masters

School Counsellor: Ms Venessa Goode

Physical Education Teacher (Sport): Mrs Michelle Hinchliff

Creative Arts Teacher (Drama, Dance, Music): Mrs Nicolette Spyrou

Maintenance: Mr John Attard

Secretary: Mrs Mary Vella

Financial Secretary: Mrs Rhonda Shirvington

Principal: Ms Anita Knezevic

Specialist Lessons

This year we welcome Mrs Spyrou who will be teaching

Creative Arts (Drama in Term 1) and Mrs Hinchliff who will be teaching Physical Education (Sport).

NEED SOME HELP OR HAVE A QUESTION? Who Do I Contact?

For general information the ladies in the office can usually help. If they can't they will direct you to the most appropriate staff member.

For classroom-based matters relating to your child's well-being and learning please contact your child's teacher by contacting the school office to make an appointment or sending a note. They are in the best position to help you and your child. The next point of contact is Mrs Lloyd.

After having explored these avenues, if you still require further assistance an appointment can be made with Ms Knezevic.

How can I make an appointment ?

By writing a note to your child's teacher or the relevant staff member or by contacting the ladies in the office who can pass on a message to the relevant staff member for you.

Please do not approach a teacher on the run or whilst they are on duty.

Limiting Interruptions to Learning Time

Our teachers will be maximising every opportunity for learning this year and as such we want to limit interruptions as much as possible. Our friendly office staff will pass on messages, arrange interview times with teachers for you, have forgotten items (like lunches and hats) delivered to classrooms but will limit the number of interruptions to the learning spaces – this will benefit all our learners.

Parent Group

Thank you to parent who attended on Monday night. I would like to congratulate the following Parents on taking on the formal roles and grade representatives for one year.

Pastoral Care: Jim Mueller

Canteen: Helena Steed

Thank you to the all of the parents who have taken on the role to be their grade representative. We are still looking for two people to take on the roles of Chairperson and Treasurer – if this is a role you may be interested in or are considering this please contact the office for more information or come and speak to Anita.

Our next Parent Group meeting is on Monday 2nd March at 6:30. All are welcome to attend. This usually lasts for one hour. Our Parent Group is pivotal and important for many of the events that make our school a community.

Thank you for sending your child to school looking so smart in their uniforms. At lunchtime we see an amazing range of lunch boxes, containers and drink bottles. In the classrooms lots of new stationery, pencil cases, a mini office works.

Please, please, make sure all items are labelled, including all clothing, hats, school bags, pencil cases, stationery, drink bottles, containers, lunch boxes etc. This will save you money and your child unnecessary anxiety about losing their belongings.

**LABEL
YOUR
CHILDS
BELONGINGS**

MEDICATION

Parents are required to complete a Medication Administration form before medication can be administered at school. School personnel are only permitted to give medication prescribed by a doctor. They are unable to give Panadol or any other paracetamol. Medication should be sent in the original container with the child's name, dosage and time of administration clearly marked. A letter is required from the doctor stating the type of medication prescribed the dosage and the time it is to be administered.

Many doctors agree that medication to be given **three** times a day does not need to be administered at school. It can be administered: morning – breakfast; after school; before bed at night.

No children are to carry medication in their bags (with the exception of asthma relievers).



Hi, I have been playing Basketball for St Marys/St Clair, for 2 years. Our team plays at Penrith Basketball Stadium and we train every Tuesday afternoon for 1 hour. The uniform is a team singlet and black shorts. I really enjoy playing with my friends. Sometimes I don't get the ball too often, but that is okay. It is a great sport, it keeps you healthy and a great way to meet new friends.



Visitors to the School – including tradespeople, deliveries and parents are required to visit the school office before entering the school grounds. This procedure is for the safety and security of all who work on the site and will continue to be implemented. As part of these procedures it is a CEO requirement that the purpose of any visitor to the site be recorded in the 'Sign In Book'. All visitors, including parents, will be asked by our staff to indicate the reason for their visit – helping in the classroom and in the canteen are examples of reasons why parents may be visiting the school. Thank you for your understanding of these procedures as we ensure the safety of all who work on and visit our site. Further details will be provided in a small flyer to be distributed next week.



- ☺ Have you a new your email address?
- ☺ Have you changed address?
- ☺ Do you have a new telephone number?
- ☺ Have your emergency contact details changed?
- ☺ Has your child's medication changed?

If **YES**, please notify the school office in writing. Thank you.

School Times

What time does morning supervision commence? **8:30 am**

What time does school commence?

9:00 am

When do children eat lunch? **11:00 –**

11:40 am

When do children have fruit break? **1:10 - 1:40 pm**

What time does school finish? **3:10 pm**



Social interaction and play before school starts is really important to settle the students into each school day. Being on time and developing a regular routine ensures a positive start to their learning.

ALL children arriving after the bell must be accompanied by an adult to the school office to be signed in for the school day. Attendance at school is a legal requirement and where consistent or major absence occur this is reportable to the relevant authorities.

Taking your child home early creates gaps in their learning. They also miss the opportunity to receive other important information and notes from their teacher that are given out at the end of the school day. So it is only in extreme circumstances or specialised appointments that you should be collecting your child early.

At St Nicholas of Myra we enjoy celebrating children's birthdays.

If you would like to bring in a cake it would be appreciated if all birthday cakes bought in were individual cupcakes or donuts. Individual servings make it easier to distribute to other children in a timely manner.



Correspondence

Correspondence which has been sent home in the past fortnight or with this newsletter includes:

- ☺ ICT Student User Agreement
- ☺ Write-athon Sponsorship Form and Information Sheet
- ☺ Kindergarten Dinner Invitation
- ☺ Pancake (Shrove Tuesday) Order Form
- ☺ Curriculum Overviews (to go home tomorrow)



St Nicholas of Myra
Parish
326 High St
Penrith
4721 2509

Ash Wednesday Mass Times

6:45am 9:30am 12:10pm 7pm

Canteen will be opened Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.

During the term there will be special food days e.g. hot dog days, pie & sausage roll days, noodle days etc. A note will go home to all families when these days will occur.

Zooper Doopers	\$0.50
Moosies	\$1.00
Chocolate Milk (250ml)	\$1.50
Jelly Cups	\$0.50
Water (600ml)	\$1.00
Pretzels (30g)	\$1.00
Popcorn (25g)	\$1.00



St. Dominic's College will be holding an Open/Information Day at the College on Sunday 8th March between 10am – 3.00pm.



Information Sessions: 10.00am and 1.00pm
Organised Tours commence: 10.30am and 1.30pm

Any enquiries please contact Mrs Tyrrell
On 0247311933 ext 125
info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au

Helping your child have success at school—have a quick hug and kiss goodbye and think about the following to plan for success:

1. Ask your child about 3 good things that happened at school
2. Let your child know where you will pick them up
3. Plan something nice together (it could be reading a book or having a snack)
4. Make sure your child has a good sleep routine

Would you like to volunteer and help at the school? There are many ways you can help

- ☺ Canteen
- ☺ Special food days
- ☺ Reading
- ☺ Excursions
- ☺ Swimming & Athletics Carnivals

Photographs and Videos



At times during the year, St Nicholas of Myra students have the opportunity to be photographed and videoed. These photos and videos may be used as part of grade assessments, be uploaded to the school website or placed in school publications such as the Parent Handbook.

Photographs may also be used in publications to promote the school in newspapers and other media. When you enrolled your child, you gave us permission to do this. If you wish to withdraw this authorisation and consent, you need to notify the school in writing.

It is a school requirement that all Volunteers must complete 'Child Protection Training'. A very easy user friendly online training module is now available to volunteers. To use the module please go to the link below. You **MUST** complete this module to be eligible to volunteer. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to you.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/child-protection-training>