

# St Nicholas of Myra School

PO Box 265, Penrith 2751. Phone: (02) 4752 3300 Fax: (02) 4752 3399

Email: [stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Website: <http://www.stnicholaspenrith.catholic.edu.au>

Term 4 Week 3  
2018



Reminder!

**Thurs 1 Nov**  
All Saints Day

Curriculum Overviews  
to Parents/Carers

**Fri 2 Nov**  
All Souls Day  
Xavier Day  
Year 5  
2:30pm

Assembly - Stage 2  
Coordinating

**Mon 5 Nov**  
9:30—11am  
Kindergarten  
Transition

**Tues 6 Nov**  
World of Maths  
Melbourne Cup Day

**Wed 7 Nov**  
Basketball Gala Day  
Stages 2 & 3

**Thurs 8 Nov**  
Matilda Soccer Clinic  
Jamison Park  
Stage 3

Watermelon Cup Fun  
Food Day

**Fri 9 Nov**  
10:45am—  
Remembrance Day  
Service

11am—World  
Teachers Day Lunch

**Mon 12 Nov**  
Parent Group  
Meeting 6:30pm

**Tues 13 Nov**  
12pm Stage 3  
Reconciliation Church

**Wed 14 & Thurs 15  
Nov**  
Golf Program K—6  
Newsletter

**Fri 16 Nov**  
11:40am Kindergarten  
Billycarts

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

I hope you enjoy just a snapshot of our time at Space Camp, more will be shared later. I cannot thank you enough for your generous support of this opportunity this year for our DI and Space Camp students. It is the most remarkable experience I have personally had - wondering why I wasn't an astronaut or space engineer. This is a once in a lifetime experience and I strongly encourage this experience to all families.

Peace and Joy  
Anita Knezevic  
Principal

## SPACE CAMP

Breakfast, lunch and dinner:

Each morning we would meet in Habitat 1 with our group. We would then walk to the cafeteria. We would get a tray and go around the counters to get our food. One rule was if you touch it you take it, so you had to be careful picking things up. We would then go put our things on the table and go get something to drink. The worst rule was we HAD to have a glass of water before we could have juice or soft drink. At lunch and dinner it would be a different country. We had Russia, England, USA and more. Each country had a variety of things, but the best thing of all was the pizza. It was really cheesy and had pepperoni. It was better than Australian pizza. Oh yeah and we got ice cream, yum!

*By Lucy Keane*

At Space Camp we participated in a number of activities;

### G-Force

G force is a ride at space camp a really fun one too.

G force is a ride where you walk in a disc shape and chose out of 1 of 50 boards. When you pick a board you stand or lean against the 2m rectangle board and put your buckle on. Then the guy that runs it starts spinning the disc at 40 km an hr. When your spinning you don't think your spinning and that's cool. When G Force is spinning you cannot lift up your head, arm or leg because if you try to lift your arm up it goes flying back into your face like what happened to me when i first tried and also your chair goes up and down. After 10 minutes the ride starts to slow down and then you hop off. G Force is supposed to make you feel like your taking off in the Saturn five because the rocket is travelling so fast up your stuck in your seat and it's burning \$350000 in 500 seconds.

*By Jai Parkes*

## **SIMULATORS (MAI SIMULATOR)**

While we were at Space Camp, in our different groups we had to participate in trying out simulators as an activity that either astronauts have to do in their training or something to do with the non or micro gravity in space. There was a variety of simulators that were very cool and interesting! But, I am here today to talk about the amazing MAI!

Let's head straight into what the MAI actually is!

### **MAI-Multi Access Trainer**

The Multi Access Trainer allows you to experience what it would be like to tumble around space! As they strap almost all parts of your body onto a metal chair with metal poles attached to it and a round circle base, you feel a rush of adrenaline as your crew trainer presses the button to get the simulator going. What actually enables you to spin around is the metal poles that surround you on this awesome experience which is pretty cool. As you spin backwards and twist forwards, you will notice that the speed gradually gets faster, but don't worry because on the MAI you will not get dizzy on it because every time this simulator spins, it is going in a different direction, thus it is not continuous. Going to Space Camp and America was ultimately an amazing experience and I definitely hope I can do it again!

**By Ellie Walker**

### **Moonshot**

Moonshot was a great ride at space camp it was a tall tower with seats on each side. Then when it started you would rise up a little bit and then 3, 2, 1 liftoff...

You would shoot up. It felt like your body was being pulled up. Then you shot down it felt you were being pulled down. The purpose of the ride was to experience the gravitational pull and when you shot up it took less than 2 seconds!

**By Talya Arokianathan**

### **Missions**

Space camp was all about teamwork, so they gave us two missions. The first mission was about launching a rocket and landing on the moon. The second mission was to successfully land a capsule in the ocean. In the mission people had different positions. in the first mission I was Capcom and that position was in charge of the communications. In the second mission I was Mission Specialist 1, in that position you get to make two or three things. There were four experiments to pick from. The ones I did were crystal growth and slime.

**By Brayden Parkes**

Overall, we had an amazing experience, made wonderful friends, learnt new skills and a lot about space and are so grateful to have been able to travel and attend Space Camp. We want to thank the community for fundraising and supporting us in this adventure!



# Catholic Culture

## Important Term 4 Dates:

- Monday 12 November 2018 (Week 5) - Parent Group Meeting
- Thursday 6 December 2018 (Week 8) Christmas Concert
- Monday 3 December - Friday 7 December 2018 Swim School (Week 8)
- Monday 10 December 2018 K- 6 Transition Morning 10:30 - 11:00 am (Week 9)
- Wednesday 12 December 2018 - 7:30—8:30am - Parent Helper Thank You Breakfast (Week 9)
- Friday 14 December 2018 (Week 9)
  - End of Year / Graduation Mass 9:30 - 10:30 am in the Church
  - Year 6 Graduation Ceremony 10:30 - 11:30 in the Hall
  - Talent Quest 12:00 - 1:00 in the Hall
  - End of Year Awards Assembly in the Church 1:45 - 3:15 pm in the Church
  - Year 6 Graduation Dinner 6pm
- Tuesday 18 December 2018 Swimming Carnival (Week 10)
- Wednesday 19 December 2018 Student's Final Day

## Enrolments for 2019

We understand that family circumstances alter and that children sometimes need to change schools. If you know that you will not be attending St Nicholas of Myra in 2019 please advise the school and complete a notification of leaving form that is available from the school office. You are reminded that concerns regarding financial difficulties is not a reason for seeking another school, as the Catholic Education Office and St Nicholas of Myra can and will assist families with meeting these costs when genuine financial difficulties arise.

We have healthy enrolments for most classes in 2019, with some children on waiting lists, so in fairness to these families we ask you to let us know if you are changing schools. If you know of anyone considering a Catholic school education for their child at St Nicholas of Myra from 2019, in any grade, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible to assist us with our planning.

## Parent Group

**Week 3: Monday 29 October 2018 6:30 - 7:30pm** Thank you to the parents for their ongoing commitment to our community throughout this year. Our final Parent Group will be in **Week 5: Monday 12 November 2018 6:30 - 7:30pm** - This is where we accept and self nominate 2019 Parent Group Roles and Stage Representatives. From our surveys it was evident that some people are unaware of the agenda so please look out for the informative brochures which will help explain these roles and the agenda we have for Parent Group. The Parent Group Roles (Chairperson, Pastoral Care, Treasurer and Secretary) are a one year commitment . This allows others to step in and also ensures many people are represented across our school community.

## 2019 Kindergarten Enrolments

Thank you for the great reputation our parents and carers keep sharing within our local community by being who you and our children are in the community. The 2019 Students are so settled during their past two visits - I can see they will have a great 2019!

## Term 4- Kindergarten Transition:

- Week 4 Monday 5 November 9:30 - 11:00 (a parent/parents and 2019 Kindergarten child)
- Week 5 Call Back Monday 12 November 9:30 - 11:00 (parent and child will be individually notified)

# General News

## Counsellor

From the beginning of Term 4 we welcomed Pamela Faggella, known to the children as Pam as our school counsellor, the day she is here at our school is Friday. Thank you for making her welcome. If for any reason you would like to have a conversation with Pam or refer your child please write a request in an email and in the subject line write Confidential for the Counsellor and or Principal. From here your email will be passed directly to whomever it concerns. The process from here is usually a phone call first followed then by a request for services form.

Why would you request a counsellor? For help with situations at home or school, to give strategies to your child for bouncing back, socialising, loss of a family member or pet, or if changes are happening in the family. It could be the child is experiencing big feelings and they do not know how to cope or manage these using different strategies. This service is available for parents to talk to for parenting tips or strategies or anything you are experiencing at home with your child.

## 2018 Fundraising Levy

This year we trialled a Fundraising Levy of \$75 per family for the year. This equated to \$25 a term over 3 terms, or \$2.50 a week over three terms. The money collected went towards more resources for ALL K- 6 students. (This was not money used for DI or Space Camp. The additional opt in and out fundraisers were for that purpose this year only). As stated previously I would welcome any feedback in relation to the Fundraising Levy for this year. Please email the school, by placing in the subject header, "Fundraising Levy" to share your thoughts and insights by Thursday 8 November 2018. Thank you in advance for your feedback, effort and time.

## Uniform and the Weather



As the weather is unpredictable we require a transitional approach to school uniform. Whilst technically we are in winter uniform still, if the weather is going to be hot then as long as the children are in their full summer uniform this is acceptable. Another day/s we may have cold rainy days then their full winter uniform may be more preferable. The final date for the changeover from winter to summer uniform is Friday 2 November 2018. From the 5 November full summer uniform is required.

Sports uniform can only be worn on the student's allocated sport.

## Head Lice

St Nicholas of Myra families have experienced a few cases of Head Lice recently so we require all families to be vigilant in checking and treating each and every member of their family.

Please ensure:

- Check **ALL** members of your family
- If found in any members, **treat ALL members of the family**
- **Retreat again in 7 days**
- Best to check your child's hair daily as you do their hair
- Treatment can be as simple as a product found at the Chemist or manually treating with a Nit comb and Conditioner
- **Wash hats including the School Hat, bed linen and other clothing**
- **Check and wash all combs and brushes**

Please refer also to the NSW Health Treatment of HeadLice and Helpful Hints emailed this week on how to treat with pictures showing how to treat hair manually - comb and conditioner method.

We appreciate this takes a little time to perform for each family but it can save a lot of time and angst for our community.

# Learning

## Learning

### World of Maths Roadshow

World of Maths Roadshow will be visiting our school next Tuesday 6 November to work with students in Years 1- 6. The World of Maths Roadshow is an ideal opportunity for students to see how maths is applied to some real life situations.

Students will gain insight into problem solving, working in teams, and also various maths principles which are part of their curriculum. The sessions are highly engaging and will show the children that Maths can be fun!

On the day, Kindergarten will also be involved in a session of hands on Maths activities in their classroom.

### Swim School

The school swimming program, held at Nepean Aquatic Centre, is taking place in Weeks 8 (Monday 3 December to Friday 7 December). This program is run by fully trained instructors who are employed by Nepean Swim and Fitness.

During the program, students will be assessed in regards to their ability and placed into specific groups catering for their needs, with all lessons running for 60 minutes. Teachers will be attending and also offer supervision at the pool as well as organising students at school and on the return journey. Students will be travelling to and from the pool by bus and this is included in the cost of the program.

***All students are required to dress and undress themselves so please practise and encourage independence at home.***

**Please note that all costs are covered within school fee payments. If your school fees are not currently up to date please contact the office to discuss payment.**

## Kindergartens' Post Office Visit



### 3 Surveys - Whole School Parental Consultation

Thank you to parents for completing these 3 surveys for the school;

1. Parent Learning Survey
2. Parent Group and
3. Parent Helpers

Over the coming weeks I will share these with you as I don't wish to bombard you with all of the data all at once. Please keep an eye out for these being shared via email over the coming weeks.

### Thank you for your insights into this survey.

*St Nicholas of Myra Parent Learning Survey* **October 31st 2018, 12:09 pm AEDT**

#### Q2 - What is learning?

Learning is acquiring new skills and information that will help students lead positive, worthwhile, lives making meaningful contributions to their community.

Learning is the process of acquiring new, or modifying existing, knowledge, behaviours, skills, values, or preferences.

Learning is taking in new information to build on what you already know

Learning is about wanting to broaden your knowledge and wanting to know more about the world.

The process of finding out what children like and do well.

Educating yourself on information you were not aware of

Gaining and retaining knowledge in areas that are vital for continued learning in high school

expanding your mind, being able to make informed decisions based on facts, understanding others point of view and understanding that there are many different points of view out there which is ok.

An ability to either navigate around today's information sources to find correct information or rote learning of basic/common schooling curriculum i.e. Spelling, Reading, writing, Mathematics, Science, geography etc.

learning is where you learn a new skill, or you build on existing skills

Gaining knowledge through various mediums.

Being exposed to new information and experiences repeatedly, gaining new skills and knowledge from this. Retaining these for future reference in life.

Learning is knowledge and knowledge is power. We need learning to make us better people and to keep our minds ticking over.

The ability to take in, understand and remember the information.

Learning is increasing your knowledge on a subject. It is not limited to academic learning it also encompasses friendships, common sense learned abilities like how to cross a road, life requirements like how to have an interview or boil an egg

the acquisition of knowledge, behaviour and skills

learning is to support the strengths of students and bring out the best in them

Being taught a good education to set you up in today's world.

knowledge acquired through being taught

### Q3 - What makes a good learner?

Trying new things and making mistakes. Trying again after making mistakes.

The ability to learn is dependent on the teacher/ facilitator as well as the person themselves. A good learner is curious, learns from mistakes and is not afraid to ask questions. The learning environment has a big role to play.

To be a good learner you need to be a good listener. You need to be able to pay attention to take in the lesson and then build on it

A good learner is someone who is interested in acquiring more knowledge, asking questions and wanting to do better.

Interests and Participation

One who is willing to listen, adapt and embrace change

Someone who listens and if they do not understand, they ask for help.

listening to what is being taught, understanding that mistakes can be made and that it is part of learning, being able to offer an opinion.

A child who is engaged, hard work and a supportive environment

commitment, being organised, understanding that's its ok to make a mistake. supportive home life with lots of encouragement.

A willing recipient.

An individual that has the skills and the confidence to eagerly discover the world around them.

Someone who is willing to better themselves.

A curious, calm and happy person makes a good learner.

To be interested and or intrigued. Not to interrupt or be disruptive. Have the ability to put what you learn into practice in your life

focused, patience & ability to process

A well-motivated child with lots of support from their parents, teachers and peers.

Someone who is an independent learner and the willingness to try new things regardless of skill level.

**Q4 - Are there any other thoughts/ insights or comments you would like to share about learning.**

Are there any other thoughts/ insights or comments you would like to share about learning.

Project Based learning is very engaging and seems to make a big difference to engagement as well as having a variety of tasks. Also great for team work and is more realistic to true life learning.

Learning can take time. New topics need to be introduced slowly and age appropriately. Some things require repetition for them to sink in

The educator/teacher needs to engage the children to make them want to learn, bringing different ideas into the classroom to excite children into learning.

To be a successful learner is to be a willing sharer of information

Every child learns differently and it is important to take this into account when teaching

learning something new is a wonderful experience

I would like greater opportunity to find out how my child is progressing rather than reports. If not sitting average or above reports are too late to help or intervention and work with the school/home environments for a better outcome.

I have come to understand that we all learn at different speeds, and that it's important to celebrate when your child learns a new skill to encourage them.

Remembering that each child is an individual, he/she learns in different ways and at different paces. Home life plays a role in how children view education.

That we are putting too much pressure on our kids regarding exams and tests. We need to better prepare our kids for the future where jobs will be limited. We need to go back to basics.

I am the world's most impatient person and have zero tolerance for fools so as long as I am not involved in the process then it will be successful

Each child's learning journey is different and should be accounted for within the structure of the schooling systems/ procedures

Support should be more encouraging to students with high potentials.



**Q5 - At the end of your child's schooling at St Nicholas of Myra, what would you hope that they will be?**

I hope that they leave kind, caring, and giving, as well as able to bounce back from failures and understand that it is your failures that you grow and learn from. I also hope that they are able to take responsibility for their own actions.

I hope they will be ready for the high school journey and what they have learned in primary school is the foundation for lifelong learning and exploring the new subjects in high school.

I hope that my children are ready to tackle the challenges of high school. What they have learnt at St Nicholas will be preparation for this and I hope they will be motivated and willing to accept these challenges

Be prepared for high school and reached all academic achievements at year 6 level enriched in the catholic faith.

A Learner who is willing to embrace change and share their knowledge. A fair, transparent and individual who owns their mistakes and moves forwards with their learning's.

Confident and have the ability to take on the next stage of their school chapter

the best they can be, to understand that they do not have to be in first place to be the winner, to have compassion and understanding for others, and always offer help to others if able, to learn and grow with knowledge and of be strong and confident

Happy, Peer resilient, confident, learned and able to embark on their senior journey of high school.

I am hoping my child can read and write to the best of their ability, that they have compassion and respect for other people and that they give everything they do 100%

A respectful person at the appropriate academic level to continue their learning at high school.

Well rounded learners. Empathetic, social, focused and caring of the people and world around them.

Be prepared for high school to challenges they may face in year 7. Be academically above or at consistent C level so they are not on the back foot in their learning. That my kids reflect back and say they did their best k/6 with guidance from teachers

I hope that my child is a well adjusted individual. Has compassion and understanding of other people and can accept whatever life throws at her and just gets on with it. Having B grades would be amazing but not necessary it's more about life skills

a self confident, patient & behaved student ready to progress into there next learning journey of High School.

That the school will give more awards to deserving students like public schools do to students who worked hard throughout the year. It doesn't cost much to print these awards but can help boost kids confidence and will strive to be more competitive

Set up for entering high school.

An independent self taught learner. A learner that tries everything or has the willingness to try new things.

## Correspondence

- ☺ Curriculum Overviews
- ☺ Term 4 Calendar
- ☺ 2018 Student Residential Address and other information collection notice

## St Nicholas of Myra Parish

326 High St Penrith  
4721 2509

### Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
Sunday 7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am & 6:00pm

### Weekday Masses:

Monday 9.30am  
Tuesday 6:45am, 9.30am  
Wednesday 6:45am, 9:30am  
Thursday 9:30am  
Friday 6:45am, 12:10pm

Thank you to Felicia Meyer and Nicole Rebernik  
for organising, coordinating and serving our  
Sushi last Friday 26 October.

