

# St Nicholas of Myra School

PO Box 265, Penrith 2751. Phone: (02) 4721 2623 Fax: (02) 4721 0141

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

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

Term 4 Week 4  
2015

## SAVE THE DATE

**Friday**  
**30 October**  
**Gymnastics**  
**Gala Day**



**Monday**  
**9 November**  
**6:30pm**  
**School Hall**

**Friday**  
**20 November**  
**11:00—11:40am**  
**THANK YOU**  
**Parent Helpers**  
**Morning Tea**

**Swimming**  
**Program**  
**FIRST DAY**  
**Monday**  
**23 November**

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

Yesterday was our final Transition day for 2016 Kindergarten! I would like to thank the current families for making our newer families feel welcome. Our 2016 Transition program comprises of 4 sessions; an evening in Term 3 where our parents hear and learn about a student's day in Kindergarten. The three morning sessions in Term 4 are purposefully arranged around: what and how we teach Religion, English and Mathematics, in the second morning session we had a guest speaker Dr Sarah Heinrich Joerdens a Lecturer, Early Childhood Education, Strathfield Faculty of Education and Arts and yesterday's session is where we have a variety of guest speakers for example; our school counsellor, COSHC finishing with our 2015 and 2016 Kindergartens leading a liturgy.



We know that our new group of Kindergarten students will have many happy memories and meet many new friends. Often for parents, the families they meet when their child starts school will remain friends for life. We are very pleased and privileged to share this journey with the children and their families.

Transition happens for all of our students each year, this has been previously known as Promotions Day. Years 1 – 5 move and meet their teachers before starting their new year in the learning space where they will be working in the following year. Depending on the needs of some students more strategic smaller transitions happen in the school week before the end of Term, these are subtly respectful to the student and their needs.

At the beginning of the school year, our Year 6 students have visitors from feeder high schools from their school leaders. Then the students attend a high school interview and in Term 4 they often have an orientation day.



Change is easy or more difficult for some, I know that most children remember their experience at transition and recall funny little anecdotes that have stayed in their minds throughout their years at school. Most commonly these memories are about feelings and the way people interacted with them rather than what they actually did. Therefore no matter our perspectives on how we feel about change it is important to normalise any feelings as well seeing the positive side to the change.

Our school community's reputation is a reflection of our parents and carers perspectives. This is often communicated to me in the interviews, I often hear, a neighbour or friend has recommended the school or often we have parents who attended this school themselves and have very fond memories and want these for their children.

Our St Nicholas of Myra community's (both school and parish) reputation is all of us together, when we are in our uniforms in the shops, playing sport on the weekends etc. I would like to thank you for supporting our school by speaking of it in a positive manner and living the gospel messages of Jesus.

Peace and Joy  
Anita Knezevic  
Principal

#### **Congratulations**

Exciting news! Mr and Mrs Lloyd are expecting their second child, a little baby brother or sister to Heidi. We wish Rebecca a safe and healthy pregnancy.

#### **Summer Uniform**

Change into Summer Uniform Students should have transitioned to summer uniform. Please ensure that your child complies with all aspects of our school uniform policy

#### **Year 6 Fundraiser Ice Cream Days**

Thank you to the parents, Year 6 students and Rochelle Carter for organising another successful event raising over \$150 for the Year 6 Graduation. Year 6 are grateful for your support in the purchase of these sweet treats.

#### **Happy World Teacher's Day**

I would like to personally take this time to thank our dedicated and hard working staff members who care deeply for the students, work extensively both at home and during work to prepare learning that matters and for doing this work in a loving manner.

Often our teachers spend many hours preparing, organising, providing feedback to students, analysing data, collaborating with each other, communicating, giving counsel to students, parents and each other. Teachers constantly think and reflect about their vocation or a child/staff member in need.

The work we do is way beyond the classroom or school hours – to teach one must have a huge heart, a huge engine to keep going and a sense of God and wonder for the innocence and unexpected joy children often bring to our lives.

Thank you for the visible and invisible work you do! Teaching is a true calling - a gift of self and service to our Catholic and Penrith community.

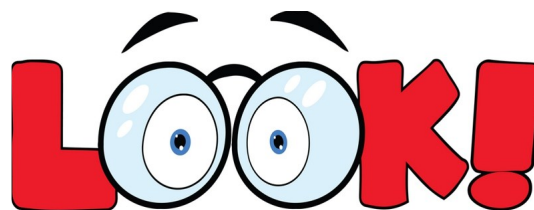
Thank you to the Parent Group, in particular Vanessa Wheeler and Lydia Vlores for spoiling our teachers on World Teachers Day with a great feast! The time to sit and indulge in a lunchtime that was not on the run (nor tasting or smelling of tuna) was truly appreciated.

## **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE—COORDINATOR NEEDED**

For our Christmas Raffle to go ahead this year we need a Coordinator. This involves contacting Local Business' for donations etc. It could be more than one person, maybe a few friends banding together. Many hands make light work. If you are able to assist, please contact the school office ASAP.



The end of term will be here before we know it. Could you PLEASE start looking at home, your child's bag, grandmas house, under the bed, on your bookshelf for **HOME READERS** and **LIBRARY BOOKS**. Class Readers are in packs of 6 to 8. If copies are missing it impacts on shared reading in class also these books are expensive to replace.



On Wednesday 28 November students from Stage 2 and 3 competed in a basketball gala day. All the students played well and tried their hardest. As the day went on we were shooting more goals and winning games. The students from St Nicholas received many praises throughout the day for their sportsmanship and their never give up attitude. Congratulations to all the students who participated in the gala day. We even had a scout looking at one of our students for a representative team!

A huge thank you to Mr Smith and Mr Miskelly for coaching the boys teams and for Mr Briggs and Mrs Becoft for scoring many of the games as well as all the other parents for coming down and lending a hand in scoring and support for our students. Thank you also to Benn from COSCH for coming down to coach and support our students on the day. Thank you to Mr Simpson, Mrs Hinchliff and Mrs Spyrou for their support and encouragement of all the students. These days can not go ahead without the support of our staff members who put together teams, collect notes and train students. **Miss Nicole Hoare**



### Parent Group for 2016

Thank you to the great parents and carers of our school who continually give of their time whether at home or in school, efforts and donations, further thanks and acknowledgements to the 2015 Parent Group will be occurring towards the end of the year. Our final meeting for this year will be on **Monday 9 November at 6:30 pm in the Hall.**



This meeting is for anyone who is interested in being;

a parent representative for their Stage/Year group (you may decide to do this with someone else as well) for next year as well as being the Parent Representative, Treasurer, Pastoral Care, Secretary and Canteen Coordinator

These roles are vital and are the reason why our students have so many different food days, mufit days, mothers and fathers day stalls etc. These sessions also are a sounding board for the Principal to gather insights and inform our school community of directions etc. **This is a one year commitment but you are more than welcome to continue for many more years.** The one year commitment is to ensure a variety of parents can be involved and be heard.

Please pray and seriously consider this opportunity, please complete the Parent Group Nomination Form and send to the school office by **Friday 6 November 2015.** These notes outline the roles, the commitment and what they entail. If you are interested in assuming a representative role for your child's grade but you are unable to make the **meeting on Monday 9 November 2015.** I asked you to complete the attached form and return it to the school office by **Friday 6 November 2015.** Should we receive too many volunteers, representatives will be chosen by the school's leadership team to ensure that a wide representative group is formed.



Leaving St Nicholas of Myra in 2016? This is a reminder that families must inform us, in writing, by Friday, 6 November 2015, if they intend to discontinue the enrolment of their child/children at St Nicholas of Myra in 2016.

Please note if you are discontinuing the enrolment of your child/children at St Nicholas you must sign a leaving student notification (available from the office). Your appropriate response is requested so that we can offer places, in a timely manner, to new families seeking enrolment.

Our school canteen will need to **CLOSE** on **FRIDAYS** unless we can get volunteers. If you are able to assist on Fridays please contact the school office.



### Stage 3 Refurbishment

As the plans have now been approved, we will be moving Stage 3 to the hall later next week. Part of the grass area will be sectioned off for safety.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.





## Crazy Sock Day – Mission Month Fundraiser

We would like to thank all the students and their families for supporting our Mission Month Fundraiser this week. Our Crazy Sock day was a huge success with students bringing in a gold coin donation to place on our super-sized sock. Although some families forgot about our initiative, it was great to see students still make a donation despite being in full school uniform. A big thank you to Andrew Masic and his family for contributing such a large donation to our cause.

A total of \$267 was raised and all funds will be sent to Catholic Mission to support our brothers and sisters in Madagascar. Thank you so much for giving generously.





## Correspondence which

has been sent home in the past fortnight or with



- ☺ 2016 parent Group
- ☺ Gingerbread House
- ☺ Yr 6 Graduation Dinner
- ☺ Catholic Outlook

### 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

### Major Events for Term 4

- Monday 9 November Parent Group Meeting Representatives for 2016 6:30-7:30pm
- Friday 20 November 11:00—11:40am THANK YOU Parent Helpers Morning Tea
- Monday 23 November - Friday 4 December Swimming Program (over two weeks)
- Friday 4 December: Christmas Concert, time to be advised but in the evening
- Sunday 6 December: St Nicholas of Myra's Feast Day
- Monday 7 December: End of Year Assembly (in the morning 9:15), Family Picnic Lunch to celebrate St Nicholas of Myra's Feast Day, followed by Talent Quest from 11:50 pm
- Friday 11 December: Year 6 Graduation and End of Year Mass, time is usually in the morning time to be confirmed
- Friday 11 December: Year 6 Graduation Dinner at the White Swan
- Monday 14 December 'Rock Around the Clock' Musical Performance 1:40pm
- Tuesday 15 December Swimming Carnival
- Wednesday 16 December: Last Day for K-6 students

Bring your blanket or chairs and enjoy a community family Christy night out!

# Christmas Tree Lighting

**FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 5PM - 10PM**  
POP UP PARK  
outside Selected Shoe Warehouse

**MC TAMARA MILES**

**FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT 6PM-9PM FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

**FOOD & MARKET STALLS 5PM-10PM**

**FREE ANIMAL FARM**

**SANTA ARRIVING AT 8PM**

**SANTA WILL ROAM AROUND FOR A FREE PHOTO OPP**

**FREE FACE PAINTING**

**SPECIAL P-OWS PRODUCTION OF NUTCRACKER FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO ENJOY**

**CHRISTMAS CHARACTERS ROAMING**

Corner of Station & High Streets through to Pop Up park including Riley Street to Henry Street closed from 2pm to 11pm for markets & food stalls.

Proudly brought to you by

**Penrith CBD CORPORATION**

Further information call 4722 5556 or office@penrithcbdcorp.com.au

**Westfield PENRITH**  
IN CENTRE. ONLINE. MOBILE.

**weekender VINTAGE FM**

**AMART SPORTS**

**thorndale foundation**

**The Performance Academy**

App Store App Store

DOWNLOAD OUR APP Penrith CBD Corporation