

St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 4 Week 5
2016

SAVE THE DATE

Fri 11 Nov

10:50am

**Remembrance
Day Service**

Mon 14 Nov

6:30pm

**Parent Group
Meeting
For 2017
Parent Group
Nominations**

Thurs 17 Nov

**Fun Food Day
Watermelon
Day
Fruitbreak**

Fri 18 Nov

**Year 3 Catholic
Mission
Fundraiser**

12pm

**Stage 2 Parish
Mass**

**Week 7
Leadership
Speeches for
2017**

Tues 22 Nov

**12pm St 3
Reconciliation**

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

What a terrific and joyful time to share with our new and existing families during Kindergarten Transition. At St Nicholas of Myra we offer transition programs to ensure information is transparent and accurate. This is our opportunity to share our learning agenda. This transition covered topics such as

- ♦ Parents experiencing English, Maths and Religion activities
- ♦ A day in the life of a Kindergarten student
- ♦ Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L)
- ♦ School readiness
- ♦ A Dietician
- ♦ A Learning Walk around the school in different stages to see how we teach
- ♦ English and Mathematics in real time to showcase how we learn
- ♦ What is a 21st Century learner and learning?
- ♦ Student and Parental Support; Vennessa Goode School Counsellor; Michelle White Learning Support; COSHC
- ♦ Extra Curricula Items offered by meeting; Sheridan from My Music House, Gail from Commonwealth Bank

We concluded with 2016 and 2017 students sharing in a liturgy together with Father Joe. This transition program aims to cover the students academic, social, emotional and faith needs. We aim to offer multiple ways for parents to get to know each other as they journey together for another seven years.

A warm welcome to our 2017 Kindergarten families. It has been awesome to get to know you more during these past weeks.



Subsequent to the Kindergarten Transition, we also offer a S1 – S3 transition before the end of the year with the student's new teacher in the learning space. If other students require further transition based on their needs it is completed with discretion and over a period of time.

Stage 3 students in the beginning of the next year have local Catholic high schools visit to inform them of their school and orientation days. During the year, the Year 6 students attend their orientation day at their chosen Catholic High school.

We offer these occasions for transition to help students prepare for the change ahead. The best way to support them at home with the changes is to:

1. name and acknowledge that their emotions are normal and valid, for example, that anytime something is new we can feel scared of the unknown.
2. Find someone they know who is also changing with them or driving passed the school to show them that schools are similar but different.
3. If the feelings are getting big to seek advice to inform their current teacher and to speak to our school counsellor, Vennessa around specific strategies – this could be over the phone.

2017 Staffing Announcements

It is with great sadness that we say a fond farewell to Mrs Rita Bellman. She has decided to retire to spend time with her new granddaughter, family and to travel. Her gentle, calm and care for the students will be greatly missed. I am sure you will join me in wishing her much joy next year.

I am sure you will join me in congratulating Miss Nicole Hoare who will be our permanent Religious Education Coordinator (REC), commencing next year. I am sure you will agree she has done a stellar job in her acting REC tenure this year. Our community is blessed and privileged to have such exceptional leaders who give of themselves, time and energy to help nurture our faith.

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic
Principal

Parent/Friend/ Helper THANK YOU Breakfast!

Have you covered books..... Stapled raffle booklets together... helped in the canteen, on school disco nights, been a part of 2016 Parent Group, helped at Bunnings BBQ, coached sporting gala days, athletics carnivalbeen a reading helper....etc...

For the past three years we have acknowledged our thanks at lunch time and wanted to ensure all helpers had an opportunity to attend so we decided this year WE would love to THANK YOU with a Parent/Friend Helper Breakfast. Please complete the form sent home to assist us with catering,. We will be offering hot and cold breakfast items. We are so fortunate and blessed to have so many wonderful people who volunteer their time here at St Nicholas. We thought it would be apt to celebrate this on **Tuesday 6 December – St Nicholas of Myra's feast day starting from 7:30am.**

Our Final 2016 Parent Group Meeting

All are welcome to attend our final 2016 Parent Group meeting on Monday 14 November at 6:30. During this meeting we will name the 2017 Parent Group members for each stage as well as the formal Parent Group Roles. We will also plan 2017 Term 1's Fun Food Days and Fundraising events.

Whilst we will be formally thanking the parent group at our end of year awards ceremony, I would like to acknowledge their tireless efforts, TIME, energy and commitment to always working in partnership in order to improve our school!

Extra Curricula

Fun Food Days

Thank you to the following parents for organising our Salad Roll Day last Thursday - Clare Fidler and Lidia Vlores and our Chicken Chipees Day previously - Sarah Lestal and Clare Fidler.

2016 COSHC

Unfortunately COSHS will not be available on Monday 19 December and Tuesday 20 December 2016 as they have their own training which they are required to attend on these days.

Vacation Care will be offered to enrolled children from Monday 9 January 2017.

2017 Important Dates!

Friday 27 January – MAI Testing 8:30 – 11:00am

Monday 30 January – Staff Development Day (SDD) MAI Testing 8:30 – 4:30

Tuesday 31 January – Stage 1 – Stage 3 (Years 1 – 6)

Wednesday 1 February - Stage 1 – Stage 3 (Year 1– Year 6) full days for all students, every day of this term.

*Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) will receive notification regarding their starting dates and times later this term. Early Stage 1 will still require testing, commencing from Friday 27 January (8:30 – 11:00am) until Thursday 2 February (8:30 – 4:00pm). **Please be aware that this has changed from all notes previously sent. We apologise for this change however it is beyond our control. Please know that we will sending confirmation of this notice or if further changes are required a separate note will be sent closer to the end of Term 4. Thank you for your flexibility in this matter.***

Parent Group for 2017

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 thank yous and acknowledgements to the 2016 Parent Group will be occurring towards the end of the year. Our final meeting for this year will be on **Monday 14 November at 6:30 pm in the office or Stage 3 learning space depending on the attendance numbers.**

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
- or/as well as being in a formal role of the Parent Group, such as;

Chairperson

Treasurer

Pastoral Care

Secretary and

Canteen

These roles are vital and are the reason why our students have so many different food days, mufti days, Mother's and Father's 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 11 November 2016.** 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 14 November 2016 at 6:30 pm,** I asked you to complete the attached form and return it to the school office by **Friday 11 November 2016.** 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.

Parent Group Nomination Form for 2017

I/We am/are interested in being part of a formal role of _____ in the Parent Group for 2017

I/We am/are interested in being the Parent Representative for my child in Year _____

Name/s: _____

Contact Number: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____

Request for Used Books

As the Season of Advent approaches and we prepare for Christmas, it can become hard to see beyond our own needs and our immediate family. Over the next fortnight, we will be collecting used and pre-loved books that you may have sitting at home. The purpose of our collection is to send these books to less resourced schools in South Sudan. So we kindly ask that you cull any bookshelves and storage boxes by sending any old books to our school for collection. Just imagine how much joy this simple gesture could bring to a less fortunate child.

ONE book can bring so much happiness to MANY!!

We thank you in advance for your generosity.



SWIM SCHOOL PERMISSION AND ENROLMENT ASSESSMENT FORMS DUE

Please note that swim school is a compulsory school activity. Swimming notes are due in ASAP as the aquatic centre need to put the students into groups based on their swimming ability. Students who have medical reasons for not swimming will need to bring in a note and give to the class teacher. It is expected that every student attends Swim School over the two weeks. If your child is sick and cannot swim on a particular day, a note needs to be brought into school. Thank you for your cooperation.



Way of Mercy Parish Celebration

A HUGE thank you to all the families and students who took part in the Parish Way of Mercy celebration on Sunday 30 October. The students processed with the cross, carried balloons and then took part in the Gospel procession. Many parishioners and guests commented on how beautiful and reverent the students were during the ceremony.



SPECIAL DATE for the DIARY

Tuesday 13 December will be our End of Year and Graduation mass. The mass will be held at 9:30am in the church. Also on this day will be the End of Year Awards Assembly at 1:30pm. This assembly will also be held in the church.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

In a month's time the students of St Nicholas of Myra will be bringing home their End of Year Report for 2016.

Parents and Carers are asked to talk through these reports with their child. Students as young as Kindergarten should have an understanding of what the report details and acknowledges. This conversation between parent/carer and child should consist of both affirmations and feedback. This as an opportunity to praise your child for their efforts and hard work but also to discuss future directions for ongoing growth.

For students in Years 1-6 the reports are measured on an A to E scale. Please note that a C grade is for Celebration and indicates that your child has achieved the expected Stage Outcomes. Remember that for the students in Years 1, 3 and 5, they have one more year to achieve the Stage outcomes. The Kindergarten reports offer a different scaling system. For these students, a grading of 'Sound Achievement' would indicate accomplishing Early Stage 1 Outcomes.

What is more indicative of your child's progress are the teacher comments contained in the report. These should form the basis of your conversations. More details about our reporting system will come home with the reports. Should you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact the school to speak to your stage teachers or myself. Thank you.

Miss Joseph - Acting Assistant Principal



Merit Awards

Gold Awards

Benny	Emilmariya	Gold Award
Briggs	Levi	Gold Award
Stevens	Alex	Gold Award
Barrett	Mia	Gold Award
Kim	Raina	Gold Award
Joines	Ethan	Gold Award

Silver Awards

Harms	Taleeah-Skye	Silver Award
Scrimmager	Keoni	Silver Award
Sullivan	Audrey	Silver Award
Campora-Kaal	Ryan	Silver Award
Joines	Ethan	Silver Award
Kassouf	Isabella	Silver Award
Lestal-Braid	Lilah	Silver Award
Moen	Ellie	Silver Award
Becroft	Ella	Silver Award
Benny	Emilmariya	Silver Award
Briggs	Levi	Silver Award
Brown	William	Silver Award
Broz	Ante	Silver Award
Madrajat	Zena	Silver Award
Barrett	Mia	Silver Award
Ezekiel	Joseph	Silver Award
Kim	Raina	Silver Award



Gjonaj	Eleni	Merit Award
Razaghi	Arad	Merit Award
Rietkerk	Elle	Merit Award
Steed	Nicholas	Merit Award
Rivadeneira	Savannah	Merit Award
Suluape	Paul	Merit Award
Wamsley	Liam	Merit Award
Xiberras	Peter	Merit Award
Jurenec	Natalija	Merit Award
Madrajat	Zena	Merit Award
Maraziotis	George	Merit Award
Parkes	Jai	Merit Award
Idris	Raphaila	Merit Award
Madrajat	Zane	Merit Award
Swarup	Shree	Merit Award
Xinos	Gabrielle	Merit Award
Antoun	John	Merit Award
Cini	Taliah	Merit Award
Parkes	Caleb	Merit Award
Wamsley	Callum	Merit Award
Chen	Alannah	Merit Award
Costello	Ethan	Merit Award
Felton	Oliver	Merit Award
Isaac	Xavier	Merit Award
Chong	Ying	Merit Award
Gibbs	Odessa	Merit Award
Mueller	Lachlan	Merit Award
Suluape	Gabriel	Merit Award
Banda	Monette	Merit Award
Leslie	Raymin	Merit Award
Reynolds	Maddison	Merit Award
Swarup	Ishan	Merit Award
Nagaretnam	Nishelle	Merit Award
Neill	Nash	Merit Award
Scrimmager	Keoni	Merit Award
Surenne	Isabella	Merit Award

First Reconciliation



Together in Jesus

Sacramental Program First Reconciliation 2017

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at St Nicholas of Myra Parish will be in Term 1 next year.

*To be eligible for First Reconciliation, **children must be in year 3 or above and must be baptised.***

*Parents wishing to enrol their children in the program must attend an Information meeting, which will be at St Nicholas of Myra Church on **Tuesday 28th February 2017 at 7.00pm.***

Further information regarding the program will be given at this meeting.

If your child has not been baptised, and you wish to enrol them in the program, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator, Colleen Nicholas.

On 26th October, Stage 2 and 3 attended the Basketball Gala Day. There were 6 teams that played on the day and while we didn't win any medals we all improved in our abilities by the end of the tournament. Thank you to the teachers that attended the Gala Day and parents for supporting their children on the day.



YEAR 3 FUNDRAISER

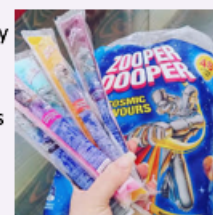


FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER

At lunch and fruitbreak, Year 3 will be selling cupcakes and Zooper Doopers to raise money for Catholic Mission.

The school canteen will be **closed** on this day. All products will be sold for 50 cents.

 **catholic mission**
Reach out. Give life.



Gymnastics Gala Day

On Friday 4 November, eleven girls represented St Nicholas at the 2016 Gymnastics Gala Day at Rooty Hill. They competed in the ten person team competition where they carried out a floor routine, static routine, vault and trampoline.

The girls showed excellent sportsmanship, not only encouraging each other but also competitors from other schools when completing the challenging routines, Thank you to the parents and carers who came to support them.



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

- ☺ 2017 Parent Group Roles and Nominations
- ☺ MAI Assessment Booking Online
- ☺ Year 5 Teacher Update
- ☺ Miss Joseph appointment at Bethany
- ☺ Years 3-6 Sacramental Programme Reconciliation
- ☺ Year 6 Mr Showbags Fundraiser
- ☺ Christmas Celebration
- ☺ Year 6 Graduation Dinner
- ☺ Watermelon Day Fun Food Day
- ☺ Year 3 Religion Program Fundraiser
- ☺ All Stages - Christmas Concert Requirements






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PBS4L Skill of the Week



This week we are working on being **respectful** when the second bell rings.

At this time, we stop and listen to the teacher on duty, as we sit on lines ready to go back into a learning session.



SHOP & SAVE FOR CHRISTMAS

EXCLUSIVE 1 DAY OFFER TO
ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS



20% OFF
SCHOOLWEAR
AND EVERYTHING ELSE



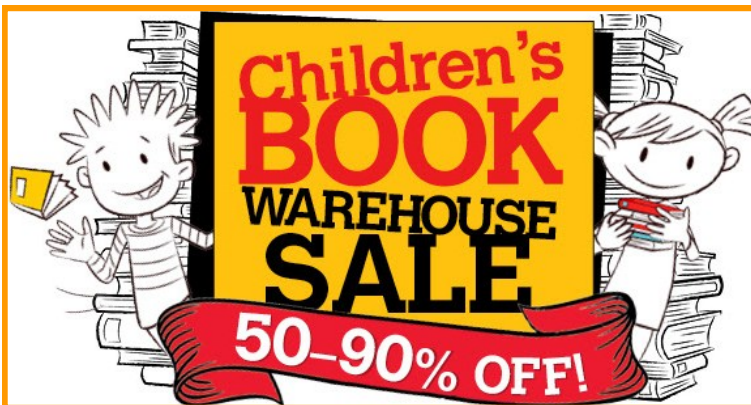

THURSDAY
17TH NOVEMBER
INSTORE & ONLINE

AVAILABLE INSTORE & ONLINE

Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only. Styles and colours may vary from store to store. No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with docket. Includes existing 2% discount. Excludes gift cards. Offer ends midnight (AEST) 17/11/16. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2017

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 2017 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 2017, 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 2017, in any grade, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible to assist us with our planning.



WE ARE TAKING 50-90% OFF EVERY- THING FOR ONE DAY ONLY! SCHOLASTIC

Thousands of fantastic children's books will be on sale, including paperback novels, picture and chapter books, activity items and much more!
Don't miss this opportunity to restock your bookshelves.

Open to public:

Tuesday 6 December: 8.30am-5pm

Club Paceway
146 Station St
Penrith

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



Penrith Waratahs
Junior Rugby League
Football Club



MINIS CLINIC

For boys & girls born 2009 or later

If you have a child turning 5, 6, 7 or 8 in 2017 and thinking of signing them up to play rugby league, here is an opportunity in a training environment to get your child involved in the greatest game of them all - rugby league

The Penrith Waratahs Junior Rugby League Club will be holding a FREE weekly training clinic for these ages

Important Information

WHEN: every THURSDAY night from 5pm to 6pm
WHERE: Dong Rennie Field, off Paskin Street and First Avenue, Kingswood.

COMMENCING: 17 November 2016 for 4 weeks before enjoying the Christmas break; and resuming after Australia Day.

COST: FREE

If interested/to register interest or further information, please contact our club secretary Debbie via [email: waratahssecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:waratahssecretary@hotmail.com) or phone: 0410 410 457 (after 4pm Monday to Friday).

Registration Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
P/Code: _____
Phone: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____
Retreat Selected
Title: _____
Dates: ____/____/____ to ____/____/____
Cost: _____

Please submit completed Registration form to St Joseph's Centre Baulkham Hills by post, fax or email.

St Joseph's, 64 MacKillop Drive, Baulkham Hills
PO Box 7386 Baulkham Hills BC NSW 2153
Phone: 02 9634 2317 Fax: 02 9899 4249

Email: frontdesk@stjosephscentre.org.au

Cheques payable to the Spirituality Ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph.



St Josephs Centre
Baulkham Hills Sydney NSW

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Email: frontdesk@stjosephscentre.org.au
Website: www.stjosephscentre.org.au

Be Nurtured and Nourished Overview

WEEKEND RETREATS

ONE OF THESE RETREATS COULD BE THE
RIGHT ONE FOR YOU

Sometimes you need...

Time out from your day to day life

Some new insights,
directions and inspiration

A break to go within,
reconnect with self and Your God

Opportunities to immerse yourself
in nature

To look after the whole person, you, we need to consider the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual.

Often the spiritual is through faith based practice or other groups. To truly step forward and allow ourselves the gift of time with self, means to connect within.

These retreats aim to provide spiritually curious and open individuals with an experience of listening to fresh insights, reflection, some creative responses and prayer experiences.

We invite you to give yourself permission to step out of your world and look after you for a change.

Truth Through Learning