

# St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 1 Week 3  
2017

## SAVE THE DATE

**Mon 13 Feb**  
**Hot Dog**  
**Orders Due**

**Wed 15 Feb**  
**11:50am**  
**Opening School**  
**Mass followed**  
**by**  
**Afternoon Tea**

**3:30—8pm**  
**Student Led**  
**Conference**  
**(additional days**  
**and times**  
**available—see**  
**online booking**  
**for details)**

**Thurs 16 Feb**  
**Hot Dog Day**

**Fri 17 Feb**  
**2:30pm**  
**Assembly (led**  
**by Stage 3)**

**Tues 21 Feb**  
**Nepean Zone**  
**Swimming**

**Fri 24 Feb**  
**School Disco**  
**5:30—7pm**

Dear Students, Parents/Families of St Nicholas of Myra,

What a wonderful start to our new school year! Our Kindergartens have settled and are straight into their learning. Between the SWEAT and WET weather unfortunately our students have not been able to play on our playground. As you know if it is too hot or wet for the teachers to be outside then it's too hot/wet for our students. However the positive side is our grass is getting perfect growing conditions! You may have noticed we have removed the corner garden to give the students two smaller rectangular playing fields at lunch and fruit break.



Thank you to our constant and new families that attended our Parent Group meeting this week. We had many new ideas and helpers which is the back bone of our school community. We discussed not only fundraisers, fun food days and sporting days but also some new educational matters such Student Led Conferences (SLC) as well as Project Based Learning (PBL). More information regarding both of these will be emailed tomorrow as well as a note to book in time for the SLC (formally the Parent Teacher Chats). The Student Led Conferences will require a parent/carer as well the student present (this includes all children as well as Kindergarten attending).

I spoke with the Parent Group this week regarding the SLC as well as writing a detailed letter explaining the differences and why. I strongly encourage you to read these notes carefully before attending to assist us all in this new process. The students and teachers will appreciate your patience and understanding as this is a new process for all. It may feel foreign, awkward and there may be silences during this time however we know we grow more confidence when we try and try again and refine the experiences. As always I welcome any feedback regarding anything we do either via an email, phone call or an appointment.

At the end of this newsletter I have attached a fantastic article from Michael Grose called "Moving beyond asking, "What did you do at school?" It is a simple two page read that will assist in promoting a positive year ahead.

With these new exciting elements added to engage more in our learning this year is going to be very exciting!

Peace and Joy  
Anita Knezevic  
Principal

## *Opening School Mass*

*We warmly welcome all parents/ carers and friends to participate in our opening school mass for 2017. The mass will take place on **Wednesday 15th February at 11:50am.***

*During this mass the school leaders, sports leaders and SRC will be commissioned.*

*We invite you all back to have afternoon tea in our school hall.*

## Learning

### 2018 Kindergarten Enrolments

2018 Kindergarten Enrolments commence at the beginning of February each year. As soon as we received the completed enrolment form I begin interviews. These enrolment interviews require a parent/carer and the child to attend. The enrolment forms can be collected from the front office or downloaded from our website. I look forward to meeting our siblings as well as our new families.

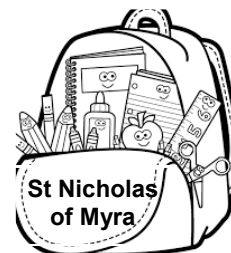
### Catholic Culture

A big thank you to Emma Douglas (Oliver's Mum) for organising "Cheers and Tears" Morning Tea for new Kindergarten parents and carers last week.

### Uniforms

Thank you for sending your children to school looking so smart in their uniforms. We at St Nicholas of Myra take pride in our appearance and uniform. When we are on a bus or walking in public we are representing our school.

It has come to our attention that some children are carrying a variety of coloured and branded back packs. The St Nicholas of Myra blue back pack is part of the school uniform and all students must be using these.



These are available for purchase at the school office \$40.



Predominately white sneakers are required on sports day, once again too many black and multi coloured sneakers are being worn.

### Sacramental Program First Reconciliation 2017

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at our parish will be in Term 1. 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 28 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.

### Prayer Bags

During the year students will be bringing home prayer bags. These bags will need to be returned to school on the required date, which will be assigned by the class teacher.

We are still waiting for a few prayer bags to be returned from last year. If you have seen a prayer bag at your home could you please return it to the front office ASAP. A picture of the bag can be seen in the photo.

Miss Nicole Hoare  
Religious Education Coordinator



We would like to provide examples of what is included in the Inc/exc and the Extra curricular fee.

### Inc/Exc Fee examples

Life Ed  
Education Week  
Cricket Workshop  
All about eggs  
Ned Show

### Extra Curricular

Ed Alive  
Artartica  
Voice of Youth  
Chess  
Dance Fever

These fees are included in your statement/invoice you receive each year. They are billed each term. If you have any questions regarding the fees or payment of your account please do not hesitate to contact Rhonda Shirvington 47 212623. *Thank you*

*See pages 7 & 8 for more details*



School Based Fees	Per Family	Per Child
Resource fee		\$ 154.50
Cleaning fee	\$ 61.80	
Incursion/Excursion		\$ 77.25
Extra Curricular		\$ 66
Swimming		\$ 123.60
Technology Fee		\$61.80

- ☺ 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 in writing or email

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

Thank you



### 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 e.g. Newsletters

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 or email

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



## Bronze Awards Week 1 & 2

Grace Nenadic	John Xiberras
Zane Madrajat	Benjamin Dela Paz
Gabrijel Jurenec	Isabel Mrsic
Oliver Simmons	Larena Xiberras

Beau Brown  
Susan Vella  
Carmia Xibberas



## MEDICATION

Parents are required to complete a Medication Administration form before medication can be administered at school. School Staff are only permitted to give medication prescribed by a doctor. They are unable to give Panadol or any other Paracetamol, unless prescribed by your doctor.

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 that is 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).

### *A Note From School*

#### *Procedures!*

- Return notes and monies in a sealed envelope or plastic zip bag with your child's name and subject e.g. JOHN SMITH Year 2 Excursion
- Your child is to give ALL notes to their classroom teacher
- They are then put in the class message bags and sent to the office.

***Please send notes in by their DUE DATE***

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 e.g. cupcakes or donuts

Individual servings make it easier to distribute to other children in a timely manner.

Thank you

## Kiss n Ride and Traffic Procedures

Safety of our children on the way to and from school is paramount in all our minds. Safe pedestrian, safe driving habits and parent-carer role modelling of safe behaviours will contribute much towards the safety of our children. Please be considerate of our neighbouring businesses by not blocking their driveways or parking on their premises.

Higgins Street is patrolled by the local police and rangers on a regular basis, therefore you need to be aware of traffic and parking regulations to avoid fines.

- Do not park across driveways or enter neighbouring businesses carpark
- Children must always alight from the car from the **LEFT** hand side
- The driver **MUST NOT** leave the car
- Plan to leave home earlier in the morning so your child isn't rushing to get out of the car if running late
- In the afternoon please do not start to queue up Higgins Street before 3:10pm. Make sure your **family name** is on the dashboard of your car. This helps staff on duty to have children prepared and ready to get into their correct car.





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



- ☺ 2017 Responsible Use of IT and Social Media for students—all Stages
- ☺ Commonwealth Bank Flyer
- ☺ 2017 Expression of Interest for Choir/Captivate
- ☺ Hot Dog Day
- ☺ Parent Calendar (email and app only)
- ☺ School Welcome Disco
- ☺ Student Led Conference Note
- ☺ Student Led Conference Booking Form
- ☺ Project Based Learning Note

**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

## Education

# Big dreams start with one single step

Thousands of local kids ready to head to school for the first time next week

■ JADE ALPBRANDI

**I**t will be a change of pace for Penrith twins Bailey and Kirrily Cohen when they start primary school next week.

The pair will walk through the gates of St Nicholas of Myra Primary School on Tuesday, ready to tackle their first day of school life on.

Their mother, Cathie Cohen, said there are mixed feelings from everyone about the first day but knowing the brother-sister duo will be together is important.

"Kirrily is quite excited but Bailey is a little bit nervous - it's a bit out of his comfort zone," she said.

"They'll be in the same class though, so Kirrily will look after him."

In terms of what they're looking forward to the most, Mrs Cohen said "everything".

"Kirrily is definitely looking forward to making friends and also being able to do extra things like music classes and learning how to write," she said.

"Bailey saw the big playground and is very excited about that as he loves running around."

Mrs Cohen said she and her husband Mark fell in love with the school.

"Their principles around behaviour are amazing," she said.



Twins Bailey and Kirrily Cohen packing their bags for school with their mum Cathie.  
Photo: Melinda Jane

"We totally agree with their core values of compassion, cooperation, responsibility, respect and justice and we hope our children come away with those."

When it comes down to it, Mrs Cohen can't wait for her children to see what school life is all about.

"We just want them to get a good education and a good start to life," she said.

"We have their best interests at heart and

successful people with their core values carried throughout their school years.

"I'll miss them terribly but I'm looking forward to seeing them grow and develop."

And what do the duo hope to be when they grow up?

"Bailey would love to be a football or soccer player while Kirrily would love to be a doctor."

Canteen Items Term 1 2017		
Item Description	Flavours	Price
Frozen Juice Cups	Apple and Orange	\$0.50
Grainwaves	Sour Cream	\$1.00
Milk Oak	Chocolate and Strawberry	\$1.50
Moosies Iceblock	Chocolate or Bubblegum	\$1.00
Natural Chip	Sea Salt	\$1.00
Ovalteenies		\$1.00
Popcorn Atomic		\$0.70
Pretzels Mini		\$1.00
Zooper Doopers	Assorted	\$0.50

### School Absences

When your child is absent, on his/her return to school please send a note explaining the reason. It is a requirement of roll marking that all absences, both whole day and part day, are explained by a parent/carer in writing. These notes should be received by the student's teacher ***within 3 days*** or the absence is recorded as unexplained absence. Notes should be written and signed by the parent/carer and should be dated.



An e.g. of letter below:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ (teacher's name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) of \_\_\_\_\_ (class) was away from school

from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for the following reason:

☐ Illness ☐ Medical Appointment ☐ Funeral ☐ Family Event ☐ Other

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

(Parents, please note that if the absence is for a holiday from 10 to 100 days, then you are required to submit an application for extended leave. Thank you for your cooperation.)

## 2017 Diocesan School Fees

21 November 2016

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the 2017 Diocesan school fees schedule which includes a modest 3.0% increase on the fees from 2016. Every effort has been made to keep the fee increase to a minimum and I am pleased to report that the increase is *less than* the 3.3% education CPI increase for the same period.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 3.0% increase to ensure we have consistency across our Diocese. School-based fees cover the costs of important things such as technology and school administration.

I appreciate that from time to time, some families might experience financial challenges. With this in mind, I take this opportunity to remind you that confidential fee support is available through

- discounts for families with multiple siblings in our schools
- flexible payment plans
- hardship concession policies for families in need
- the Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund
- the Byawalla Co-contribution Scheme for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

### Tuition Fees - 2017

The 2017 diocesan tuition fees are outlined below:

ANNUAL FEES	No charge for 4th+ children	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$1,131	\$849	\$567
	Years 1 – 6	\$1,461	\$1,095	\$732
	Years 7 – 8	\$2,028	\$1,521	\$1,014
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$2,250	\$1,689	\$1,125
	Years 11 – 12	\$2,874	\$2,157	\$1,437

The 2017 term rate for each of the first three terms is outlined below:

TERM FEES	Charged in Terms 1, 2 & 3	1st Child 100%	2nd Child 75%	3rd Child 50%
Primary	Kindergarten	\$377	\$283	\$189
	Years 1 – 6	\$487	\$365	\$244
	Years 7 – 8	\$676	\$507	\$338
Secondary	Years 9 – 10	\$750	\$563	\$375
	Years 11 – 12	\$958	\$719	\$479



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta

## Diocesan Building Levy - 2017

The Diocesan Building Levy enables us, through our capital works program, to meet the demand for new schools and new classes in high growth areas, and to continue to maintain all schools to a high standard.

All families with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College Kingswood are required to pay the annual Diocese of Parramatta Diocesan Building Levy. This levy has replaced the various building levies that parents previously paid to school building funds (managed by either parishes or schools). **The levy for 2017 is \$756 per family, payable in three equal instalments of \$252 payable in Terms 1, 2 and 3.**

## Annual Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents - 2017

The Diocesan Education Fee Temporary Residents for 2017 is **\$1,869 per student, payable in three equal instalments of \$623 in Terms 1, 2 and 3.** The fee applies to new students on the following visa numbers: 173, 401, 402, 411, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 426, 427, 428, 442, 456, 457, 459, 462, 476, 485, 497, 580, 600, 601, 651, 675, 676, 679, 685, 884, 944, 956, 976 and 977 including where any of these are the preceding visas for families on bridging visas 010 to 090.

Families charged this fee in 2013 will continue to be charged on a *per family* basis to the eldest student whilst the family has continuous current students.

Thank you for your continuing support of Catholic education. Please be assured that we will continue to provide exciting learning experiences for them within our Catholic faith environment.

With warmest wishes

**Gregory B Whitby**  
Executive Director  
Catholic Education  
Parramatta of Diocese



School Terms		NSW Public Holidays	
Term 1	Friday 27 January to Friday 7 April	Good Friday	14 April
		Easter Saturday	15 April
Term 2	Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June	Easter Sunday	16 April
		Easter Monday	17 April
Term 3	Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September	Anzac Day	Tuesday 25 April
		Queen Birthday	Monday 12 June
Term 4	Monday 9 October to Tuesday 19 December	Bank Holiday	Monday 7 August
		Labour Day	Monday 2 October
		Christmas Day	Tuesday 26 December