

St Nicholas of Myra School

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

Term 1 Week 5



Friday 1 March

Mother's Day

Orders and Money
Due

Year 6 Polo Shirts
Orders and Money
Due

12pm Parish Mass
Stage 1 attending

**Monday 4 - Friday
8 March**
**Catholic Schools
Week**

Monday 4 March
9:10am—Parent
Group Meeting

Project Compassion
Begins

Catholic Schools
Week Prayer at
morning assembly

Kindergarten 2020
Tours of school
4pm and 6pm

Tuesday 5 March
Shrove Tuesday
Pancakes at lunch

Open Learning
Spaces
2:30pm—3:10pm
All Welcome

**Wednesday 6
March**
Ash Wednesday
12:10pm—Primary
Parish Mass
2:30pm Infants—
Liturgy

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

As we feast with Shrove Tuesday, mark Ash Wednesday and enter into Lent it is a time to challenge ourselves to take up two acts;

1. one is to forgive
2. and the other to be kind (in words, deeds and of heart)

Forgiveness (Psalm 99)

O Lord, our God, you answered your people;

You showed them that you are a God who forgives,

Even though you punished them for their sins.

Praise the Lord our God,

And worship at His sacred hill!

The Lord our God is holy (verse 8,9)

Forgiveness is never easy. The world is full of anger, war and broken relationships, largely because we find it so hard to forgive. Think of how our inability to forgive breaks up our homes, families and school community.

But do you know that God also finds it hard to forgive? He can't just forget about your failures and sin as though it doesn't affect your relationship with Him. He makes that clear to you every time you look at the cross. There simply was no other way to bring people back into a loving relationship with Him. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus tested whether there was another way. But it has to be the cross. That's why you hear your Saviour on the cross praying the way he does,

"Forgive them, Father! They don't know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

If we, as role models (parents, wives/ daughters/ aunties, husbands/ sons/uncles, grandparents, brothers and sisters) do not show forgiveness and love without limits how will we have peace within our hearts, minds, home, school and communities? How can we truly forgive when we hang on to past hurts and use them against people when they let us down or hurt us again?

Forgiveness is never easy. It cost God the life of His only Son for you to be set free from all that sin does to you and for you to be forgiven. That's why the people of God love to praise and worship him You are a forgiven person, your relationship with God is perfect - but only because of Jesus. Praise His Holy Name!

Heavenly Father, remind us every day of the forgiveness we have in Jesus, we want to thank and praise you for this undeserved gift.

Thank you, Father.
Amen.

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic
Principal

KISS AND DRIVE

It has come to our attention that the procedures around dropping of and collecting of children from the 'Kiss and Drive' zone are not being adhered to and are causing some concern in relation to the safety and convenience of our children and families as well as the residents of Higgins Street.

Morning Drop Off

Essentially, the 'Kiss and Drive' zone allows for only a two minute period where a vehicle can be stationary and children may be dropped off or picked up (according to school procedure). The driver **MUST NOT** leave the vehicle. Some people have been parking in the zone for much greater length of time and getting out of their vehicles to walk children to the entrance gates in the morning. This is inconvenient for other drivers.

Ensure your child's bag is in the back seat not the boot. That all items for school are enclosed in the bag ready for a quick efficient exit from the car.

We are very fortunate to have a well developed 'Kiss and Drive' zone that operates smoothly when all concerned follow correct procedure.

Please **DO NOT** block or park across resident's driveways.

Afternoon Pick Up

School dismissal time is 3:10pm. Please do not start to queue up before this time.

Traffic is being banked up and being double parked far too long. Parking Rangers and Police do patrol this area without warning and issue fines.

You are better to arrive at 3:20pm for a quicker and smoother pick up.

For a quicker process, please display your surname cards in your window so teachers can call students to get them ready. Please contact the office if you do not have a laminated sign.



Chinese Visitors

During Week 3, Stage 3 were lucky to have 30 students and 8 teachers from China join their learning space after lunch each day. Each day, Stage 3 met the students at lunch after they had a morning session of English. The students were in the Stage 3 learning area during maths, religion and our project-based learning time. To communicate with their Chinese buddies Stage 3 smiled, used hand gestures and Google translate. Stage 3 learnt a lot about the Chinese culture and their school in China. On the last day, the Chinese students were able to enjoy a BBQ with lots of Australian food to try including Vegemite, fairy bread, Tim Tams and lamingtons.

Thank you to the parents who provided vegemite sandwiches and fairy bread: Krishni Arokianathan, Cath Strong, Liarne Canning and Angela Gibbs. Thank you to the parents who also came in to help cook the BBQ: Rosie and Andrew Brown, Cath Strong and Janelle Walker.



Awards 22 February 2019

Merit Certificates

Kindergarten Anna Dissanayake, Sophie Edwy-Smith, Levi Fenech and John Wood.
Year 1 Avaleigh Faucet, Harmoni Hill, Nabhya Singh and Lilah Surene
Year 2 Nevaeh Coulton, Lola Gibbs, Rishi Renju and Nevaeh-Rae Suluape
Year 3 Xavier Isaac, Abby McIntosh, Georgia Mills and Allannah Walker
Year 4 Ronan Carter, Kayla Karnchanakul, Lachlan Mueller and Gabriel Suluape
Year 5 Blue Joseph Ezekie, Ethan Joines, Isabella Kassouf and Keoni Scrimmager
Year 5 Gold Lylah Clarke, Keeva LeMaire, Richard Reales and Verity Rodrigues
Year 6 Ruari Brown, Michelle Ghobreyal, Andreas Phillips and Peter Xiberras

Silver Awards

Nicholas Falzon, Lola Gibbs, Odessa Gibbs, Joseph Hadchiti, Zachary Herrero, Harmoni Hill, Isaac Joines, Eliza Kassouf, Alfonzo Micallef, Georgia Mills, Jayden Teuma, Larena Xiberras and Sohpia Yang.

Gold Awards

Nicholas Falzon, Lola Gibbs, Odessa Gibbs, Harmoni Hill, Isaac Joines, Georgia Mills, Jayden Teuma and Larena Xiberras.



Learning News

Flexible Seating - Fact or Fiction and the WHY

Thank you once again to the Parents and Carers who continually think for themselves and inquire through the proper channels beginning with their child's teacher first.

Heard through the grapevine	Fiction	Fact	Learning Focus (the WHY)
Flexible seating is new and from what I have googled it is bad.	This is new!	This is not new! Flexible seating has been a part of the school for at least 6 years. We used a variety of seating combinations to reflect the what and how of the students learning; i.e we have genius benches where children sit individually, small groups of 4 or 6, donut tables, benches etc All have their purpose and place throughout the day's learning in order to meet your child's needs.	A variety of seating options have been available to all students to best meet the way and the what they are learning. Some children and staff are learning together on the floor in the variety of groups for reading/ writing/ maths/ PBL.
Imposed sitting on the floor using a lap desk rather than at a table.	Students must sit on the floor.	Students are encouraged to independently select who and where would help them to be a learner for the type of learning they are completing.	The corporate world has and uses; hot seating, google has trams as meeting rooms, individual and group spaces in which to work as do our high schools. Therefore it is important that students learn to make these choices independently to assist not only what they are learning but how they are learning; in quiet, partners, in small groups etc.
My son/daughter has a sore back after sitting on floor all day.	Imposed sitting on the floor using a lap desk rather than at a table. No one is allowed to sit at a table.	This can be true, therefore we encourage you to ask your child how could you fix this so it doesn't happen tomorrow? Some children sit on the floor, stand at the benches and sit at a desk.	Voice, choice and relevance are important for students to become independent learners and thinkers.
We threw all of the furniture out!	I saw it last year with the skip bins,	The newer and best furniture has been stored. The older furniture which was broken or the wrong height was recycled for some of its parts.	In order to support different types of group learning and learning zones. We have purchased some different furniture which will not arrive until later this term.
The school should have put a letter out at the end of the year to the parents,	Flexible seating is bad.	The term "Flexible Seating" was coined for OUR purpose FOR OUR STUDENTS to have consistent language in which to reflect and act from each stage to stage. This may not have the same meaning as the googled term.	Nothing had changed for us in terms of the why, how and what we are trying to achieve for our students as learners. The purpose around creating students to be independent and active learners who can work within and around different people in different ways is still at the heart of our work in preparing them for the world.

Procedures and Protocols

Email Correspondence

We welcome and value all communication with parents and carers. However it is important that our procedures are followed. Please ensure that any emails are addressed to the school email stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au. Any direct emails to the teacher will not be answered.

Google Classrooms and See Saw

Stage 2 and 3 students use Google Classrooms and seek feedback from their teachers. We kindly ask that this correspondence does not occur past 7pm. If it does the teacher may not look at it until the next working day and this is similar circumstances with See Saw.

Thank you to the many Parents/ Carers that respect and follow this protocol!

Friendly Uniform Reminders

Thank you for your support and consistent expectations with our School Uniform. A friendly reminder about our uniform expectations before notes are sent home.

- ♦ School Branded Bags are expected in all stages, bags are available from the office.
- ♦ Nail Polish is not allowed to be worn no matter the colour.
- ♦ Correct colour and length of socks are to be worn on correct days (white for sport days and navy blue with the school uniform).
- ♦ Please label all items of clothing.

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 or email to stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au.

They are in the best position to help you and your child. The next point of contact is Miss Teulan. After having explored these avenues, if you still require further assistance an appointment can be made with Ms Knezevic.

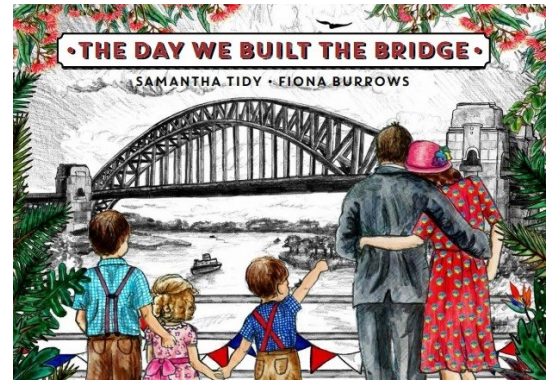
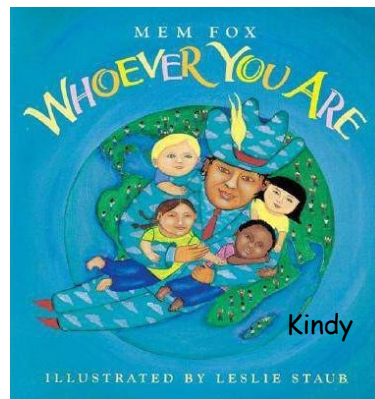
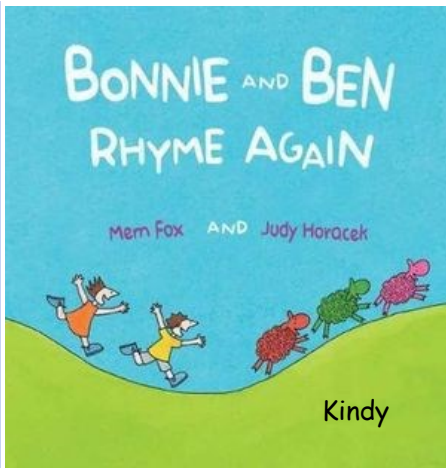
How can I make an appointment ?

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.



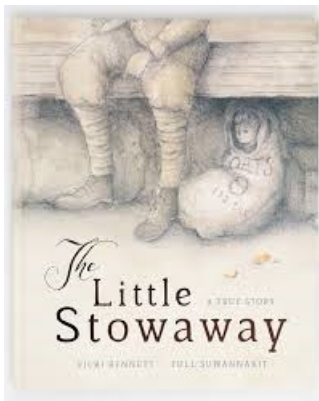
Library News



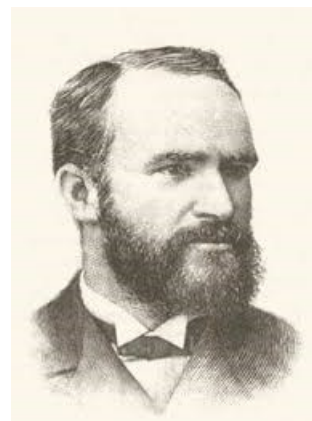
Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3



Stage 3



While we have the Internet and an endless supply of digital books, there is still something to be said for learning to navigate the library. The past few weeks our students of St Nic's have been learning about Mr Melvin Dewey.

Have you ever been to the library and wondered how they keep track of all those books? Well the library has a system called the Dewey Decimal System and it helps organise all those book.

Fiction vs. Non-Fiction

- * **Not real**
- * **Story talk**
- * **Read to enjoy**
- * **Read in order**
- * **Illustrations**
- * **Beginning, middle, end**
- * **Characters, setting**
- * **Problem, solution**

Starts At Eight

- * **Real**
- * **Fact talk**
- * **Read to learn**
- * **Read in any order**
- * **Photos, charts, graphs**
- * **Table of contents**
- * **Index, glossary, bold words, labels**
- * **True information, direction**

Catholic Culture

Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers



To be able to volunteer at school and undertake a range of duties such as, Canteen, Sport and Swimming Carnivals, Excursions and Parent Helpers you are required to register. Please visit the link below and complete this form.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3gev-UgIMuXgi7KzfKHyPwYI8H11jFguqlw7V0c2i5DiTnQ/viewform?c=0&w=1>

2019 Parent Group

Thank you to the new and existing parents who came along to the Parent Group at our new time of 9:10 - 10:10 am. It was great seeing you all back this year. All are welcome. Our next meeting is on Monday 4 March 2019 at 9:10 am.

Mother's Day and Father's Day Stall this year!

This year the Parent Group would like to purchase only from the brochures this year. Therefore there will be no gift donation or mufti day to subsidise these stalls this year. This requires the order form for Mother's and Father's Day Stall Note to be completed very early in order to ensure we can order from the companies in time. This is why the Mother's Day note came home two weeks ago. We will be still offering a \$3, \$6 and \$10 gift. However if orders are not in on time your child may miss out this year due to the change of process.

Staff Development Day (SDD) - Friday 29 March 2019

This will be held in Week 9 on Friday 29 March 2019. There will be no staff from the Primary School on site as our learning is offsite this year. Catholic Out of School Hours Care (COSH) are offering places for this day but all applications must be received by 1pm on Friday 15 March.

Sporting News

Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the 13 students who represented our school at the recent Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival which was held at Glenbrook Pool on Tuesday 19th February. It was fabulous to see all our swimmers try their best, some great sportsmanship behaviour and the sun shining. Our zone team for 2019 was Liam Wamsley, Hayden Kennedy, Nishelle Nagaretnam, Talya Arokianathan, Nevaeh Coulton, Georgia Mills, Julian Falzon, Christian Falzon, Audrey Sullivan, Monique Knight, Isaac Brown, Lara White and Richard Reales.

A special congratulations to Liam Wamsley, Hayden Kennedy, Julian Falzon, Isaac Brown and Talya Arokianathan who progressed through to the Diocesan Swimming Carnival.



Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the 5 students, Liam Wamsley, Hayden Kennedy, Julian Falzon, Isaac Brown and Talya Arokianathan, who represented our school at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival held last Friday 22 February at Blacktown Pool.

All of our swimmers swam very well with Liam Wamsley progressing to the next level, CPS Swimming in 2 events. Good luck Liam!





McCarthy
CATHOLIC COLLEGE
EMU PLAINS
Contemporary
learning for life

OPEN DAY
Tuesday 19 March 2019
5:00-8:00pm

Principal presentation sessions at: 5.15pm 6.00pm 6.45pm

NOW ENROLLING FOR YEAR 7 TO 12



Penrith City Children's Choir

invites you to its first project for 2019

Singing Day

directed by

Lucy McAlary

Boys and girls (7 – 13 years) are invited to join us for this project on

Sunday 17 March 2019

If you love to sing, please join us.

No auditions!

For further information contact the Administrator, Liz Strasser:
0418 202 849 or pccc@penrithcitychoir.com.au

Correspondence

- ☺ Mother's Day Orders
- ☺ Pancake Day Orders
- ☺ COSHC Staff Development Day via email
- ☺ Sacramental Program Yrs 3—6 via email
- ☺

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

Emmaus Catholic College

OPEN NIGHT
Tuesday 5th March, 2019

**Students will be showcasing
what occurs in the learning
environment at**

Emmaus Catholic College

General Information

6pm – 6.30 pm

Tours of the College

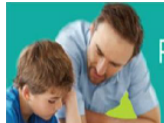
6.30pm – 8.30pm

Venue: Sr Patricia Tully Centre
(Hall)


87-109 Bakers Lane, Kemps Creek

*Enrolment Applications will be
available on the night*

Contact: 02 9670 8300



Parents Representative Council
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



PRC
Diocese of Parramatta
Partners in Learning
Partners in Faith

HELPING YOUR CHILD MANAGE ANXIETYLearn effective way to deal with child anxiety and positive behavior practices
What can you do?
How is the Catholic Education Department Parramatta (CEDP) helping?Our guest speaker for the evening is:
Anoushka Houseman
Clinical Psychologist
Wellbeing Coordinator - Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP)Register FREE now: www.prc.catholic.edu.au**Monday, 4th March 2019**
Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm (2 hours)
(PRC AGM- will be held prior to guest speaker)
St Patrick's Primary School: 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown
Light supper and refreshments will be provided and
a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!
www.prc.catholic.edu.au  @prcparra  @prcparra

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 SPONSOR
Floral Expressions
For details on the School fundraising program
Call Charles Lukasik on 02 9683 1116

