

St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 1 Week 9



Friday 29 March
STAFF
DEVELOPMENT DAY
PUPIL FREE DAY

Monday 1 April
Easter Egg Raffle
Prizes Wrapping
From 9:10am till 11am
All help appreciated!

11am - Principal's Lunch
for Term 1

Thursday 4 April
5pm or 7pm
St Nicholas of Myra
Church
Sacrament of
Reconciliation

Friday 5 April
Backup date for Easter
Egg Wrapping if
required

All Easter Egg Raffle
Tickets due

12pm - Stage 1
Parish Mass

Sunday 7 April
2am - Daylight Saving
Ends

Monday 8 April
2pm - Easter Hat
Parade and Raffle Draw

Tuesday 9 April
9:30 - 12pm
Anzac Service
Penrith Paceway
Stage 3 Students

2:15pm - End of Term
Assembly coordinated
by SRC

Friday 12 April
9:30-11am
Holy Week Reflection
Stations of the Cross

Newsletter Day

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

Staff Development Day (SDD) Tomorrow - Friday 29 March 2019 **There will be no staff onsite as our learning is offsite.**

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

I have read and found Joyce Rupp's book for scriptural reflection and prayers throughout the year titled, "Inviting God In" insightful and challenging. At our Opening School Mass; we introduced our theme to be a rainbow in somebody's cloud - to choose kindness over being right. God's beautiful rainbows offer us a chance; when we see them to make us stop and smile. Rainbows are a sign of hope, positivity and joy; a covenant reminder from God to us. Joyce Rupp, from her book, in this Lenten Season invites us to examine our consciousness in her exert; "Plotting Against Others (p.54)."

Then they said, "Come, let us make plots against Jeremiah." Jeremiah 18:18

The people began to plot against Jeremiah because his message disrupted their neat, secure world even though that world was filled with injustice. They tried to figure out how to get rid of him so his words would not worry them or prick their consciences. People also plotted against Jesus. They wanted to destroy Him because He, too, challenged their complacent lives. We saw this when Pilate sentenced Jesus as well as when Peter denied knowing Jesus.

"Plotting" often involves the human voice; talking, gossiping, urging, suggesting, whispering, messaging, analysing, being secretive, manipulating and hiding the real truth in order to make things go the way one wants them to go. Sometimes the "truth" is our perspective or interpretation, not necessarily fact.

During Lent, we might consider: who we want to change and how we use our voice to try to make that happen and why? Who gets in our way or tends to disrupt our neat and tidy world? What do we secretly wish on them? Are we jealous of what they have not just from a monetary viewpoint but perhaps from their confidence/ personality or what they have been able to achieve? Do we seek their downfall, or try to put them in their place, or force them to come over to our way of thinking? Do we connive and get others to help us by presenting one perspective, half truths, spreading rumours or lies?

Joyce offers a prayer to help us to be mindful, loving and kind.

I will need help today, God,
To watch my mind and my mouth,
To notice what I say and why I say it.
May I speak with kindness and integrity.

Peace and Joy
Anita Knezevic
Principal

You will just never know
what someone is dealing with
behind closed doors. No matter
how happy someone looks, how
loud their laugh is, how big their
smile is, there can still be a level
of hurt that is indescribable. So
be kind. Even when others are
not, choose to be kind.

Andrea Russett

General News

Early Arrivals

We are very concerned by the number of students who are arriving well before 8:30am. There is no teacher supervision before this time. Some children are arriving up to an hour before this time. We understand that there are one off instances for early drop offs for some children. Phone calls will be made to parents of children who are regularly dropped off early. If you are unable to supervise your children until 8:30, we encourage you to enrol them in COSCH which is located on site.



School Fees are now due. If you have paid - thank you. We acknowledge that some families received their statements late. This is due to a processing error within the Catholic Education Department Parramatta (CEDP). We have extended the payment due date to 15 April for those families only.

Music Lessons from The Music House

Sheridan Gaudry from The Music House will be running lessons at lunchtime during Term 2 and has a few places left for Kindergarten and Year 1 students. Lessons will only commence if these places are filled. If you are interested, please contact Sheridan Gaudry via email: sheridansinging@hotmail.com

Week 11 Newsletter

As you are aware the Newsletter is distributed on Thursdays every odd Week (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 etc) each term. In Week 11, it will be published on **Friday 12 April 2019** to ensure all school events are included. Thank you for your understanding.

Policies and Procedures

School's complaints handling procedures is on the school's website, under About Us - Policies and Procedures - Catholic School Community - Complaint Handling Policy. Here you will find where you as parents and community members can go to get information, how to make a complaint, how the complaint will be handled and how the outcome will be communicated to them. These areas are covered in the [CEDP Complaint handling - procedures and guidelines.](#)

Catholic Culture

2019 Kindergarten Dinner- Product of Italy

On Tuesday night, our new Kindergarten parents and Mrs Camilleri, Mrs Kitani, Mrs Khoury, Miss Teulan, Miss Dobrucki and Ms Knezevic had a great evening getting to know each other and sharing in a meal. It was a wonderful dinner and evening of conversations and many laughs. Thank you for making the effort and time to get to know each other!

Fun Food Day - Fish Fingers

Thank you to the parents Claire Fidler and Nicole Rebernik who organised, calculated and prepared Fish Fingers for our fun food day today.

Book Covering

Thank you to all those wonderful families who have covered many books over the past few weeks. I am very impressed with your amazing covering skills....perfect! The children of St Nic's really appreciate all that you do and are always excited seeing new books arrive in our library. **Susan Masters**

Learning

Stage 2 and 3 have been super excited over the past few weeks as the deliveries for our new furniture have been arriving. The new furniture helps the students to work collaboratively with each other as well as providing a choice for students when working independently.

A word from our students about Flexible Seating and how their new furniture enhances their learning.....

Student Feedback:

The new furniture helps with our learning especially in PBL as it helps us to work together as a group.

Jayden

Gives us more options that are comfortable to work in which helps us want to do our learning. **Nash**

We are able to cooperate with our peers when working on a task. It is also really comfortable. **Hayley**

In reading groups we can discuss the work in the booth together and not get distracted by others around us. **Keoni**

It helps us when working in groups as it is a good area to learn in. We are able to discuss our novel as we are all sitting around together. **Talya**

We all have different strategies for working so it is good to work together and see how other people learn and what they record in their books. The booths allow us to have the discussions we need to share our learning as well as working together. **Nithika**



Learning

ICAS Assessments changes

ICAS provides an opportunity for Years 3-6 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. In 2019, ICAS sitting dates for all assessments have moved to Term 3 ICAS Assessments will also be moving online (except Year 3 & 4 Writing) to improve accessibility and faster delivery of results. A note will go home regarding ICAS Assessments early Term 2.

Personalised Plans

A huge thank you to the parents and carers, teachers and students for your active participation in our Personalised Planning meetings. This team approach to the whole child and their learning is paramount to ensure that grow as a learner occurs and is recognised. I would like to thank Miss Dobrucki for the organisation of these meetings, the staff for their preparatory work and the parents for sharing their perspectives as well.

NAPLAN Online

NAPLAN Update We wish to inform all Year 3 and 5 parents that the students will be sitting for NAPLAN practice tests in Week 10. It is one 45-minute omnibus test for both Years 3 & 5. The purpose of the tests is to allow students access to the online assessment platform via the locked down browser so they can experience its functionality and online tools. Whilst students do not need to be computer experts to sit the Online test, this is a key step in getting our students ready for NAPLAN Online.

Please ensure all Year 3 and 5 students have headphones at school next week in order to complete the tests.



Matific

Congratulations to our class winners for the school Matific competition.

Week 8- Kindergarten

Week 9- Year 1

Well done to all students who are completing missions!

	School Year Attendance Level %
2019 School Year	Week 9
Kindergarten	92.8%
Year 1	90%
Year 2	87.5%
Year 3	88.4%
Year 4	81.4%
Year 5	79.1%
Year 6	83.3%
Overall School Attendance Level = 85.5% This is 4.5% below the CEDP target of 90%.	

Attendance

Congratulations to Kindergarten and Year 1 for continuing to lead the way with 90% attendance or over!





Silver Awards

Megan BAC
Alfonzo MICALLEF
Nabhya SINGH
Max HANLEY
Ava BILBOW
Samara COULTON
Marcus RICHARDSON
Scarlett PARKES
Nicholas FALZON
Stephanie OCONNOR
Byron FAAPOI

Ella HERBERT
Nevaeh COULTON
Hailey LAU
Travis HOWDEN
Maryam YAMAYAN
Beau BROWN
Liana TAMER
Allanah WALKER
Amrita KARKI
Nathan HOWDEN
Nash NEILL
Lara WHITE



Gold Awards

Samara COULTON
Marcus RICHARDSON
Stephanie OCONNOR
Byron FAAPOI
Travis HOWDEN
Liana TAMER
Amrita KARKI
Nathan HOWDEN
Lara WHITE

Merit Awards



Max DYKE
Janelle ROSARIO
Jacob ALLEN
Alana DEOLIVEIRA
Molly LEMAIRE
Eden BLASZCZYK
Scarlett PARKES
Sophia YANG
Stephanie OCONNOR
Everlyn STEEN
Sailosi MADRAITABUA
Ella HERBERT
Abby MCINTOSH
Sophie WEARNE
Beau BROWN

William DOUGLAS
Skyla HILL
Weskerr ALAMGIR
Jeremy KENNEDY
Akshata KARTHIKEYAN
Amrita KARKI
Jayden HARVEY
Bonnie RIGO
Sakethram
HARIPRASAAD
Lachlan PERRIN
Te Aroha
WHARERAU-DANIELS
Harmony CULLEY
Marina BROZ
Liam WAMSLEY
Evie GIBBS
Charlene ABELGAS
Skye HALADUS



Cross Country

Awards 22 March



Summer Reading
Challenge

Jacob and Lara
White

What Sleep Is and Why All Kids Need It



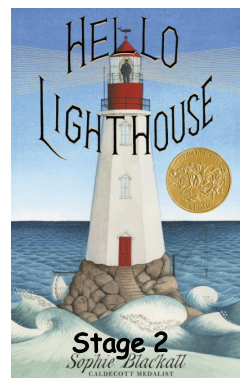
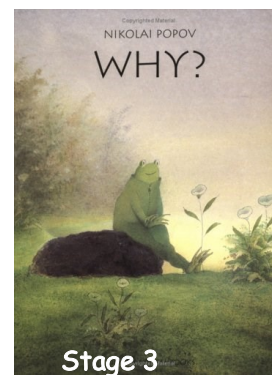
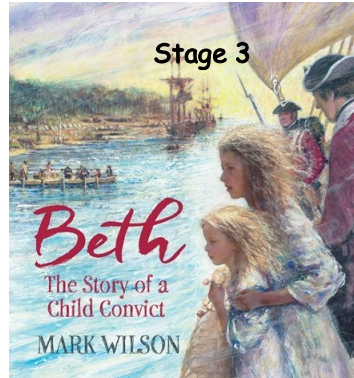
Is your child getting enough sleep?

Good quality sleep helps your child at school with their:

- Learning, memory and concentration
- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Positive behaviour and decision making
- Improves energy levels and promotes healthy growth, metabolism and immune system

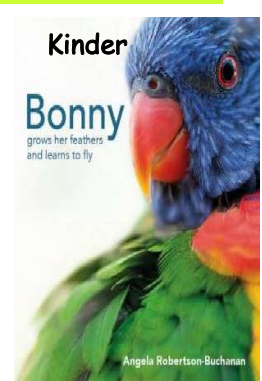
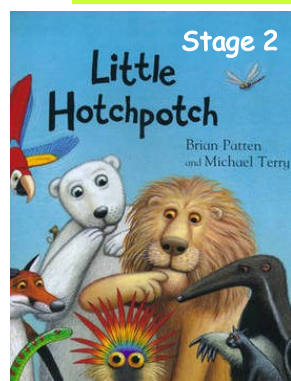
Humans spend about one-third of their life asleep. Sleep is vital for our physical and mental wellbeing.

Despite people thinking of sleep as a time of rest, a lot of important activity occurs in the brain and body during sleep. The quality of the one-third of our lives spent asleep, greatly influences the quality of the two-thirds we are awake.



Look what we have been reading in the Library!

Children big and small loved being to read to.....



Religious Education

Project Compassion

Peter goes to a boarding school in the Solomon Islands which has experienced water shortages for 60 years. Previously, students would have to walk kilometres each day in search of clean water, which was particularly challenging for Peter who is living with a disability. With Caritas Australia's support, the school has created a new reliable water system. With more free time and fewer illnesses caused by dirty water, Peter can fulfil his hope of focusing on his studies, providing him with brighter future.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help young people with disabilities gain access to clean water in the Solomon Islands, providing hope for a brighter future.

Lives change when we all give 100%. You can donate through Parish boxes, school boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Mission Team

Thank you to all the students who have been getting involved in the project compassion activities over the past two weeks. In Week 9, we held a Movie Friday and raised \$95.00. Last week a colouring in competition was held during lunch and fruit breaks where we raised a total of \$52.05. Stay tuned for more exciting news and winners announcements.

Holy Week Celebration

On Friday 12 April, we will be having our annual Holy Week Liturgy/Celebration. This year the Year 6 students will be leading the school through The Stations of the Cross. This will be held on the school playground at 9:30am. Following the Stations each class will have on display the learning they have completed around Holy Week. All parents and carers are more than welcome to attend this important celebration of our faith.

Term 1 Week 11 Newsletter will be emailed on Friday to ensure the Holy Week Celebration is included.

Mrs Nicole Khoury

EASTER HAT PARADE AND RAFFLE



Don't forget to decorate your child's hat ready for the Easter Hat Parade on Monday 8 April commencing 2pm. During the parade Easter Raffle prizes will be drawn. All raffle tickets must be returned by Friday 5 April.

Sporting News

Cross Country

On Thursday 21 March, students competed in the 2019 St Nicholas Cross country. Congratulations to all students who competed and persisted to complete the race. Thank you to Mr Simpson and Mrs Hinchliff for their organisation of the day and to our parent helpers, Mr Brown, Mrs McIntosh, Mrs Steed, Mrs Herrero, Mrs Nagaretnam, Mrs Rebernik, Ms Hampson, Mr Haladus, Mr Wamsley, Mrs Moen, Mrs Falzon, Mrs Kassouf, Mrs Vella, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Evans and Mrs Palma.

The next step is for athletes to represent St Nicholas at the 2019 Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek on Tuesday 7 May 2019.

2019 Zone Cross Country Team

8/9 Girls- Georgia Mills, Allanah Walker, Susan Vella.

8/9 Boys- Travis Howden, Nox Hill, Dominic Kassouf, Ashton Galea, Zachery Herrero.

10 Girls- Skyla Hill, Isabella Surenné, Marina Broz, Lilah Lestal- Briad, Monette Banda.

10 Boys- Kalai Beedle, Nathan Howden, Julian Falzon, Richard Reales.

11 Girls- Monique Knight, Nishelle Nagaretnam, Nithika Pidikiti, Maddison Reynolds, Keeva LeMaire.

11 Boys- Joseph Ezekiel, Bay Hill, Keoni Scrimmager.

12 Girls- Sky Haladus, Elle Riekterk, Charlene Abelgas.

12 Boys- Ruari Brown, Liam Wamsley, Lachlan Criss.

Panthers Adopt a School Visit

Once again in 2019, St Nicholas of Myra is part of the Penrith Panthers Adopt and School visits. Six times this year, players from the first grade squad will visit the students in their classrooms and look at the learning they are completing.

Last Tuesday, Panthers players: James Fischer Harris, Billy Burns and Hame Sele, visited Stage 3 during their literacy block. Players listened to the students read and helped them with some writing. Students also had the opportunity to ask the players some questions and get autographs. Stay tuned for the next stage to have the Panthers share their learning.



Sporting News

NSW CPS Swimming Championships

Yesterday (Wednesday 27 March) Liam Wamsley (Year 6) attended the NSW CPS Swimming Championships held at Homebush Aquatic Centre. Liam swam in the 50m Backstroke and 200m Individual Medley. Liam swam very well and proudly represented St Nicholas of Myra School. Congratulations Liam!

Correspondence

- ☺ Fish Finger Day
- ☺ 2019 Student Residential Address and Other Information collection notice (email)
- ☺ Penrith City Council Vacation Program (email)



32nd Annual Penrith Working TRUCK SHOW
Australia's Best Value Family Day

THE BEST IN COUNTRY MUSIC
ARTIST NETWORK AUSTRALIA

MUSEUM OF FIRE

CHRISTIE LAMB
ADAM ECKERSLEY & BROOKE MCCLYMONT
WOLFE BROTHERS
VIPER CREEK BAND
BRAD BUTCHER

Sunday 31st March 2019
8am - 4pm
Presentations 4pm - 5pm

FUN AND EXCITEMENT! PLUS MUCH MORE!

- Direct access from Penrith Station
- Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (22 rides)
- Concert sound & full stage
- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum

Adults \$35 up to 3 Children FREE with paying adult
Concession \$25 (large people over 18, children under 16, student ID required if over 15 years)

MUSCAT TRAILERS
POWER
CLANCY'S
WALLES

Held at Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith. Phone: (02) 4731 3000
The Museum is a registered charity and all funds raised are directed towards saving our families from the dangers of fire while preserving the heritage of our communities broved.

9th Annual Sydney Classic & Antique Truckshow on 2nd June, 2019 (See website for more details)

Follow us on [e](#) [f](#) [www.pwts.com.au](#)

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