

# St Nicholas of Myra School

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

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Term 1 Week 3



## Week 4

Student Led  
Conferences

Mon 18 to Thurs 21  
Feb at your nominated  
time

## Mon 18 Feb

Years 5 & 6—  
Presentations from  
McCarthy College,  
St Columbus,  
St Dominics and  
Caroline Chisholm

## Tues 19 Feb

Nepean Zone  
Swimming  
Good luck team!

8:30am

Homework Group in  
Stage 2

## Fri 22 Feb

Diocesan Swimming  
Carnival

12pm - Parish Mass  
Stage 2

2:30 pm - Assembly  
hosted by Stage 3

## Tues 26 Feb

7pm—St Nicholas of  
Myra Church  
Parent Only Meeting  
for Sacrament of  
Reconciliation

## Fri 1 March

Mother's Day Orders  
Due

Year 6 Polo Shirt  
Orders Due

12pm - Parish Mass  
Stage 1

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

Thank you for a wonderful start to Term 1 2019, your support in bringing your students to their interviews is very much appreciated.

This year we welcome back Father Joe as Parish Priest and thank him for the great Opening Mass. Our theme today is **'Be a Rainbow in Someone else's Cloud,'** choose to be kind and in the moments when it's difficult; breath, rest and be kind!

Thank you to Stage 2 Parents/ Carers for providing the yummy morning tea after our faith celebration. Thank you to Nicole Rebernik, Janelle Walker, Rosemary Polistina, Kim Steen, Felicia Meyer and Cath Strong for setting up, serving and cleaning up after the morning tea.

I would like to especially welcome the new members of our school community. I welcome our Kindergarten students who have quickly settled and the other children new to the school and their families. We welcome our new teachers, Miss Conolly, Miss Dobrucki, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Kingdom, Mr McMahon, Mrs Kitani and Mrs Sinclair. Thank you for joining our community, we look forward to sharing the coming year with each other.

Today, we acknowledged our school leaders and they committed themselves to do their best to serve our school community. Let 2019 be a year where we think of others and respect each other as we Live, Love and Learn in Christ.

Each fortnight I will share a kindness quote, image, paragraph to inspire us to keep choosing kindness!

Peace and Joy  
Anita Knezevic  
Principal



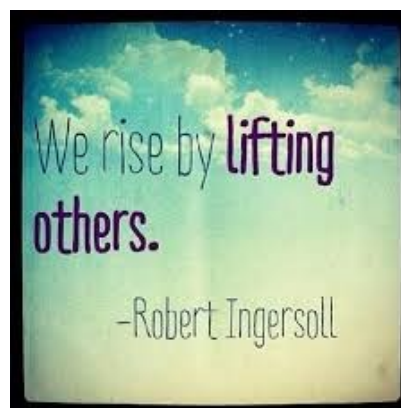
BREATHE



REST



BE KIND



## 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. COSHC will be available. An application form will be available for enrolment for the day.

## 2019 School Leadership Teams

Congratulations to our 2019.....

### School Leaders:

Ellie Walker, Tayla Arokianathan, Paul Suluape and Nithika Pidikiti.

### Sports Leaders:

Freeman: Isaac Brown and Monique Knight

Bradman: Skye Haladus and Bay Hill

Hackett: Peter Xiberras and Savannah Rivadeneira

### Student Representative Council for:

Year 1 - Scarlett Parkes

Year 2 - Lola Gibbs

Year 3 - Beau Brown

Year 4 - Ronan Carter

Year 5 Gold - Maddison Reynolds

Year 5 Blue - Hayley Teuma

Year 6 on behalf of Kindergarten - Hayden Kennedy

### Mission Team;

Year 1 - Knox Currey

Year 2 - Holly Rigo

Year 3 - Georgia Mills

Year 4 - Lolah Lestal-Braid

Year 5 Gold - Nishelle Nagaretnam and Lachlan Perrin

Year 5 Blue - Ethan Joines and Audrey Sullivan

Year 6 on behalf of Kindergarten - Evie Gibbs and Shelby Bac



## Student Led Conferences


Student Led Conferences (SLC) will take place during Week 4. Students and parents both need to attend the conferences. The purpose of SLC is to open the eyes of students to their own learning and to help them take personal responsibility for their progress.

Our students must take an active role and realise that learning at school is important and has value to grow who they are as well as to maximize their potential for success. In preparing for a SLC, students see how their strengths, weaknesses and behaviours can affect them as learners, thus allowing them to take more responsibility for, and control over, their achievement in school. SLC are an experience that can also improve the communication patterns of both students and parents. In a SLC, students learn how to reflect on their learning, evaluate their progress and communicate this information to their parents. Parents learn how to listen to their children, how to encourage growth and how to best help their student with specific problems.

At their SLC, students will share their learning goals with their parents. Their goals have been discussed and co-constructed with their teachers. These goals can and will change based on the child's learning throughout the year.

In Term 2, students will be leading the SLC and explaining to you what they have been doing in Literacy and Numeracy this year. Your child will be collecting information throughout the year and will be preparing to present to you these efforts and achievements. The teacher will also be at each SLC to offer their perspectives on the work and to answer any questions you have.

If you have not yet booked a time please do so by visiting [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow the 3 simple steps outlined below. **Bookings OPEN Monday 11 February 2019 and close Wednesday 20 February 2019 at 9am.**



The screenshot shows the 'School event code' section with a green arrow pointing down to a box containing 'hxs36' and a 'Go' button. To the right, a text box says 'Enter THIS school EVENT CODE. Then follow the 3 simple steps.' Below this are three numbered steps: 1. 'Enter your details' with a person icon, 2. 'Choose teachers' with a teacher icon, and 3. 'Choose times' with a calendar icon showing times 4:30, 4:40, and 4:50. At the bottom, an email icon is next to a text box that says: 'When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.'

## 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)





# Learning

## Action Plans

Each year our staff analyse data sets to inform our next year's goals and action plans. Below is our focus in Religion (RE), English (English) and Mathematics (Maths) for 2019.

**RE:** For Students to deepen their understanding of Jesus by making connections to the spiritual sense through scripture.

**English:** For all students to know, apply and transfer a range of skills and strategies when reading and writing in all KLAs.

**Maths:** For all students to know and transfer their multiplicative thinking and reasoning skills to solve problems efficiently.

## Personalised Plans (PPs Meetings)

These Personalised Planning meetings will occur later this term. A letter will be sent home to invite you to attend and have input into these meetings later this term.

## Procedures and Protocols

### *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 an email [stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stnicholas@parra.catholic.edu.au) or note. 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 emailing the school. The ladies in the office will pass on the message to the relevant staff member for you.



## IT User Agreements

Each time a student enters a new stage, they are required to complete a ICT user agreement. These guidelines support safe and responsible use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and social media. These guidelines are for both students and parents. Please read over these with your child and send back the completed agreement to the class teacher.

## 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](mailto: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 circumstance with See Saw.

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

**Let's start the year being a rainbow in the car park Chatter / in the cyberspace (Messaging/ Facebook) or any other means of communication.**

The purpose of a school community is to bring people together, like the quote on the front of the newsletter it should be a positive and safe environment that promotes and forms healthy relationships between parents and your children. Communication in its very nature is neutral, it is how and the purpose by which we use this communication that can have a positive / negative impact.

The car park is not a place to air grievances or to "talk" about people or the school; whether that be other students, staff, parents etc. I have included in this newsletter the proper process for you to bring forward YOUR concerns about YOUR child. Even after this discussion about your child it is not wise to share what was said in those meetings and to place this information into another context. Otherwise people are gossiping or spreading rumours and we all know that often ends in unnecessary hurt and inaccurate information which often snowballs.

For accurate information - read this newsletter, make an appointment to speak with your teacher, come to Parent Group and ask questions about the school.

Thank you to the wonderful parents who are positive, who don't participate in speaking of or about others and who come and follow the correct procedure about THEIR child/ren. It is very much appreciated and helps to strengthen positive partnerships between home and school.

### **Attendance**

School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools. Every day of attendance adds to a student's achievement and success at school. This year, there has been a focus on attendance across the diocese. This focus will continue in 2019 in order to raise awareness about the importance of attendance and to promote a healthy attendance culture. We are aiming for *above 90% attendance*.



St Nicholas Attendance H.E.R.O awards will continue in 2019. H.E.R.O stands for Here Everyday, Ready On time. Students will be recognised twice a term for perfect attendance (no partial or full absences). For example, in a ten week term, students will receive an award if they have 100% attendance in weeks 1-5 and weeks 6-10. These students will also be acknowledged in Newsletters.

We realise some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. It is for this reason that we have made the Attendance H.E.R.O awards to recognise attendance for half of the term, rather than based on the attendance of a whole term.

### **Transport Notice - A note from Busways - Opal Card**

As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card. All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare. Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses. This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers. To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go online to [www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/](http://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/) Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

### **School Fees**

Statements will be posted shortly. Please note that Term 1 fees are due 20 March 2019. If you require assistance please contact Rhonda Shirvington in the office on 4752 3300.

## 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.

### School Bags

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 backpack is part of the school uniform and all students must be using these. These are available for purchase at the school office \$45. Preloved second hand bags are also available from the office for \$10.



### School Shoes

As per our uniform policy, girls and boys are required to wear **traditional style black leather school shoes** which can be polished for the summer and winter uniform. The leather shoes can either be lace up or velcro. **Black joggers/trainer style** shoes are unacceptable shoes to be worn with the school uniform. Please keep this in mind when you are purchasing school shoes for 2019.



Acceptable Sport Shoes ✓



Unacceptable Sport Shoes ✗

### Sport Shoes

On sport days, students are able to wear sport shoes of any colour, as long as they are sport shoes. **Slip on shoes, football boots, skate shoes, Vans, Converse or canvas shoes of any colour are not acceptable sport shoes.** As a guide for parents and students please see the pictures below.



Acceptable Sport Shoes ✓



Unacceptable Sport Shoes ✗

**Nail Polish**—Please ensure that all nail polish is off during the school week.

### Uniform Slips

Students who come to school in the wrong uniform or missing parts of their uniform will receive a uniform slip note. This note will identify what aspect of the uniform is not correct or missing. This will need to be signed by parents and returned to school the following day. The number of slips sent home per child will be tracked by your child's teacher.

# Catholic Culture

## 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. We spoke about Fun Food Days, Term 1 events as well as Flexible Seating. All are welcome and our next meeting is on Monday 4 March 2019 at 9:10am.

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

This year the Parent Group would like to purchase only from the brochures. 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 is coming home this week. We will be still offering a \$3, \$6 and \$10 gift. However if orders are not in on time each term your child may miss out this year due to the change of process.

# Religious Education

## Prayer For The Beginning Of The New School Year

*Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather once again as your community of believers.*

*We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed in us through the summer months.*

*We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives.*

*Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith. Help us to fulfil Your hope for us with honest intentions and works of faith.*

*Let us be gentle with ourselves and bring laughter, joy and love to others.*

*We ask this in Your name.*

*Amen*

## Sacramental Program - Reconciliation

As a school we work closely with the Parish during the Sacramental Program. It is wonderful each year to watch our students celebrate their sacraments. Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will commence with a parent meeting on Tuesday 26 February 2019 at 7.00pm. If you wish to enrol your child in this program it is essential that at least one parent/carer attend. This meeting will be held in the Church. To be eligible for First Reconciliation, children must be in Year 3 or above and must be baptised. If you have any questions please see Mrs Khoury or Colleen at St Nicholas Parish Ph: 4721 2509

## Prayer Bags

At St Nicholas of Myra each class has a prayer bag that is sent home with one student each week. We ask that you make sure all items in the prayer bag are returned each week to the class. Thank you.

## Understanding Faith Online Resource

We are able to use an online resource to support our Religious Education program. Students do have access to this site at home as well as at school.

Why not check it out for yourselves. <https://primary.understandingfaith.edu.au/log-in>

**username:** ceo.parra.1896

**password:** ceo.2019.parra

Mrs Khoury

Religious Education Coordinator

# Sporting News

## **2019 Sport Dates**

In 2019 we have a range of exciting sporting events for the students to participate in. We welcome any support with Parents/ Carer's coaching our sporting gala teams. This year the following Gala Days are available to Stage 2 and 3 students. These Gala Days are:

### **CEDP Gala Days**

#### **Stage 3**

Boys and Girls Touch Football- Friday 27 September

Girls Soccer- Wednesday 29 May

Boys Soccer- Wednesday 19 June

Boys and Girls Basketball- Wednesday 30 October

Gymnastics- Friday 15 November

#### **Stage 2**

Boys and Girls Soccer- Wednesday 26 June

Boys and Girls Touch Football- Friday 13 September

Boys and Girls Basketball- Wednesday 30 October

Gymnastics- Friday 15 November

### **School Based Events**

Cross Country- Thursday 21 March

Cross Country Back Up- Thursday 28 March

Athletics Carnival - Wednesday 29 May

Athletics Carnival Back Up - Wednesday 5 June

School Swimming Program- Monday 2 December- Friday 6 December

Swimming Carnival - Tuesday 17 December

Penrith Panthers Adopt-a-school visits- Various dates throughout the year

### **CEDP Events**

Nepean Zone Swimming Carnival- Tuesday 19 February

Diocesan Swimming- Friday 22 February

Diocesan Cross Country- Tuesday 7 May

Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival- Friday 9 August

Diocesan Athletics- Friday 23 August

## **Physical Education for Stages and Sport Days**

**Early Stage 1- Tuesday and Wednesday**

**Stage 1- Tuesday and Wednesday**

**Stage 2- Tuesday and Thursday**

**Stage 3- Tuesday and Thursday**



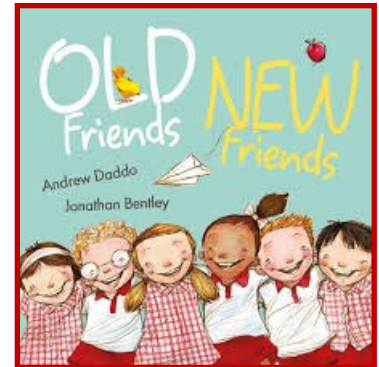
# Library News

Each week students visit the library. This is a time where we share a book and children have the opportunity to borrow. We encourage all children to borrow a book. These books are read for pleasure and also used for their independent reading in class.

Please send your child to school with a library bag of some sort.

Could we kindly ask you to look at home for books, We still have many overdue books outstanding.

## BOOK OF THE WEEK



### Library Days

Kinder and Stage 2 - Wednesday

Stage 1 - Thursday

Stage 3 - Thursday



## The simplest way

... to pack a healthy lunch box

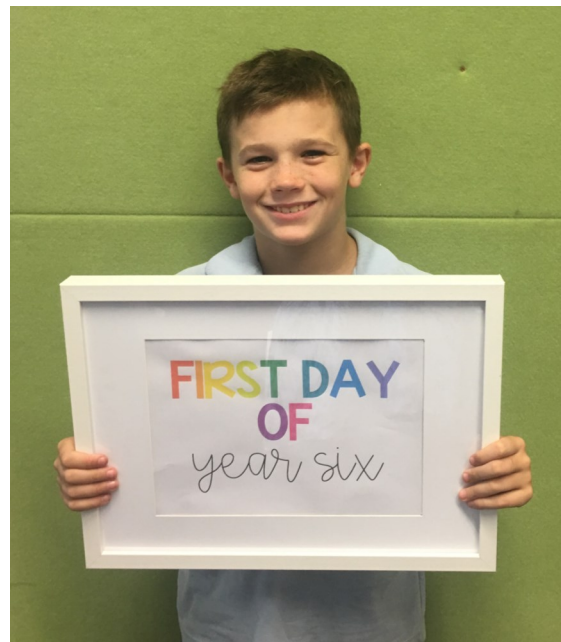
The average school child will eat more than 2,500 lunches during their 13 years at school.



Cancer Council's website [healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au) is a one-stop-shop for everything families need to know about packing a healthy lunch box.

Parents will find information on the five food groups, what constitutes a healthy lunch box, sandwich alternatives, sandwich filling ideas, snack ideas, swaps for unhealthy snack foods, recipes and tips. The website features an [interactive healthy lunch box builder](http://healthylunchbox.com.au) where parents can get their kids involved in planning the lunch box and choosing foods they will eat and enjoy.

[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



## Correspondence

- ☺ Book Club
- ☺ Book covering
- ☺ IT User Agreements
- ☺ Student Led Conferences
- ☺ Mother's Day Stall Pre-order form

## 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

## 2020 ENROLMENTS

FOR GIRLS YEARS 7-12

Open Night: Monday 11th March 2019

5:30pm - 7:30pm

CAROLINE  
CHISHOLM  
COLLEGE



.....  
Come along and see for yourself why girls are  
so happy to learn at Caroline Chisholm College.  
.....

**Tours of the college: 5:30 - 7:30pm**

**Principal's information sessions:  
6pm & 7pm**

Further information can be obtained on our  
website and Facebook pages.

**[www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cccglenmorepark.nsw.edu.au)**

**90-98 The Lakes Drive Glenmore Park**

Enrolment packages can be obtained by  
contacting the college on:

**4737 5500**

Follow us on  





St Dominic's College

# Open Day 2019

Sunday, 3rd March

**You are invited to join us for our Annual Open Day at the College from 10:00am to 2:30pm.**

**The morning session starts at 10:00am, followed by a tour of the College at 10:30am.**

**The afternoon session starts at 12:30pm, followed by a tour of the College at 1:00pm.**

St Dominic's College  
54 - 94 Gascoigne Street Kingswood NSW 2747  
Ph: 02 4731 1933  
Email: [info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@stdominics.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stdominics.nsw.edu.au)



## ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

### Year 7, 2020 Information Evening

**Wednesday 27th February, 2019**

**Session 1:**

3.15pm Register for tour  
3.30pm Tour of the facilities  
4.30 - 5.00pm Address by the Principal

**Session 2:**

5.15pm Register for tour  
5.30pm Tour of the facilities  
6.30 - 7.00pm Address by the Principal

- Tours will begin at 3.30 and 5.30pm *sharp* to enable visitors to view all of the College facilities.
- Prospectus and enrolment application forms will be available on the night.

Enquiries: Sandra O'Brien, Enrolments Secretary 4754 8907

St Columba's Catholic College 168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood 2777  
Phone: (02) 4754 8900 Email: [stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stcolumbas@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
Web: [www.stcolumbaspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stcolumbaspringwood.catholic.edu.au)



# McCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

75 Mackellar Street, Emu Plains

Enrolling now for 2020

**Open Evening: Tuesday 19 March 2019**

**Time: 5.00pm to 8.00pm**

Meet the Principal, staff and student leaders

Tours of the College facilities

Enrolment packages available

Presentations at 5.15pm, 6.00pm and 6.45pm

Enquiries: 4728 8100

Like us on Facebook: McCarthyCC

Website: [www.mccarthyemuplains.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mccarthyemuplains.catholic.edu.au)

**INNOVATION**  
IS IN OUR **DNA**

**OPEN DAY**

Tuesday 5th March 2019

First tour 4pm

Second tour 5pm



XAVIER COLLEGE



*Truth Through Learning*