

# St Nicholas of Myra School

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Term 4 Week 7



Friday 29 Nov  
12:10pm

Parish Mass  
Stage 3 & Early  
Stage 1 (Kindy)

2:30pm  
Whole School  
Assembly  
Coordinated by  
Stage 2

Monday 2 Dec -  
Friday 6 Dec  
Swim School  
All Students

Friday 6 Dec  
5pm  
Christmas  
Celebration BBQ  
6:30pm - 8pm  
Concert

Tuesday 10 Dec  
Reports Go Home

Thursday 12 Dec  
Fun Food Day  
Sweet Ice Cream  
Treat  
Newsletter Day

Friday 13 Dec  
9:30am - End of  
Year Mass (Church)  
10:45am -  
Graduation  
Ceremony (Hall)

11:50—1:10pm  
Talent Quest  
1:30pm—Awards  
Assembly (Church)

6pm - Year 6  
Graduation Dinner

Dear St Nicholas of Myra Families,

I would personally like to thank so many of you for your sympathy emails, cards and prayers during this sad and very difficult time for my family and I, particularly as we lead up to Christmas. I was very moved and humbly touched by the flowers from the Parents and the Parent Group and gifts from individual families.

I do believe it was your prayers of comfort and Jesus' presence which enabled me to read my Eulogy to my Dad. Thank you for your kindness during this time to myself but also in supporting the school, staff and Leadership Team. I would particularly like to thank Rebecca Teulan for being the acting Principal during my absence.

This Week and Week 9s newsletters will focus on Advent, you may wish to use one reflection for each week of Advent with your families during the four weeks of waiting and preparing for the coming of Jesus.

## **Week 1 ADVENT - WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?**

PRAYER: God, our Father, help is to prepare our hearts this Advent as we wait to receive the gift of Your Son.

Reflection 1:

"We all know what it's like to wait.

- We wait at traffic lights or in traffic jams.
- We wait for loved ones or colleagues at airports and bus stops/railway stations.
- We wait for the birth of a child or for someone to pass.

### ***Waiting provokes a wide range of emotions.***

We can be frustrated and angry, excited or hopeful. Waiting always increases our awareness that we are not in control, we can't always change things, we can't dictate the pace and the outcomes.

### ***We are dependent.***

So waiting has enormous potential for growth in faith and hope."

Author Uncertain.

PAUSE to reflect.

Prayer:

As we contemplate the arrival of Your Son, teach us to value and rejoice in the faith that is Your gift to us. Strengthen our hearts that His arrival will reveal Your presence to us everything we experience in our daily life. Amen

## **Week 2 ADVENT - A TIME TO CONVERT**

Reflection 2:

"It is not those who say to Me,  
'Lord, Lord, who will enter the Kingdom of  
Heaven, but the person who does the will of  
My Father in Heaven.' Matthew 7:21



Advent is a time for conversion, conversion is a grace that only God can give.

What is the grace of conversion that God is offering me today?

Where do God's will and word need to become reality in my life, rather than just me talking about it and leaving it to God in my prayers?

PAUSE to reflect

Prayer: I rely on You to love me deeply. Lead me to see, through Your love, the changes I need to make in my life. Break into my life and help me to move forward, perhaps along untravelled paths to new aspects of my life that help me to mirror You to others. Amen

Peace and Joy  
Anita Knezevic  
Principal

### 2019 & 2020 Parent Group

Thank you to all of the 2019 Parent Group for all of your support, wisdom and trust as we lead our school into different innovative learning experiences to new heights (every pun intended) this year. We will formally thank you at our End of Year Assembly.

I would like to thank the following people for raising their hand to assist with our work together in 2020:

- Chairperson: Nicole Rebernik
- Early Stage 1 Representative: **Volunteer Needed**
- Stage 1 Representative: Sarah Lestal and **another Volunteer Needed**
- Stage 2 Representative: Nicole Rebernik and Clare Fidler
- Stage 3 Representative: Sarah Lestal and Helena Steed
- Canteen Coordinator: **Volunteer Needed**

### Parent Helper Thank You Breakfast

On Wednesday 20 November 2019, we hosted and waited on our Parents as a huge THANK YOU! for all of your time, effort and helping hands at our "Parent Helper Thank You Breakfast." It was great to say thanks and spend time sharing a meal and chatting. Thank you to all of the Parent / Grandparent Helpers throughout this year!



# General News

## Important Term 4 Dates:

We emailed these important school date as the end of Term 3 as we know Term 4 is always full of learning and celebrations; please if you haven't already add these important dates listed below to your calendars.

### Week 8

- Swim School/Program (for one week) Monday 2 - Friday 6 December
- **St Nicholas of Myra Feast Day - Christmas Concert Friday 6 December**
  - BBQ starts from 5pm
  - Christmas Concert from 6:30 pm concluding with our Christmas Extraordinary Raffle
  - We will also be having some silent auction items; NSW State of Origin Shirt and Shorts, Auskick GWS Ball and Bunnings football signed by Ivan Cleary.

### Week 9

- **Friday 13 December 2019**
  - End of Year / Graduation Mass 9:30 am in the Church
  - Graduation Ceremony Friday 13 December begins after the Mass in the school hall.
  - Talent Quest—11:45am
  - End of Year Awards Ceremony Friday 13 December 1:30 pm in the Church

### Week 10

- Swimming Carnival Tuesday 17 December 2019

### ***Last day for Students Wednesday 18 December 2019***

Our end of year Christmas concert, to be held on Friday 6 December, is fast approaching. During our Creative Arts time each week, students have been busily preparing to celebrate as school community. This year the children will be retelling the birth of Jesus through the eyes of the often forgotten Innkeeper. He was woken up throughout the night by visitors wanting to meet our Saviour and proceeded to send the visitors to the stable as there was no room at the Inn. Each grade will retell part of the story through song, guided by our welcoming hosts and humble Innkeeper. Keep an eye out for our talented year 6 actors as they help bring the story to life. We look forward to seeing you in the night.

Mrs Clarke  
Creative Arts

## Swim School

The school swimming program, held at Nepean Aquatic Centre, is taking place in Week 8 of Term 4 (Monday 02/12/19 to Friday 06/12/19).

This is a change in structure to previous years where the students attended a two week program with shorter lessons. The program is run by fully trained instructors who are employed by Nepean Swim and Fitness.

During the program, students will be assessed in regards to their ability and placed into specific groups catering for their needs, with all lessons running for 60 minutes.

Teachers will be attending and also offer supervision at the pool as well as organising students at school and on the return journey. Students will be travelling to and from the pool by bus and this is included in the cost of the program. Please find below an outline of departure and arrival times as well as what your child/children will be required to wear and bring to school each day.



**Dates: Monday 2 December – Friday 6 December 2019**

**2019 Itinerary: School – Nepean Aquatic Centre - School**

**School Means of Transport: Bus**

	Leave School	Return to School
K-2	11:50am (Lesson 12:25 pm-1:25 pm)	2:00 pm
3-6	12:50pm (Lesson 1:30 pm-2:30 pm)	3:00 pm

Students are to wear their swimmers to school, with their school uniform over the top.

Students need to bring to school, in a separate bag; underwear to change into, a t-shirt to wear to the pool over swimmers, towel, goggles (if desired) and thongs (or the like) as footwear must be worn to the pool.

Students will change out of their wet swimmers and back into their underwear and school uniform upon returning to school.

Please note that a plastic bag is needed to place in wet items.

Please ensure all items worn to school and brought in the bag are labelled – including shoes, socks, underwear, towel and goggles.

Sun block is not required as the centre is an indoor facility.

All students are required to dress and undress themselves so please practise and encourage independence at home.

***Please Label EVERYTHING!***



# Extra Curricular and Learning

## Year 4 and Year 5 Leadership Day

On Tuesday 26 November, Year 4 and 5 participated in the 2020 Stage 3 Leadership Day. The day involved students investigating the qualities of a leader through a range of leadership activities. Some activities included:

### **Focus Rings**

In Groups of 10, students needed to work together to place a ring over a small piece of wood. Each ring had a 3 metre rope attached and students were only able to touch the end of the rope. Once they were successful, a tennis ball was added onto the rope. A new obstacle was added each time the team was successful.

Our main learning was that Leadership is never finished and new challenges are always added.



### **Leadership Metaphors**

Students were given a newspaper, scissors and glue stick. They needed to find words, phrases or pictures that showed what leadership meant to them. They needed to explain their word so other understood when they saw their image. Our main learning was that leadership means a range of different things to different people.



### **Leadership Limbo**

We played limbo, but the bar was placed in a range of different ways. We had the choice of how we passed the bar. Our main learning was that leader face a range of different situations and we find creative ways to solve them.



### Leadership Tic Tac Toe

Boys and girls sat on either side and one at a time, they sat in a square. The objective was to make three in a row. The catch, if someone made a noise, they lost their turn. In the end every played had a go and there was no limit to how many people could sit in a square. Our main learning was that success looks very different and we can all win if we work towards a common goal.



### Leadership Tag

The teachers were given pool noodles and had to tag the students. The only way a student could get back was if five fellow students joined together to put them back into the game. Our main learning was that when we help each other, we all complete a little work for a lot of success.



### Leadership Reflections and Learning

We spent some time completing a range of sentence stems about leadership. They ranged from "What is a leader..." to "the hardest thing about a leader is ...". Our main learning was that we are all leaders.



### Student Responses

#### What did I learn about Leadership?

Leadership isn't that you tell people what to do.  
Domenic

Leaders don't just lead, they help.  
Chelsea

Leaders are nice to each other.  
Gabriel

Leaders don't control, they guide.  
Isabel

Leaders not only work together, they form a team. They always respect each other and show good sportsmanship.  
Julian





# Attendance Awards Weeks 1—5

Congratulations to the following students who achieved a H.E.R.O  
(Here Everyday, Ready Ontime)



Amos INGEGNERI
Andros SOURLAS
Annabella CHRISTIE
Esha NATH
John WOOD
Max DYKE
Olivia ANDERSON
Olivia ARMITSTEAD
Thomas FALZON
Tvaritha VINOTHKUMAR
Avaleigh FAUCETT
Cindy GUO
Deante MERENDA
Eliza KASSOUF
Gagana PIDIKITI
Jadey LAU
Max HANLEY
Michael NAGARETNAM
Molly LEMAIRE
Nicholas FALZON
Simone HARVEY
Sophia YANG
Amelia FIDLER
Deng GARANG
Hailey LAU
Holly RIGO
Isaac JOINES
Rishi RENJU
Zain DANIL
Amisha NAGARETNAM
Beau BROWN
Christian FALZON
Jacob WHITE
Sofia CAMPORA-KAAL
William DOUGLAS
Akshata KARTHIKEYAN
Aubrey PARKER
Benjamin DELA PAZ
Brendan LESLIE
Jeremy KENNEDY
Mark DANIL
Matthew FIDLER

Audrey SULLIVAN
Bonnie RIGO
Ethan JOINES
Joseph EZEKIEL
Joyce FAWZY
Lara WHITE
Mark FAWZY
Rachel IDRIS
Sakethram HARIPRASAAD
Ellie MOEN
Julian FALZON
Keeva LEMAIRE

Maddison REYNOLDS
Monette BANDA
Nishelle NAGARETNAM
Raymin LESLIE
Richard REALES
Ryan CAMPORA-KAAL
Benedict DELA PAZ
Hayden KENNEDY
Nicholas STEED
Nithika PIDIKITI
Savannah RIVADENEIRA
Shelby BAC

every learner every day

*Truth Through Learning*

## Attendance

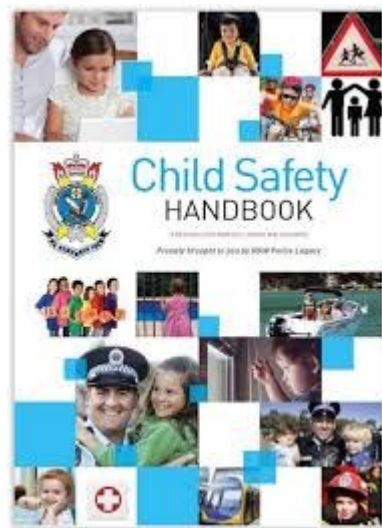
Our current attendance level is 82%. Our goal of 90% so the following tips will assist us in reaching our goal:

- Send your child to school every day unless they are sick.
- Develop good sleep and morning routines.
- Schedule appointments outside of school hours.
- Avoid taking holidays during the school term.



## Sausage Sizzle & Juice Combo - Year 6 Graduation Fundraiser

Thank you to our Year 6 Parent Coordinators, Helena Steed and Rosie Brown for organising this Year 6 fundraiser held on Friday 22 November. Thank you to all helpers on the day, BBQ chef, Andrew Brown and helpers, Cath Strong, Randa Abdou, Rosie Brown and Helena Steed who ensured our children were served up their sausage sizzle sandwich. Thank you to the Steed Family for donating the sausages. Year 6 were able to raise \$453.00



A new edition of the safety resource is now available online. The current edition has been updated with digital/online safety, light rail safety, metro train safety, dental health, diabetes, etc. It is recommended that school principals bring this important information source to the attention of their school community.

The Child Safety Handbook App has also been produced by NSW Police Legacy and includes everything we need as a community to protect our children. From preventative measures at home to safety outdoors, from cyber safety to dealing with peer pressures. This App is a resource for every family and school community. The app can be downloaded via the Apple store, Google Play or Amazon Kindle.

Link to the digital handbook - [NSW Police Legacy Child Safety Handbook](#)

Here is also a link to the [childsafetyhub.com.au](http://childsafetyhub.com.au) website with assets that can be used - <http://nsw.childsafetyhub.com.au/downloads/>

Please support your child in returning all their books to the Library and readers to the classroom. All remaining books should be returned by Friday 6 December.

Reminder notices will be sent home shortly.





## 2020 Diocesan School Fees

22 November 2019

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the Annual Diocesan fees schedule for 2020. The new schedule includes a very modest 1.5% increase on the fees from 2019, a reflection of Bishop Vincent Long's aim of making our Catholic schools as affordable as possible for families.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 1.5% increase. School-based fees cover the costs of things such as technology and school administration.

School fees are generally billed in instalments during Terms 1, 2 and 3. The fee is made up of three main parts:

### 1. Diocesan tuition fee

These are set by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and are the same for every school. There are **significant sibling discounts** for families with more than one child at a Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta school (it does not have to be the same school).

Those discounts and a list of the annual Diocesan tuition fees for 2020 are outlined below:

#### 2020 Diocesan tuition fee schedule (per year)

	1 <sup>st</sup> child (100%)	2 <sup>nd</sup> child (75%)	3 <sup>rd</sup> child (50%)	4 <sup>th</sup> Child (0%)
Kindergarten	\$1,224	\$918	\$612	No fee
Years 1 – 6	\$1,581	\$1,185	\$792	No fee
Years 7 – 8	\$2,190	\$1,644	\$1,095	No fee
Years 9 – 10	\$2,430	\$1,824	\$1,215	No fee
Years 11 – 12	\$3,102	\$2,328	\$1,551	No fee

### 2. Diocesan Building Levy

This fee is set by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and is the same for every school. The annual Diocesan building levy for 2020 is \$822. This is an increase of 2% from 2019. This increase is slightly higher than the tuition fee increase of 1.5% as governments do not provide sufficient capital funding for our school provisioning program.

**There is only one Diocesan building levy per family** with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College, Kingswood and it is billed in instalments over the first 3 terms of the year. A sibling discount for the building levy of 50% applies to families with children within the bordering Archdiocese of Sydney and Dioceses of Wollongong and Broken Bay.

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD

### 3. School-based fees

These are determined by the school according to the needs of that school and billable for each child. School-based fees are often called 'resource fees' or 'activity fees'. These fees help schools cover the costs of things like teaching resources, technology, excursions etc.

This fee varies between schools. Please contact the school to find out more about their school-based fees.

Although it varies from school to school, as a guide, the Diocesan tuition fee represents roughly half the overall fee per year.

#### Here's how we can help

We appreciate that from time to time, some families experience financial challenges. As well as sibling discounts, confidential fee support is available through the following means:

- **Flexible payment options**

Families enrolled in CEDP schools are offered flexible payment options at the start of each year. These options provide opportunities to select a payment plan that best suits you. Payments can be made by direct debit on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis at no additional charge.

- **Fee assistance**

We understand financial circumstances can change and that these changes can impact on families. Please speak with your school principal confidentially if your family experiences financial difficulty or hardship so an appropriate arrangement can be made.

- **Bishop Manning Support Fund**

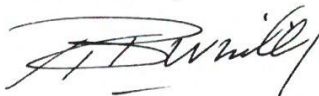
In addition to fee assistance programs, the Bishop Manning Support Fund is available to families who experience challenges meeting the cost of school fees due to financial hardship. Further information is available at the [Bishop Manning Support Fund](#) page of the CEDP website.

- **Byallawa Co-contribution Scheme**

The Byallawa co-contribution scheme provides assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to ensure a quality Catholic education is affordable and accessible. Further information is available on our [Byallawa Co-contribution Scheme](#) page of the CEDP website.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Catholic schools.

Yours sincerely



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

LEARNING FOR TODAY'S WORLD



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9840 5600



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## Correspondence

☺ Swimming Carnival 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



St Nicholas of Myra will be holding a 'Mini' Book Fair at our Christmas Concert.

All proceeds from the sale of books go directly to our school.

Prices will range from \$3-\$10