

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

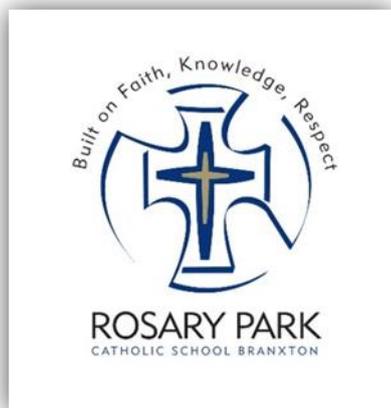
**Term 4 Week 8 2020**  
**Wednesday 1st December**

Rosary Park Catholic School Station Street, Branxton NSW 2335

P: (02) 4938 1541 E: [admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au)

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

PASSWORD: BRX 2335



*We acknowledge the Wonnarua people-the first custodians of this land*

Built on Faith, Knowledge, Respect

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Weekly Mass Times: 6pm Saturday Branxton; 8am Sunday Greta.**

December 2020		January 2021	
<b>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Year 6 student liturgy and dinner in our school hall 5.00pm. AGM Federation of P&F 6.30pm Zoom meeting.	<b>Thurs 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Years 1 – 6 return to school TBC
<b>Mon 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Semester 2 reports available via Compass. Notification of 2021 classes		
<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup></b>	End of year awards and talent showcase.	<b>February 2021</b>	
<b>Fri 11<sup>th</sup></b>	End of Year Liturgy and 2021 School Leaders announced Last day for canteen lunch orders	<b>Mon 1<sup>st</sup>-Tue 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Kindergarten commences
<b>Mon 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Swimming carnival @ Singleton Gym and Swim (for competitive swimmers only) Canteen open for over the counter sales ONLY		
<b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS</b> <b>Out of uniform (wear Christmas clothes-closed in foot wear)</b>		

**\*St Nicholas OOSH Branxton** (Vacation Care) opens 17 – 22 December, 2020 and re-opens 4 - 25 January, 2021. Phone 0448 751 549 to book. Please refer to attached information.

## Principal's Message

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent. The candle of Hope

Come long expected Jesus  
Excite in me a hunger for peace  
Peace on the world  
Peace in our home  
Peace in ourselves



Dear Parents/Carers

As this is the final Newsletter for 2021, I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support of me, my staff and our children throughout this very challenging year. No one could have foreseen the difficulties we would encounter as COVID hit us so quickly in March, and home learning was suddenly upon us.

However, we also have much to celebrate. In term 2, we moved into eight magnificent new classrooms that offer our children contemporary learning opportunities. Through careful school budgeting, we also outfitted these rooms (and two of the existing rooms) with modern furniture to foster and encourage this learning.

In regard to our children's learning, as I spoke about in a recent newsletter, Rosary Park is one of the first schools to participate in the Catholic Schools Office initiative 'Leading Learning Collaborative.'

I am truly grateful for all that we do together to enrich the lives and learning of the children in our community. Thank you to all students, families and staff who make Rosary Park such a fantastic place.

I would also like to thank Fr Thomas and Fr Anthony for their great support of our school this year, and to the supportive and hardworking parents from our P & F especially Natalie Samaras our president who gives so much of her time to work for our school and children.

Finally, a big thank you to my wonderful colleagues who all work hard every day to deliver a quality education in a caring environment.

I wish all students and families a safe and happy holiday break. I hope all families take the time to experience the great joy of celebrating the birth of Jesus, our saviour. Christmas Mass times can be found below.

I look forward to seeing you in the New Year, with the first day of school for Years 1-6 being Thursday, 28th January and our new Kindergarten starting over two days- Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 February.

## **Staffing 2021**

Staffing for 2021 is as follows-

Kindergarten: Alanna Seysener & Jessica Mead (Tiffany Nolan every Monday on Jessica's class as Jessica is our Gifted Education Mentor)

Year 1: Louise Kevin M-T & every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday/Emily McHugh (Wed-Thu and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri) and Ashlee Edwards

Year 2: Annika Rooke (M-T)/ Debbie Parkes (W-T-F) & Mackenzie Gageler

Year 3: Andrew Hacker & Nikola Groves

Year 4: Samantha Preece and Rachael Hamilton

Year 5: Amber Van Duuren (Rhiannon Temesvary every Thursday) & Vanessa Blyton

Year 6: Janelle Dixon (M-T)/ Kate Burgess (W-T-F) (one Year 6 class only)

Learning Support Teacher: Annmaree Hooker (Mon-Thur)

Teacher Librarian: Melanie Flynn

From term 2: Katrina Mardell will be the Release from Face-to-Face (RFF) Teacher K-6 on Tuesdays-Wed-Thursdays. In term 1, Katrina Easton and Emily Capararo will cover this

Gifted Education Mentor (GEM): Jessica Mead – off class every Monday

Acting Religious Education Coordinator (REC): Amber Van Duuren

School Counsellor: Krystle Perrin (3 days/fortnight)

Aboriginal Education Teacher: Tiffany Nolan (1 day/week) and Amie Harry (2 days/week from term 2). Katrina Easton to take Amie's place in term 1.

Aboriginal Education Worker: Jessica Dougherty.

As we no longer receive Government funding for a Pastoral Care Worker (PCW), Jess will no longer take on her full load as PCW. The school will fund Jess for 1 day/week in this PCW role.

Children will have the opportunity to meet their 2021 class teacher in their new classroom on 10 December. We have organized social stories and additional visits to classrooms for those children who we feel will benefit from this. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel that your child will benefit from this.

## **Semester 2 Reports**

These will be available on Compass from Monday 7 December. Parents can contact their child's teacher to discuss the reports if they wish, via [admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au)

*Please be aware that if your child is leaving Rosary Park **(including year 6 students)** you will lose access to all your child's Rosary Park reports as of our last school day (Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>). Please download and/or print the reports before this date.*

Parents will also be informed of 2021 classes via a note in an envelope on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## **End of Year Awards**

As communicated earlier this term, Rosary Park's end of year awards have been altered to better reflect our Mercy values. At next week's end of year awards, we will award children from each class with:

- Faith and Service Award: *Knowing what it means to be a child of God and demonstrating this through their actions*

-Rosary Park Award for Learning: *Recognising students that use their strengths and gifts as a learner – letting their light shine as a learner in any Key Learning Area at any level. Focus is on growth and grit, not necessarily the highest academic achievement in the class.*

From this year, our school awards will continue with the Cath Bridge Creative Arts award (awarded to one child across the school) and one child across the school receiving a Citizenship award with a medal (and this year, a cheque from Clayton Barr our local member). This award will replace our P and F award.

We will continue throughout the year to acknowledge sports achievements for children who have excelled at School Athletics and Swimming carnivals, as well as at representative level, however we will no longer award an overall Sportsperson award at the end of every year.

The actual awards will occur on 9 December. They will be filmed and further advice on how to access this, will follow.

## **Child Protection**

It is our school's and Diocese's commitment to ensure the safety of all our children. As educators, we are mandatory reporters, this means that if a child discloses to us something that has placed them at the risk of harm, we are legally obliged to report this to our diocesan Office of Safeguarding and if necessary, the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)

As part of this commitment, protective behaviours are addressed sensitively, openly and regularly as part of our Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) program. This includes an additional focus on protective strategies for our children before our Summer Christmas break each year.

In this extremely difficulty year, we are also highly mindful of the financial stress many of our families will face at Christmas. This of course can cause increased tension in the home. Part of our lessons in coming weeks, will address with our children a home safety plan which communicates to our children the importance of reaching out to a support network or services should they need it.

We will also be reminding of children about safety on bikes and around the road in PDHPE Lessons. Please do the same at home.

Below is a range of resources that you may find useful to support you and your child/ren. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you we can support you or your child in any way.

## **Parents**

<https://padlet.com/officeofsafeguardingmn/parents>



**NSW Domestic Violence Helpline:** <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/domestic-violence/helpline>

1800 656 463

**Kids helpline:** 1800 55 1800 [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)

- Free private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service aged 5-25

**Family referral Service FRS: Newcastle area 1300 006 480, FRS North Coast 1800 758 589**

- Family Referral Services (FRS) are intended to assist children, young people, and families who do not meet the statutory threshold for child protection intervention but would benefit from accessing specific services to address current problems, prevent escalation, and foster a protective and nurturing environment.
  - Domestic violence support services (including counselling)
  - Housing or accommodation services
  - Financial assistance
  - Counselling and mediation
  - Parenting struggles and support services (including parenting programs)
  - Mental Health support services
  - Culturally appropriate support services

**Reach out:** <https://au.reachout.com/>

- Online Mental health resource regarding practical support, tools and tips to help young people get through anything from every day issues to tough times. Information is also available for parents and schools.

**WOAH.org.au – What’s Ok at Home?**

<https://woah.org.au/>

### **School Improvement Plan 2021**

As part of our 2021 Annual School Improvement Plan, Rosary Park teachers and students are continuing the focus on student growth in reading and spelling with an emphasis on vocabulary.

As in 2019-20, students will be undertaking the Spelling Mastery program from Years 3-6.

This program uses the Direct Instruction approach to learning. The 20-years of research invested in this program shows that clear instruction at a student's spelling skill level, results in the mastery of skills at a faster rate. This has been evidenced in our two years of the program where the majority of students have progressed and will move up at least one spelling level in 2021.

Whilst we have no NAPLAN 2020 data to inform us, our annual PAT tests (Progressive Achievement Tests) completed in recent weeks shows that we have made improvements in spelling data and we are above the state average in our spelling results.

To determine the spelling skill level of each student, all students have completed a placement test. Using this data, the students have been grouped according to their current skill level; therefore, to meet the specific needs of each student, students will move around the school to their designated Spelling Mastery teacher. Students will be working with other students who are at the same skill level but may be from a different grade. Their Spelling Mastery teacher may not be their usual class teacher.

Spelling Mastery will be conducted four days a week, from 9:10am to 9:40am each day. Students will be supplied with a workbook and all resources necessary.

This approach will enable us to meet each student's needs at the precise time in their learning. It will develop spelling skills and knowledge, leading to growth with spelling skill levels.

We are looking forward to seeing the students' growth in their spelling abilities across the school. Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2 are already participating in the InitialLit program, so they will *not* participate in Spelling Mastery. Both programs use a similar Direct Instruction approach to learning. This will ensure consistency in spelling instruction across all grades.

### **Successful Foundations**

During 2019-20 Rosary Park was one of a group of Diocesan schools selected to collaborate with Kim Moroney (Education Officer-Early Learning-CSO) and Dr Cathie Harrison (Australian Catholic University) in response to the growing evidence, both nationally and internationally, that in the first years of life, play and the transition to school have significant impact on the education, wellbeing and subsequent life trajectories (Dockett & Perry, 2014).

This project 'Successful Foundations' was founded on genuine respect for the learner, and authentic and respectful relationships between adults and children. In summary, Successful Foundations:

- Endorses current research and acknowledges the diverse ways young children learn and engage with their worlds.
- Provides a continuum between prior to school and school.
- Provides children with the opportunity to actively demonstrate their knowledge, build relationships and become familiar with the context of the school.
- Provides teachers with the time and opportunity to develop meaningful relationships as they observe and interact with competent, creative and capable children.

The results from the report are overwhelmingly positive and Rosary Park will be participating in the project again next year. We will also be extending it to include Year 1 in 2021.

### **Uniform**

Children are expected to wear the correct uniform to school each day. The general appearance of a child is an outward sign to others of the pride and respect one has in oneself and reflects pride in the school.

As well as wearing the correct school uniform, children are to be neatly groomed and wear polished shoes (**black leather only: no boots, Mary Jane style or joggers**). Socks must cover the ankle.

**Jewellery** must be kept to an absolute minimum e.g. one pair of ear studs (studs only, for safety), one flat signet ring and wristwatch, plain wrist bangle (silver/gold). Neck chains and bracelets are not encouraged due to safety concerns e.g. when playing sport.

**Hair must be neat and tidy. In keeping with the school tone, hairstyles should not be outlandish- no Mohawks, tracks or rat's tails. Extremes of style and colour are not appropriate. Children with long hair should have their hair tied back.**

A note explaining any variations in school uniform is expected.

The summer uniform is worn in Terms 1 and 4 and the winter uniform is worn in Terms 2 and 3. Occasionally, depending on the length of term and weather conditions, this requirement is adjusted. If this occurs, you will be informed via the school newsletter.

**NOTE:** Please ensure all clothing/shoes/hats and bags are clearly marked with your child's name.

### Summer Uniform – Girls

TUNIC	Blue & white check summer dress
Shirt/shorts	White emblem shirt and blue shorts
SHOES	Black Shoes (lace up or Velcro) with white socks, to be worn above the ankle



### Summer Uniform – Boys

TOP	School blue shirt with embroidered logo.
SHORTS	Navy shorts, not cargo.
SHOES	Black Shoes (lace up or Velcro) with navy socks to be worn above the ankle.



### School Fees

Final statements for 2020 fees have been sent home. Regular payment of fees is necessary for our school to run effectively and safely. If you have not received your fees, please contact the school office.

All outstanding fees should be finalised by the end of this week. If you are making payments by regular instalments such as BPay, please ensure that these payments are adequate to finalise your account by Monday 14 December.

Thank you for your prompt payment.

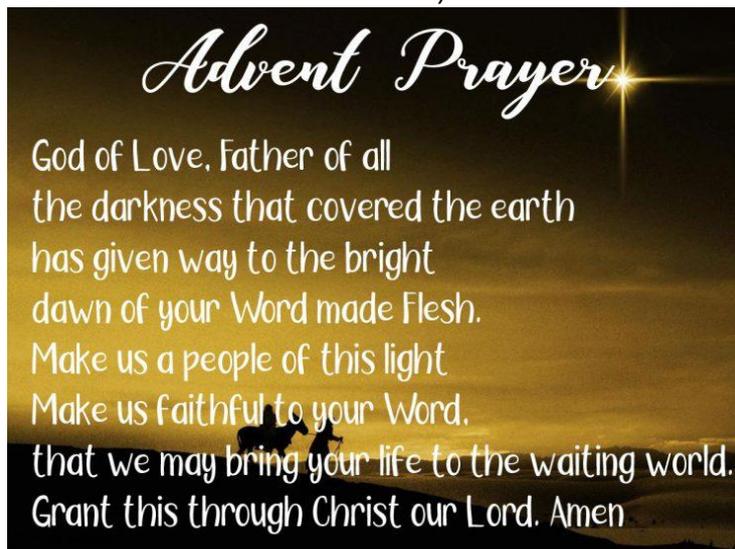
Wishing you a happy, holy and safe Christmas,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

## Religious Education Coordinator's Message

### Advent has begun.

The season of Advent last for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Let us pray together as a community:



<https://www.scross.co.za/2017/12/advent-prayer-hope/>

### Rosary Park Christmas Appeal:

Thank you to those who generously donated. All the items have been collected by Vinnies and will be distributed among the needy in our area.

### Important Information about Christmas Mass

🌲 With the changes that 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic have brought to the Catholic Parishes of Branxton-Greta and Singleton, Christmas Mass will need to look a little different this year with the current restrictions in place.

📅 Anyone wishing to attend Mass for Christmas will need to register for ONE nominated Mass time by 12pm on Wednesday 23 December 2020.

Registration can be made by phoning the Parish Office on **02 5507 4048** or emailing [singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au)

Please provide the names of ALL those attending and a contact number.

Registration sheets will also be at Mass each weekend leading up to Christmas.

🏰 St Brigid's Church Branxton will have **Vigil Mass at 6pm and 8pm on Christmas Eve**. Maximum permitted in the church is 75.

🏰 St Catherine's Church Greta will have **Mass at 8am on Christmas Day**. Maximum permitted in the church is 45.

⚠️ Due to limited numbers in St Catherine's Church, those who usually attend Greta on Christmas Day are encouraged to attend at one of the Vigil Mass in St Brigid's Branxton on Christmas Eve.

🏰 St Patrick's Church Singleton will have **Vigil Mass at 6pm, 8pm, Midnight Mass at 12am and Mass on Christmas Day at 10am**. Maximum permitted in the church is 80.

\*\* inside is already FULL for 6pm Vigil Mass\*\*

⚠️ Those outside at Mass are required to be SEATED. There will be some chairs supplied but you are asked to *bring your own chair or blanket*.

The public health order states that EVERYONE must be seated. You won't be able to stand outside.

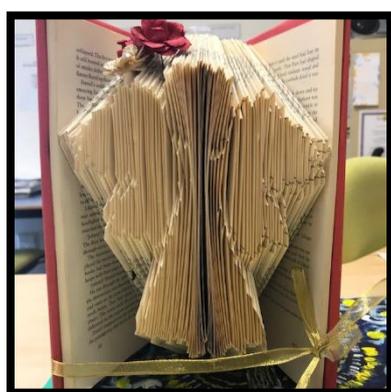
📺 Mass will be live streamed for the benefit of those outside at Singleton and Branxton and those at home. Communion will be offered from the doors for those outside the church.

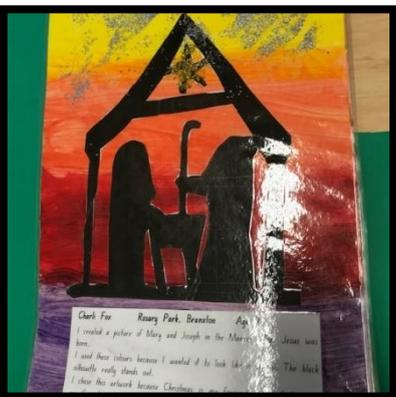
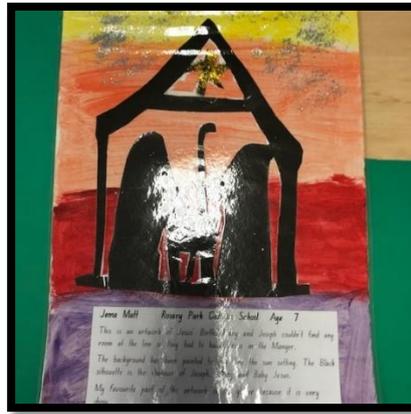
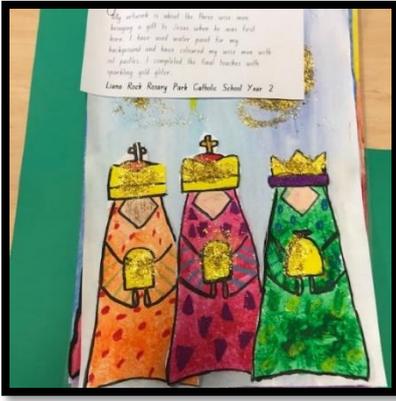
**Art competition:**

All Rosary Park students participated in a special Christmas Story Art Competition. The purpose of the competition was to celebrate and explore children's creative and artistic abilities in illustrating the Christmas story. One entry from each class was selected to go through to the All Saints Cluster and these Finalists were:

Amarlie Kiem	Ellie Ayscough	Jema Matt	Charli Fox
Elsa Gray	Liana Rock	Lacey Norton	Leo Ramsay
Sophie Fox	Amber Murrell	Troy Jackson	Amira Mueller
Haylee Ellison	<b>Congratulations to all our Finalists!</b>		

We are proud and delighted to announce the Haylee Ellison's work (from Y5/6) was Highly Commended and Amber Murrell (from Year 4) was chosen as one of 14 winners, whose work will be displayed in the East Maitland Library. Here are the Finalists work:





**Mindfulness – taken from Making Jesus Real (MJR):** Some Mindfulness you might like to practise with your child at home as a way of winding down and relaxing:

**STRETCH THE MOMENT**

*Sit down and close your eyes.*  
*In your mind, hold a picture of what you see.*  
*Open your eyes.*  
*Close your eyes again and listen to the sounds around you.*  
*Add more sounds to what you are hearing.*  
*Repeat several times until you have a Firm picture in your mind.*



### Year 4's commitment to Mercy Works:

We received a lovely thank you letter from Mercy Works through the week, which I would like to share with the Rosary Park Community:

*Your contribution to Mercy Works' development projects is vital in empowering vulnerable and marginalised individuals and communities in Australia, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste to transform their future.*

*A certificate of appreciation and a hard copy of your receipt will be forwarded shortly.*

*Thank you once again for your generosity.*

*With gratitude,  
Sally Bradley RSM  
Executive Director  
Mercy Works*

Advent blessings to you and your families for the season ahead.

Kate Levido

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

## Gifted Education

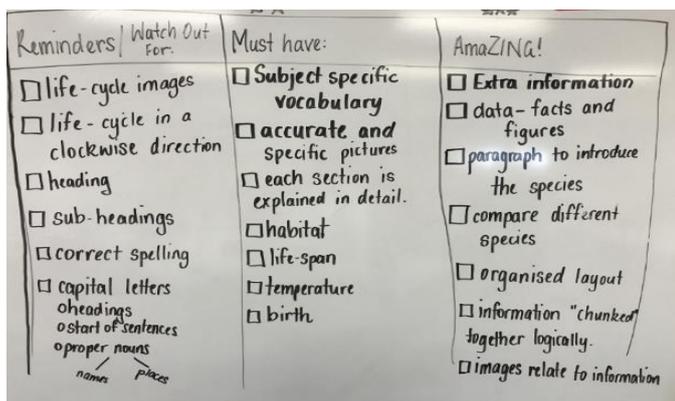
Rosary Park is a Gifted Education Lead school and each year we are asked to share the wonderful work our school is doing. This year, we shared some of the exciting learning that is happening in the Year 3 classrooms.

At Rosary Park this year, we have started to use Learning Intentions and Success Criteria in the classroom. The Learning Intention explains what the children will be learning, whilst the Success Criteria provides steps as to how they can be successful.

This semester, I have worked with the Year 3 group every Monday morning to help the students to co-construct and follow their success criteria. In Year 3, the success criteria is divided in to three levels. The children can clearly see and understand what they need to do to be successful.

These levels are:

- Reminders/watch out for
- Must haves
- AmaZING



I spoke with some of Year 3 students and they told me that in the past they used to only stick to the reminders and didn't want to challenge themselves and now they will try and create a fourth column which makes their work even better. It has been wonderful to see these students gain more confidence in their abilities and to see their writing improve since the beginning of the year. Please ask your child what their class is doing with Learning Intentions and Success Criteria.

**Reminder:**

If you expressed interest in paying for chess lessons next year, your child received a note last Monday. If you didn't receive a note please contact the office and we will pass one on. Completed notes and money will be received up until the 4<sup>th</sup> of December.

Kind regards,

Jessica Mead

Gifted Education Mentor

## Year 2 Poetry

Over the last few weeks Year 2 have been learning about poetry and exploring rhyming, similes, alliteration and onomatopoeia. We have worked independently and in a range of cooperative groups. It has been great to see some children striving to meet the AmaZING success criteria and we are delighted to share these fantastic examples of Year 2 poetry with you. We are now learning to recite the poem 'The Sound Collector' by Roger McGough - it might be nice to ask your child to present it to you!

Autumn

*By Elsa and Evie*

Crunching, crackling, crinkling leaves.  
Falling, floating, fluttering through the breeze.  
Swaying, swirling, sinking in the grass.  
Glittering, glistening, glowing like brass.  
Wonderful, whirling, waving trees.  
Busting, bravely, the wind blows like a sneeze

### Colour Poem

**Written by 2 Blue**

White, white the stars are bright.  
Red, red off with your head.  
Blue, blue my book's overdue.  
Green, green my teacher's a queen.  
Pink, pink let me rethink.  
Black, black I have a roof rack.  
Brown, brown get out of town.

## Summer

*By Louis Dodd and Harry White*

Bright, burning, bellowing sun  
silly, Santa having fun.

Sticky, sand, slowly sliding,

Wacky, waves, we are riding.

Sunglasses, sunscreen, seagulls squawking,  
incredible icy ice-cream we incinerate as we are walking.

## Spring

*By Elara Black*

Blooming, blossoming, budding flowers, sparkling and shimmering with their natural and magical powers.

Soothing, silent, striking storms, thundering and striking colossal, tall trees.

Happy, helpful, humongous trees, luscious, lovely, looming green leaves.

## Year 4 News

Year 4 have had a very busy Term 4 as we prepare to enter our role as seniors of the school and begin to take on the roles of leaders. Year 4 spent the first few weeks of term preparing for our Mercy Works Day, which allowed students to work in teams to run their own fundraising day. The day was an overwhelming success and raised \$2,000 for the Sisters of Mercy to continue their amazing work. Year 4 should be very proud of their effort and commitment to this cause!





In maths, we have been learning about decimals. Last term we worked hard to learn the formal algorithm for addition and subtraction and this term we are applying our existing knowledge to adding and subtracting decimals. This week, students worked in pairs to plan a main meal and a dessert for a family of four people. They then had to work out what ingredients they would need and find the price of these on Coles or Woolworths online. Students then added the cost of their items using their knowledge of the formal algorithm. Students in Year 4 loved this activity and their teachers were surprised at their knowledge of cooking and ingredients! You might like to ask them to shop for and prepare a meal for the family over the Christmas holidays!



## Weekly Awards

Congratulations to those children who have received awards.

### Week ending 20 November, 2020

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>MJR Award</b>
<b>Kinder Blue</b>	Amarlie Kiem	Elke Bereza	Addison Saxby
<b>Kinder White</b>	Hunter Irvine	Noah Roessler	Lucy Smith
<b>Year 1 Blue</b>	Zane Slomka	Indi Morgan	Shelle Cole
<b>Year 1 White</b>	Nash Goddard	Luke Wright	Jesse Olson
<b>Year 2 Blue</b>	Elsa Gray	Aubree Carter	Peppa McLaren
<b>Year 2 White</b>	Rawson Drage	Rae Killick	Lilly Mikisch
<b>Year 3 Blue</b>	Henry Jackson	Holly Wilson	Ebony Manning
<b>Year 3 White</b>	Lisa Olive	Sienna Como	Leo Ramsay
<b>Year 4 Blue</b>	Nate Jury	Harper Wilton-Huggett	Hayden O'Donnell
<b>Year 4 White</b>	Oscar Schneeweiss	Amber Murrell	Kiera Libreri
<b>Year 5/6 Blue</b>	Sophie Murrell	Ruby Costello	Bridie Richards
<b>Year 5/6 White</b>	Troy Jackson	Darcey Fuller	Gabby Rule
<b>Year 5/6 Gold</b>	Maddison Cavanagh	Ava Hanlon	Kiara Hedger

### Week ending 27 November, 2020

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>MJR Award</b>
<b>Kinder Blue</b>	Luke Healy	Matthias Kelly	Jackson Adney
<b>Kinder White</b>	Jaiden Xuereb		Hudson Wyatt
<b>Year 1 Blue</b>	Owen Clifton	Kendra Collier	Samantha Foot
<b>Year 1 White</b>	Evie Smith	Isla Francis	Charli Newman
<b>Year 2 Blue</b>	Brooklyn Johansen	Madeleine Parkes	Tayla Menchin
<b>Year 2 White</b>	Samantha Richards	Flynn Russell	Aden Pople
<b>Year 3 Blue</b>	Aurora Lane	Zac Binnie	Lina Poje
<b>Year 3 White</b>	Hamish Alston	Leo Ramsay	Sophia Hedger
<b>Year 4 Blue</b>	Brock Wishart	Lewis Drever	Zoe Kendall
<b>Year 4 White</b>	Leah-Rose Clifton	Eva Haynes	Harper Shuttleworth
<b>Year 5/6 Blue</b>	Emmie McGregor	Emma Edwards	Annabella Trelor
<b>Year 5/6 White</b>	Bella Thompson	Isabella Theuma	Kayne Standen
<b>Year 5/6 Gold</b>	Madison Bailey	Coby Dinsdale	Hannah Norton

## Principals Awards

Congratulations to those children who have received Principal's Awards.

### Week ending 20 November, 2020

Isaac Lunan, Charli Fox, Skarlett McLaren, Jeremy Campbell, Lilly Schneeweiss, Oscar Schneeweiss, Stella Walters, Eddie Walters, Charles Wilson, Braxton Thomas, Willow Roberts, Leo Ramsay and Alana Moss.

### Week ending 27 November, 2020

Kiran Olive, Peppa McLaren, Owen Gough, Evie Smith, Ava Hanlon, Luke Wright, Addison Saxby, Sophie Murrell, Elsa Gray, Lucy Smith, Shelle Cole and Oscar Schneeweiss.

## Good for Kids good for life

### NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

The days are getting longer and it's a great chance to get outdoors with the family.

Have fun finding as many things as you can in this scavenger hunt, or create your own.

You could go for a walk in your local area, or even just your backyard.

Encourage children not to touch or collect the items, but record them on their hunt sheet.

- An animal's footprint
- A bird's nest
- A clover (find a 4 leaf clover for an extra 10 points!)
- The Southern Cross
- Paper bark
- A native Australian animal
- A mushroom or fungus
- Spot a creature that lives underwater
- A large feather
- A sunrise or sunset over the horizon
- A lilly pilly tree
- A gumnut
- A waterfall
- A heart-shaped stone
- A farm animal
- Spot a witchetty grub
- A herb garden
- Nature pushing through concrete

For an example downloadable list, visit: [natureplayqld.org.au/nature-play-scavenger-hunt](http://natureplayqld.org.au/nature-play-scavenger-hunt)

Acknowledgement: Northern Sydney LHD



**Health**  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

[HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au)  
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>

# The Kindmas Calendar 25 ACTS OF KINDNESS

HEAD & HEART  
*mindfulness*

	<b>Smile</b> at people ★	1	<b>Compliment</b> as many people as you can 	2	<b>Write a card</b> for someone special 	3	<b>Do someone a favour</b> (big or small, it doesn't matter) ★	4	<b>Say "I love you"</b> to special people ★	6			
<b>Be kind and compassionate to yourself</b> ★	7	<b>Do someone's chores for them</b>	8	<b>Be extra generous with your time and attention</b> 	9	<b>Do something kind for the environment</b> ★	10	<b>Be extra kind to a pet or animal</b> 	11	<b>Use your manners more</b> ★	12	<b>Practise pausing before you respond in a negative way, to show kindness</b> 	13
<b>Tell someone a joke to make them laugh</b>	14	<b>Donate something to charity</b>	15	<b>Make someone a homemade gift</b> 	16	<b>Write a letter and tell someone why they are special to you</b> 	17	<b>Surprise someone by doing something kind</b> ★	18	<b>Do something for yourself that you really love</b> 	19	<b>Ask people, "Are you okay?" or "Can I help you?"</b> 	20
<b>Cuddle a family member</b> ★	21	<b>Say "Thank you"</b> often and explain why you are thankful	22	<b>Tidy up without being asked</b> 	23	<b>Teach someone something new</b>	24	<b>Practise gratitude</b> 	25				

www.headandheartmindfulness.com.au



St Nicholas Early Education's newest service is  
**now open at Branxton!**

St Nick's Branxton offers a range of natural and man-made play spaces, purposefully designed so children can experience, explore, discover, take risks, derive meaning and solve problems.

Some of Branxton's key features include its immersive natural outdoor play spaces with large sandstone sandpits, mud kitchen, bicycle tracks and garden beds; open-plan classrooms with plenty of natural light and well-equipped to cater to children of all different interests; and co-location with Rosary Park Primary School, offering a convenient one-stop drop-off and pick-up for parents with children attending both services.

In line with St Nicholas' commitment to supporting working parents, the service also offers long daycare hours (5am - 6pm), with meals, snacks, nappies and cot linen all included with daily care.

We'd love to give you a personalised tour to share more about how we can help support your family needs, and hear your thoughts.

Call 0491 200 578 or email  
[branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au](mailto:branxton@stnicholasmn.org.au)  
to book in your tour.