



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 10 2021

Tuesday 30 March

Rosary Park Catholic School

Station Street, Branxton NSW 2335

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

Built on Faith, Knowledge, Respect

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults - particularly those who participate in the life of the Diocese. All employees are required to undergo a National Police Check and, where legislated, hold a Working with Children Check. Diocesan workers are expected to personally adopt and enact the Diocese's Safeguarding Commitment Statement.

IMPORTANT DATES

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

MARCH		MAY	
Wed 31 st	Easter Liturgy	Mon 3 rd - Fri 7 th	Catholic Schools Week Liturgy/open classrooms. Monday 3 rd All welcome from 1pm
APRIL		11 th -21 st	NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5
Thurs 1 st	Out of uniform – gold coin donation (closed in shoes please)	Wed 12 th	P&F Meeting 6pm (at school)
Mon 19 th	SCHOOL RETURNS TERM 2	Fri 14 th	Assembly 2.15pm Reconciliation 5:30pm St Brigid's Church
Tue 20 th	Interrelate Family Evening Year 3-6 children and their parents (via Zoom) 2 sessions 6pm and 7:15pm. \$35	Wed 21 st	Athletics Carnival for Kinder to year 6 at Miller Park (wet weather date 28 th)
Fri 23 rd	Anzac Day liturgy 9:45am Awards Assembly 2:15pm Parents welcome		
Fri 30 th	Awards Assembly 2:15pm Parents welcome		
Thurs 29 th	Priests/Parish Leaders/Principals Day Sallyanne at CSO		

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers

From Pope Francis. "Our faith is born on Easter morning! Jesus is alive! This experience is at the heart of the Christian message."

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Thank you to the many parents who have attended parent/teacher interviews in these last 2 weeks. It is important that as educators and parents we communicate openly and regularly in order to meet the best outcomes for our children. For those parents who did not make an appointment, teachers have again contacted you to make a time. It would be appreciated that you contact the school and make a time with your child's teacher.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for the many hours they have taken in preparing for these interviews (as well as the actual time in the interviews).

Leading Learning Collaborative (LLC)

Last week the LLC team from Rosary Park once again attended Professional Learning with Lyn Sharratt (via Zoom from Canada). The two days' training gave us an opportunity to learn more and reflect on our next directions as a school in improving student outcomes. The days made particular reference to the 'assessment waterfall' which is the continuous cycle of assessing our children in various modes and adjusting our practice to suit the needs identified. An important part of this cycle is giving students feedback on their work, using the Success Criteria as a reference point. Our Professional Learning in Term 2 staff meetings and our Professional Learning Team meetings will continue our learning and planning in this area.

Staffing

We farewell Amie Harry who has been appointed to the role of Religious Education Coordinator at St Columba's Adamstown, starting in Term 2. As such, she will not return to Rosary Park in Term 2 as planned. Amie has been a staff member of Rosary Park for seven years and we wish her every success in her new role. Amber Van Duuren continues as acting REC for the rest of this year. Amie's Aboriginal Education Teacher role will be filled by Katrina Easton for term 2.

Katrina Easton has been appointed to the acting Executive Relief Teacher position (ERT) in Year 5 White, filling in for Rhiannon Temesvary who is now on maternity leave.

Self-Review

As part of our Governance and compliance cycle with the Catholic Schools Office (Cycle of School Improvement - COSI), Rosary Park will this year participate in a 'self-review'. This is an opportunity for us to use the National School Improvement Tool to reflect on aspects of teaching and learning at our school to set future goals.

COVID Intensive Support Funding

Rosary Park is one of a number of Catholic schools that have been granted funds from the state Government to support children in the wake of COVID. These funds are to be used across Terms 2-4 of 2021 and further details will be given to families as we receive these from the Catholic Schools Office.

Complaints and Concerns - A Positive Approach

Concerns arise at schools for a variety of reasons, sometimes due to the very busy nature of the school environment.

In addition to solid teaching & learning, there are many extra curricula activities to enhance school life and a great deal of coordination is required. Accordingly, many considered decisions are made every day by our professional team to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and the wider community, and promote learning for all. At the same time, the school community is quite diverse, with many individuals or groups having vastly different opinions on how things should be done.

It is inevitable therefore, that times will arise when some parents agree with the school's actions while others disagree and wish to discuss the matter and seek clarification with the school. We welcome such discussions and encourage parents to raise issues so that they can be dealt with speedily and resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Raising concerns or seeking clarification is not a negative experience if everyone focuses on it being a solution-focused experience by valuing everyone's opinions. The following process for presenting and managing parental concerns works well and is the way we manage all concerns at our school.

Complaints Procedure:

The following procedure is used to resolve complaints or concerns at our school.

STEP 1: Try and establish the facts before contacting the school. Many concerns are quickly resolved once the parent is aware of all the facts.

STEP 2: In the first instance, speak to your child's teacher about the matter.

STEP 3: Let the school know via letter, email at admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au, telephone (49381541) or in person at the office, that you have a concern, providing details of the issue.

STEP 4: The school WILL investigate the concern and the most appropriate person will contact you to discuss the matter or organise a meeting. Almost 100% of problems are resolved at this point.

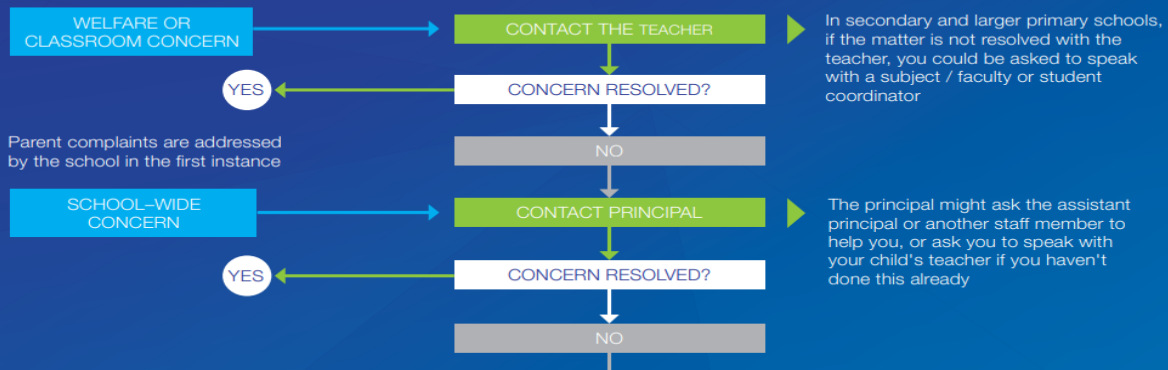
STEP 5: If however, the matter remains unresolved, additional support from a member of the executive or Principal may be required which usually involves a formal appointment to discuss the issue.

STEP 6: Support from the Catholic Schools Office is sometimes sought to help solve problems. Contact details for the CSO Parent Liaison and Resources Officer are available from the Principal or CSO on 49791200.

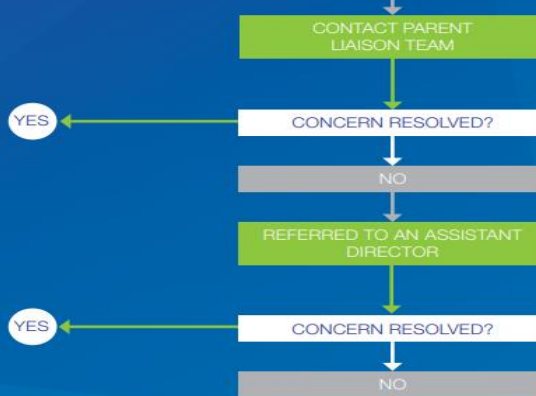
For further advice, please see the COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES RESOLUTION POLICY (AUGUST 2013) for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle which can be accessed via the CSO Website and is found under Policies.

Complaints Resolution Pathway for Parents and Carers

SCHOOL



CSO



DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS



When a complaint relates to the Director of Schools, the matter can be referred to the Bishop

Winter Uniform

Changeover to winter uniform occurs in Term 2. Unless we have a cold snap earlier, all children are expected to be in full winter uniform by the start of Week 5 (17th May). In the two weeks prior to this, parents are welcome to use their discretion and if there is a cold snap children can wear their Winter uniform. Your support is greatly appreciated to maintain our very high uniform standard. All items are available at Flanagan's Menswear, Vincent Street, Cessnock.

Police Community Liaison Officer Visit

As part of our commitment to the protection and wellbeing of our children, last week Snr Constable Michael Steele made his annual visit to Rosary Park to speak with Year 5 and 6 children. He gave them very realistic, cautionary, and direct messages about social media and their interactions in an online world. As parents, you play a **vital** role in monitoring your child's interactions in such forums and educating them about it. See more information about the visit later in the newsletter.

Social Media- Tik Tok

"Respect and empathy for others is far more important than getting laughs, likes or followers"- eSafety Commissioner.

Rosary Park is committed to student safety and wellbeing. We want our students to be responsible online citizens and to be able to navigate this space in a safe and respectful manner. The eSafety Commissioner has put out some information recently regarding concerns with Tik Tok and a worrying trend amongst its younger users. This can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2HQwQzA>

Tik Tok is a video-sharing app, where its users film themselves in a 10-15 second clip. These clips are usually set to music, uploaded and are viewed by followers and strangers alike. Tik Tok is a new, rebranded version of the previous app Musical.ly.

Tik Tok is intended for users 13 years and over (<https://support.tiktok.com/en/privacy-safety/for-parents-default>). Please consider restricting your child's access, if you become aware of them using this form of social media.

iParent on the eSafety website

The website for the eSafety Commissioner has an information section for parents. It contains some useful tips to assist parents at home to protect their digital lifestyle. This space is referred to on the site as iParent and can be found at <https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>.

I would encourage you to access this resource especially as we are now accessing technology more often at home. Please ensure that you have clear guidelines in place to monitor your child's technology use, especially online.

Enrolments

Enrolments for 2022 are now open. Please contact the school office for an enrolment package, if you have a child eligible for Kindergarten or know of someone intending to seek enrolment.

Anzac Day

Our local RSL will run their usual Anzac Day service on Sunday 25 April. Traditionally, Rosary Park children are invited to march and attend the service. However, we are awaiting further information from RSL NSW in regards to COVID guidelines for this occasion. So at this stage we cannot give you any information as to whether our wider student community can participate. Our school leaders will still participate in the actual service as normal and I have contacted their families about this.

Rosary Park will hold our Anzac liturgy at school from 9:45am on Friday 23rd. You are welcome to join us.

Advanced Notice

Catholic Schools Week will be held 3-7 May. Rosary Park invites families to visit us on Monday 3 May. See details later in this newsletter.

Our Athletics Carnival on Friday 21 May (28 May is wet weather date).

Pupil free days for 2021 on **Monday 7 June, Friday 16 July & Monday 13 September**. OOSH care available.

Thank you for your support in term 1. We wish a happy, holy, and safe Easter.

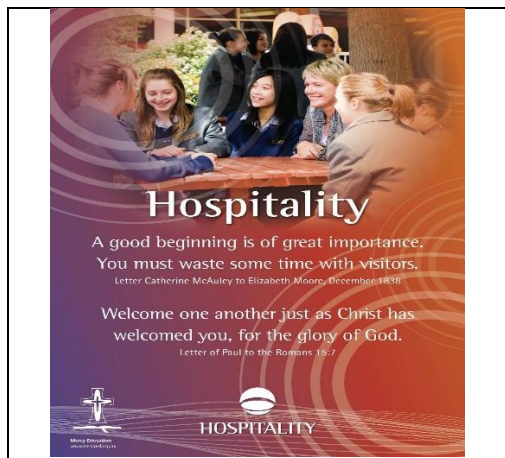
Kind regards,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

Religious Education Coordinator's Message

Mercy Pillars- Hospitality

The mercy value of hospitality is about making people feel welcome - whether it is new friend or someone you have known for a long time. We welcome one another just as Jesus has welcomed us.



Questions you might like to ask your child:

1. How do you show hospitality?
2. Have you seen other people showing hospitality?
3. What did Jesus say about the value of hospitality?
4. How did Jesus show Hospitality?
5. What way can you show the value of hospitality this week?

Hospitality Prayer

From Catherine McAuley we learn to reach out to others, especially when they are lonely or sad. Our greatest gift is to welcome one another and to share a love that warms their hearts. May our doors always be open to those who come looking for a place to call home. May a good cup of tea await every visitor who knocks at our door. For none comes without a gift, and no guest leaves without a blessing, in Mercy's name.

Amen.

Liturgies

- **Wednesday 31st March:** Whole School Easter Liturgy organised by Year 6. As this is a staggered Liturgy occurring throughout the morning, we are not able to invite parents. However, we will ensure that photographs will be uploaded to Compass.
- **Monday 3rd May:** You and your family are invited to Rosary Park's Catholic School's Week Liturgy, Open Classrooms and Picnic, which will take place on Monday 3rd May 2021 from 1:00pm in the school hall. On this day we will have to abide by COVID regulations. This means we may have to stagger visitors to classrooms. Please feel free to pack a picnic to have with your child or children on this day.

Sacramental Program for 2021

We pray for those children who will shortly begin their journey towards the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. The dates and times are included below. If you would like your child to be a part of the Sacramental program for 2021, please contact the Parish Office for more information. Phone 55074048 or email singleton.branxton@mn.catholic.org.au

Weekend Mass Times

It is always lovely for children and their families to attend Mass in our Parish. Currently Mass is celebrated at 6:00pm Vigil (each Saturday) at St. Brigid's Branxton and at St. Catherine's Greta at 8:00am.

Have a lovely holiday, take care and may God bless you always,

Amber Van Duuren

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

ST BRIGID'S PARISH BRANXTON

Parent/Child information and Enrolment Meeting

Tuesday 9 March 2021, 5.30pm - St. Brigid's Church, Branxton

BRANXTON GROUP	GRETA GROUP
<u>Commitment Mass - St Brigid's Branxton</u> Saturday 27 March 2021, 6PM	<u>Commitment Mass – St Catherine's Greta</u> Sunday 28 March 2021, 8AM

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

GRETA TUESDAY	BRANXTON TUESDAY	BRANXTON GROUP	GRETA GROUP
Week 1: Tues 20 April 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 1: Tues 20 April 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 1: Sat 24 April 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 1: Sun 25 April 9.00am - Greta Parish Room
Week 2: Tues 27 April 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 2: Tues 27 April 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 2: Sat 1 May 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 2: Sun 2 May 9.00am - Greta Parish Room
Week 3: Tues 4 May 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 3: Tues 4 May 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 3: Sat 8 May 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 3: Sun 9 May 9.00am - Greta Parish Room

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 14 May 2021, 5.30pm - St. Brigid's Church, Branxton

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

BRANXTON GROUP	GRETA GROUP	GRETA - TUESDAY	BRANXTON - TUESDAY
Week 1: Sat 5 June 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 1: Sun 6 June 9.00am - Greta Parish Room	Week 1: Tues 8 June 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 1: Tues 8 June 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall
Week 2: Sat 12 June 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 2: Sun 13 June 9.00am - Greta Parish Room	Week 2: Tues 15 June 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 2: Tues 15 June 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall
Week 3: Sat 19 June 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 3: Sun 20 June 9.00am - Greta Parish Room	Week 3: Tues 22 June 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 3: Tues 22 June 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

GRETA TUESDAY	BRANXTON TUESDAY	BRANXTON GROUP	GRETA GROUP
Week 1: Tues 13 July 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 1: Tues 13 July 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 1: Sat 17 July 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 1: Sun 18 July 9.00am - Greta Parish Room
Week 2: Tues 20 July 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 2: Tues 20 July 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 2: Sat 24 July 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 2: Sun 25 July 9.00am - Greta Parish Room
Week 3: Tues 27 July 4.30pm - Greta Parish Room	Week 3: Tues 27 July 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 3: Sat 31 July 4.30pm - St Brigid's Church Hall	Week 3: Sun 1 August 9.00am - Greta Parish Room

GROUP 1

Practice for Confirmation & Holy Communion
Tuesday 3 August 2021, 5.30pm
St. Brigid's Church

Sacrament of Confirmation & Holy Communion
Friday 6 August 2021, 6.00pm
St. Brigid's Church

GROUP 2

Practice for Confirmation & Holy Communion
Weds 4 August 2021, 5.30pm
St. Brigid's Church

Sacrament of Confirmation & Holy Communion
Sunday 8 August 2021, 10.30am
St. Brigid's Church

Stage 3 News

Last Day of Term 1

Students are in for a treat on the last day of term 1. Our Mercy team, led by Charles Wilson, have organised our last day of term to be an out of uniform day for a gold coin donation, raising money for Caritas. Our PBL team (Positive Behaviour Learning) led by Claire Jordan, will be rewarding students for their great behaviour throughout the term. Students that have not received red cards in term 1 will have the opportunity to throw a wet sponge at their teacher during the morning session. If that was not exciting enough, at 11am, our Active Lifestyle team led by Annika Marr, will head to each classroom to play an activity before lunch. Following this, Year 5 students have put together a Talent Quest for primary students starting from Second half Lunch in the School Hall. To end our day, our Environmental team led by Kiara Hedger, are organising a clean up of our school playground. In recent weeks the Environmental team have painted our garbage lids, replaced signage on all of our bins and explained to students what rubbish belongs in which bin. It is great to see our stage 3 students showing leadership and involving our whole school community. We cannot wait for the fun to begin!

Year 5 and 6 Cyber Safety

On Tuesday of week 9, Stage 3 was visited by Senior Constable Michael Steele who spoke to the children about cyber safety and protecting themselves while online. During his visit Senior Constable Steele spoke about a variety of technology uses, the dangers of being online and the world of social media. Some of the important points as parents we need to remember when children are using their devices, playing online and using different apps are below:

- Social media is illegal for the use of children under the age of 13.
- Games such as Call of Duty and Grand theft Auto are designed for 18+, therefore if children are playing online, they are not only seeing graphic content, they are speaking to adults as they play.
- Please ALWAYS MONITOR your child's online apps/mobile phones and devices. You should be seeing everything that your child is posting/writing online.
- Teach children to think twice before posting- they have been taught 'The Grandma Test' (Would they show their Grandma what they are putting online?)
- Don't share your passwords with anyone except your parents (as parents should have access to everything!)
- Remind your child that they NEVER give their personal information/home address etc to anyone online.
- NEVER accept friend requests from people they don't know.
- Always report inappropriate behaviour/content seen online to a trusted adult.
- Have routines at home in place to ensure they are always monitored when using their devices.

The children had many thoughtful questions and were given information about the consequences of doing the wrong thing online. It was an insightful discussion and an important reminder for all to stay vigilant at all times when accessing the internet.

Stage 3 Teachers

Gifted Education

Rosary Park Catholic School is in its fourth year as a Gifted Education Lead School. This is part of a Diocesan initiative to identify 'giftedness' in students and provide opportunities for students to achieve their potential. As the Gifted Education Mentor for Rosary Park, it is my role to work closely with classroom teachers to support them in using effective strategies to cater for the strengths of the children in their class.

Next term we will commence our Sydney Academy of Chess classes. The lessons will occur each Thursday of Term 2; beginners will be from 2pm to 3pm for an hour and then intermediate and above from 3pm-4pm. Teacher supervision will be available for the second session. If your child is attending the intermediate and above session, please ensure that you have organised for your child to be picked up at 4pm. If you are new to our school and are interested in these classes, please contact the office. The cost of the ten lessons is \$82.

This year, we will again be participating in Tournament of Minds (TOM) with one team. Tournament of Minds is a problem-solving program for multi-aged teams of students who work together to solve demanding and open-ended challenges. Next term, children in Year 4, 5 and 6 will be given the opportunity to attend training sessions to gauge their interest in the program. These training sessions will be conducted during lunch and/or recess. At the end of the term, we will then select a team that will collaborate to solve a set challenge in Term 3. This team will compete against other schools in our region on a selected Saturday in Term 3. More information will be provided at the beginning of Term 2.

We are hoping to offer ICAS assessments once again in 2021. Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition. It is important to know that as this is an international assessment the content of the assessments do not always align with the NSW Syllabus documents used in our school. Teachers at Rosary Park do not use the data provided as a record of student progress for that reason. More information will be provided at the beginning of Term 2.

Jessica Mead
Gifted Education Mentor



Congratulations!

We would like to wish a huge congratulations to Isabella Theuma and Bridie Richards who were successful at the Diocesan Netball trials making the Diocesan team to compete at Polding and trial for the Polding team. The girls will travel to Bathurst for this in Term 2. This is a huge achievement for the girls and the first time Rosary Park has had students selected at this level in many years. We wish the girls all the best for the trials in Bathurst!

Mrs Nolan

Weekly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on Friday 19 March, 2021.

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Willow Jackson	Stella Bunner	Reni Stanway
Kinder White	Indy Meek	Nate Bliss	Cruz Johansen
Year 1 Blue	Kade Dodd	Charlize Lott	Anika Fuller
Year 1 White	Braxton Thomas	Liam Dobos	Sasha Asio
Year 2 Blue	Karmichael Armstrong	Chase Roberts	Lilly Schneeweiss
Year 2 White	Ruby Nevin	Samuel Waters	Shelle Cole
Year 3 Blue	Harry White	Korban Longmate	Alice King
Year 3 White	Olivia Costa	Samantha Richards	Rubi Barnes
Year 4 Blue	Jordan Garland Extra award – Alex Lyll (2B)	Jamie Russell	Indy Young
Year 4 White	Cade Little	Lara Dilley	Macy Dun
Year 5 Blue	Ava Brenton	Brock Wishart	Harper Wilton-Huggett
Year 5 White	Oliver White	Oscar Schneeweiss	Hayden O'Donnell
Year 6	Emmie McGregor	Eddie Walters	Bridie Richards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on Friday 26th March, 2021

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Brailyn Longmate	Aubree Morgan	Leo Lawler
Kinder White	Stanley Heien	Finn Mulligan	Theresa Vu
Year 1 Blue	Emmert Collier	Jackson Lacey Jaiden Xuereb	Levi Cousins
Year 1 White	Tao Dumas	Ellie Ayscough	Evie Corry
Year 2 Blue	Cameron Norton	Cruz Grant	Owen Clifton
Year 2 White	Sam Dodd	Sophie Cortis	Josie Lawler
Year 3 Blue	Phoebe Cole	Hunter Gately	Piper Jury
Year 3 White	Charlie Bush	Asha Jury	Aubree Carter
Year 4 Blue	Ashton Pople	Isaac Gough	Lina Poje
Year 4 White	Zac Binnie	Miley Robertson	Aurora Lane

Year 5 Blue	Kiera Libreri	Michael Hardy	Amelia Dagg
Year 5 White	Nate Jury	Jeremy Campbell	Sahara Adamthwaite
Year 6	Annika Marr	Hugh Dilley	Hannah Norton

Principal's Awards: Olivia Libreri, Phoebe Cole, Harry White, Charlize Lott, Jonah Martyn, Kade Dodd, Parker Samaras, Harper Shuttleworth and Lisa Olive.

Good for Kids good for life

FUNDAMENTAL MOVEMENT SKILLS: MASTER THE OVERARM THROW

The overarm throw is needed in many sports, like cricket, softball and baseball, and the same action is used to serve in tennis, volleyball and passes in netball and basketball.

Key steps:

1. Eyes focused on target area throughout throw.
2. Stand side-on to the target area.
3. Throwing arm moves in a downward and backward arc.
4. Steps towards the target area with foot opposite throwing arm.
5. Hips then shoulders rotate forward.
6. Throwing arm follows through, down and across the body.



Try some of these activities/games to practice at home:

- Targets: Empty drink cans or plastics bottles make great target. Make different targets worth different points. Aim a tennis ball or rolled up socks at the targets and see how many throws it takes to reach 30 points.
- Goal shooting: buckets and empty garbage bins make great goals. Try throwing different things to score goals e.g. balls, beanbags or newspaper balls.
- Throw for distance: How far can you throw? Go for a personal best. Use softer objects e.g. newspaper balls or rolled up socks if indoors.



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>

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