

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Term 2 Week 8 2021**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

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**

JUNE		JULY	
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>	From 2pm Athletics Carnival awards and class wards/Principal's awards assembly	Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	PUPIL FREE DAY
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Grandparents/Friends Day (maximum 2 adults per family)
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	LAST DAY OF TERM 2 Wear pyjamas for St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal (closed in shoes please)	AUGUST	
		Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	School Photo Day Full Winter uniform
		SEPTEMBER	
		Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Concert at Cessnock Performing Arts Centre 2 performances on this day- day and night
		Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	PUPIL FREE DAY

## Principal's Message

**Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.**

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Semester One Reports**

Semester One reports will be sent home through Compass from Monday 21 June. This is a report to you on your child's achievement during Term 1 and Term 2 of 2021. When reading your child's report, please be sure to discuss their effort, personal and social development, and work habits with them along with their academic results (grades). Discuss their strengths and achievements and help them to set goals for the future to further develop their areas of need. Please also refer to the letter explaining the reports in further detail included with this newsletter.

As you are aware, parent/teacher interviews were held in Term One and in recent weeks (and in coming weeks) teachers have been in contact with families either through PP meetings or in phone calls to discuss student progress in Term 2. However, if there is anything that you wish to discuss with your child's teacher following the reports, you can contact them via [admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au).

### **Year 5-6 Camp**

Next week (16-18 June) our year 5 and 6 children will attend the Great Aussie Bush Camp for two nights.

The following teachers/adults will be accompanying this excursion:

Ms Stanbridge, Mrs Van Duuren, Mrs Dixon, Mrs Burgess, Mrs Cameron, and Mr Ellis. Travelling on an extended, overnight school excursion places a significant load on staff, who often make considerable personal sacrifice to attend. I acknowledge their generous commitment of time and energy.

In previous communication to year 5/6 families and children, we have clearly indicated our expectations about appropriate behaviour at all times during this camp and look forward to a great time together.

### **Self-Review**

On 25 May, Rosary Park hosted a team from Catholic Schools Office who participated in dialogue with our school executive team about our school and our learning journey in the last three years. The discussion was a reflection on the last three years since our last review and what our directions were for the coming three years.

We identified that future goals for our school are to further explore and understand the pillars of Mercy and what these look like in our everyday vocabulary at school; to utilise community members and interaction with the local area to enrich our children's learning and to continue to explore research based pedagogical practice and embed the practice of regular opportunities to share student learning with families.

## **School Maintenance**

The annual maintenance of our Asset Protection Zone (APZ) occurred on Monday. This is to clear the undergrowth around the boundaries of our school as part of our Bushfire Survival Plan.

Last week we had screens installed in the roof of the hall as part of our Bushfire plan.

Last weekend the lichen on the roof of hall and admin block was treated so that in coming weeks it will die off.

## **Child Protection**

A great way to share important information to children regarding their own safety is by sharing some quality Children's Literature with them. There are a number of resources around in print and online. The school has the following resources that you can borrow to share with your family at any time. Please contact the office to borrow a copy.

'My underpants rule' by Kate and Rod Power

'Let's talk about body, boundaries, consent and respect' by Jayneen Sanders

'My tricky eye spy- The stranger danger awareness book' by Kate & Rod Power

'My body says what I say goes' Jayneen Sanders

There is also a valuable online resource where you can find lots of information for parents and children. <https://www.onlyforme.com.au/>

## **Professional Learning Team Meetings**

This week (Wednesday-Thursday-Friday) we are again holding our Professional Learning Team (PLT) meetings where teachers are released from class for half a day. At these meetings, teachers discuss their children's reading results (our main School Improvement goal) and plan learning and teaching activities to best support these children to keep making progress.

Kind regards,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

## **Primary Coordinator's Message**

### **Building confidence in mathematics in the home**

Children begin their understanding of numbers at an early age. As they develop their understanding of number concepts they build on their knowledge and master skills which develop confidence and self-esteem. Researchers suggest that developing mathematical understanding in the home through everyday routines and games is a key indicator to developing a strong mathematical foundation and confidence that carries through their years of education and this can begin at any age.

Maths games at home provide experiences for children to engage in mathematical communication and reasoning, develop strategical thinking as well as balance luck and skill and increase their ability to adapt.

We suggest you start at the basics. Do you have an idea of your child's understanding of the number line? Can they mentally add and subtract numbers up to 20, 100 or 1000? Turn any simple

chore or routine into a point system and see how many points they can get adding numbers mentally. As their confidence grows add more rules to the game. See an example of how to do this in the Transport Travel Game below.

## **Transport Travel Game**

Use this game when in the car on trips longer than 10 minutes and gain knowledge of your child's understanding of the number line. Use this game to build on their current understanding.

The aim of the game is to get as many points as you can. The person at the end of the game with the most points wins. The game can end at the end of the trip or at the end of the day.

The first to spot these forms of transport gains this many points:

Train – 4 points each train

Police/Ambulance/Fire truck – 2 points each (Extra point if lights are on)

Bus – 1 point each

Motorbike – Half a point

Need to make the game harder? Increase the points for each mode of transport or include minus points for incorrectly identifying, e.g. if your child calls out 'bus' but it is a horse float they must subtract 1 point from their total score.

## **Other Games**

As the weather is getting cooler and the sun is setting earlier, now might be a great opportunity to break out some other games including dominoes, card games, dice games, backgammon and mahjong.

You can find more examples of how to build mathematical understanding in the home at NSW Government's website under the heading Everyday Maths.

Don't forget the most important rule of all games is have FUN!

## **Curious Legends**

On Wednesday, 9 June, Year 2 and 4 students will attend an incursion by theatre group Curious Legends. Curious Legends are responsible for many community arts projects including the recent Luminous Creatures, Picnic with Giants in Civic park and Lantern Making workshops for the community.

"We're Curious Legends, a theatre company that believes in the inherent wonder of the world around us. We aim to inspire kids and their adults to experience this through the magic of theatre. Our shows, workshops, and roving performances embrace laughter, magic, and the mysterious world of our imaginations!"

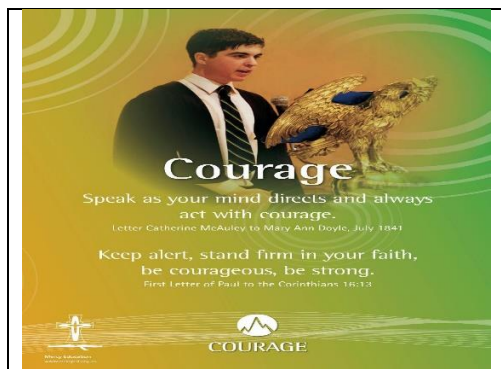
Year 2 and 4 will have the opportunity to make their own puppets and bring them to life with the guidance of the Curious Legends performers. Year 2 will experience the Stupendous Shadows workshop, while Year 4 will enjoy the Flight Path workshop.

We look forward to seeing what creations the student make this week.

## Religious Education Coordinator's Message

### **Mercy Pillars- Courage**

The Mercy value of Courage is about the ability to control fear and to be willing to deal with something that is dangerous, difficult or unpleasant.



#### Questions you might like to ask your child:

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

#### Prayer – Courage



Amen.

#### **Parish Mass Times:**

It is always lovely for children to participate in Mass and Liturgical celebrations in our Parish. Currently Mass is celebrated at 5:00pm Vigil (each Saturday) at St. Brigid's Branxton and at St. Catherine's Greta at 8:00am.

#### **St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal:**

This term, for the month of June, we are raising awareness of St Vincent de Paul and the work they do with the poor in our local community. We invite our students to donate perishable goods, that is, food items that can be kept in the cupboard for a while. This year, we will ask particular year groups to bring in a specific item. We welcome you to bring what you can in these categories:

**Kinder** - toiletries, including shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby wipes

**Year 1**- drinks including tea, coffee, cup-of-soup, poppers of juice, long-life milk, etc.

**Year 2-** canned goods

**Year 3 -** cereal

**Year 4 -** biscuits, either sweet or savory

**Year 5 -** Spreads like vegemite and jam, marshmallows and hot chocolate powder

**Year 6 -** toiletries, including shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and deodorant.

Each class will collect these items in their classroom and watch their stockpile grow throughout the month of June.

At the end of June, we will invite a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society to our school and give Rosary Park's generous offering.

Thank you for helping to make a difference in the lives of those in need in our community.

### ***Out of Uniform Day***

We will also be having a **PJ and hot chocolate day** on **Friday 25th June**.

*Details:* \$1 to come out of uniform and in your PJs for the day and \$2 for a hot chocolate with a marshmallow at lunch. Money raised will go to our St Vincent De Paul Winter appeal.

May God bless you,

Amber van Duuren

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

## **Learning Support News**



### **What is Learning Support at Rosary Park?**

There is lots happening with Learning Support at Rosary Park. The team is always busy supporting **all** our students. This support is in so many areas and is there for everyone.

We are running three MiniLit groups and three MacqilLit groups to support literacy. In classes reading groups are supported by our LSA's. During Math's times many of the Teachers have grouped children to work together with their assistance or the assistance of a LSA.

Many children are supported 1:1 for five or ten minutes at a time for revision/reflection of what is being taught to assist them with new challenges and see successful learning for them. There are always some LSA's on the playground to assist or lend an ear to children seeking a helping hand.

We as a staff and the children are very lucky to have such a professional team of Learning Support Assistants.

### **Attendance at school...How important is it??**

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day. Attending and participating in school will help your child develop:

- important skills and knowledge to help them learn
- social and emotional skills such as good communication, resilience and team work.

Children who attend school every day and complete year 12 have:

- better health
- better job opportunities
- higher income across their lives.

***There is no safe number of days for missing school. Each day a student misses puts them behind.***

### **Tips to help improve your child's attendance**

- Talk to your child about school and how important it is. You can ask them how they feel about school, what they liked and if there are any problems.
- Reward good behaviour and not bad behaviour. For example, if your child refuses to go to school, do not let them have access to their phones or the internet
- Set a good example. Show them how you keep to your own commitments.
- Encourage your child to take on hobbies that your child enjoys such as sports and clubs. This will help them develop positive relationships outside of the classroom
- have a set time to do homework and go to bed.
- leave all technology out of their bedroom
- pack their school bag the night before with everything they need
- have a set time for breakfast
- plan to meet up with a friend so they can travel to school together.

If you require help with getting children to school at any time please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Thanks,

Annmaree Hooker

Learning Support Teacher

## **Reconciliation Liturgy**

On Wednesday 2 June we held a liturgy to recognise Reconciliation Week and acknowledge the role we need to play to build relationships with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

As a whole school we constructed sorry wreaths from handprints and a collage of native daises.

The Reconciliation theme for this year was *More Than a Word*.





## Weekly Awards

Congratulations to those children who have received awards this past fortnight.

Friday 28 May, 2021.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>MJR Award</b>
<b>Kinder Blue</b>	Noha Messenger	Baxter Appelkamp	Aubree Morgan
<b>Kinder White</b>	Zoe Harrison	Annedrea Harris	Allie Dodd
<b>Year 1 Blue</b>	Mason Hamson	Lucy Smith	Kade Dodd
<b>Year 1 White</b>	Liam Dobos	Addison Kowalski	Hannah Charnock
<b>Year 2 Blue</b>	Alex Lyall	Cameron Norton	Lilly Schneeweiss
<b>Year 2 White</b>	Mikayla Gillings	Charli Newman	Owen Gough
<b>Year 3 Blue</b>	Phoebe Cole	Korban Longmate	Harry White
<b>Year 3 White</b>	Jaegar Davies	Riley McLaren	Aubree Carter
<b>Year 4 Blue</b>	Indy Young	Lisa Olive	Isaac Gough
<b>Year 4 White</b>	Bailey Collier	Nate Hamson	Cohan Young
<b>Year 5 Blue</b>	Emily Armstrong	Wade Grosso	Sam Gray
<b>Year 5 White</b>	Ava Davies	Sahara Adamthwaite	Oliver White
<b>Year 6</b>			



Friday 4 June, 2021.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>MJR Award</b>
<b>Kinder Blue</b>	Arielle Francis	Landyn Walsh	Hudson Loadsmen
<b>Kinder White</b>	Baxter Drage	Addison Bondin	Allie Dodd
<b>Year 1 Blue</b>	Elke Bereza	Anika Fuller	Ella Yeomans
<b>Year 1 White</b>	Isaac Lunan	Zoey Doyle	Ellie Ayscough
<b>Year 2 Blue</b>	Hudson O'Connor	Kingsley Jackson	Kyson Crossman
<b>Year 2 White</b>	Lola Murray	Luke Wright	Ruby Nevin
<b>Year 3 Blue</b>	NO AWARDS		
<b>Year 3 White</b>	Aria Brenton	Eadie King	Asha Jury
<b>Year 4 Blue</b>	Brody Billington-Sarina	Jordan Garland	Jamie Russell
<b>Year 4 White</b>	Sophie Costello	Amelia Saxby	Stella Walters
<b>Year 5 Blue</b>	Brock Wishart	Will Hanlon	Eva Haynes
<b>Year 5 White</b>	Ava Davies	Adam Vella	Will McGrath
<b>Year 6</b>	Abigail Parkes	Blake Little	Benji Matt



**INCLUSION.**



**EMPOWERMENT.**



**EDUCATION.**

We are a new local gym and being new to the community, we want to share a bit about ourselves with you. We work from a group fitness timetable with morning and afternoon classes, that accommodates 8 styles of exercise. We assist with meal prep, have an 8 Week Challenge and also host social events every month. If this sounds like something you're interested in check out our website for more information: [www.theshedfitnesshuntervalley.com.au/branxton-studio](http://www.theshedfitnesshuntervalley.com.au/branxton-studio)



@theshedfitness\_



The Shed Fitness



theshedfitness@outlook.com

## Nutrition Snippet

### MEAT-FREE MONDAY.

Get your family eating more veg by making Monday 'meat-free'.



#### Try these meat-free meals:

- [Easy pizza](#)
- [Cauliflower and spinach dahl](#)
- [Tofu soba noodles](#)

Any leftovers can be used in the lunch box the next day!

For these recipes and more visit:  
[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



Cancer Council  
Healthy Lunch Box

## Good for Kids good for life

### START THE DAY RIGHT WITH BREAKFAST



We've all heard that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and it's true! Research has shown that children who eat breakfast before school have higher levels of concentration and are less likely to feel lethargic.

Below are some ideas for a nutritious breakfast:

- Wholegrain cereal such as Weetbix, Porridge and Sultana Bran
- untoasted muesli topped with low fat yogurt
- Wholegrain toast topped with avocado, tomato or low fat cheese
- Raisin toast
- Fruit & vegetable smoothies

If you're short on time, some quick ideas to send to school with your child includes: a tub of low fat yoghurt, cereal to munch such as fruity bites, breakfast drinks such as Up & Go or some fruit.

APPLIES TO BOTH KERBED AND UNKERBED ROADS

## Changes to Cessnock City Council's PARKING ENFORCEMENT POLICY

Cessnock City Council has recently changed its Parking Enforcement Policy. As of the **17 August 2021** vehicles are no longer permitted to park on nature strips with no kerb and gutter. Council's Policy now brings our local area into line with **NSW Road Rules 2014**.

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL



Address: 1764 Wine Country Drive, North Rothbury 2335  
Contact: 02 4044 0567

Email: [info@thecottagepreschool.com.au](mailto:info@thecottagepreschool.com.au)

Service Opening Hours: 6:30am – 6pm, Monday – Friday

Long Day care providing care for children aged 6weeks – 6 years

**VACANCIES AVAILABLE in ALL AGE GROUPS**  
**TOURS AVAILABLE Mon – Fri**

What we offer:

- Child care rebate approved
- Flexible session times to help families make the most of Child Care Subsidy
- We have 3 playgrounds throughout the centre, catering for each age group, that encourage children to explore our natural environment.
- All meals are provided and cooked onsite and we follow the Munch and Move Guidelines and cater for all children's dietary requirements.
- We provide nappies and cot sheets. Cot sheets only for 0-2yrs.
- We offer a full preschool program through our Play based learning curriculum.

At The Cottage Preschool we aim to provide children with a supportive environment to reach their maximum learning potential and learning outcomes, while belonging, being and becoming unique individuals. We respect children as capable learners by incorporating their perspectives, ideas and voices into their learning opportunities.

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