



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Term 1 Week 4 2023**  
**Thursday 16 February**

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

## IMPORTANT DATES

*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.*

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

<b>FEBRUARY</b>		<b>MARCH</b>	
Mon 20th	Parent information night 5pm and 6pm	Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ash Wednesday
<b>MARCH</b>		Fri 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Enrolments open for Kindergarten 2024	<b>APRIL</b>	
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	P&F Meeting 6pm	Thur 6 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term 1
15 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	NAPLAN will be held with it moving to Term 1 – Years 3 and 5	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Term 2
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Diocesan Swimming Carnival	Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>ANZAC DAY – no school</b>

## Principal's Message

**Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.**  
 Mother Teresa

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Parent Interviews**

We are changing our practice of holding parent interviews in term 1. We will not be doing this in 2023, but instead we will hold parent interviews (with children's input as well) at the end of term 2, to coincide with Semester 1 reports. Further information to follow.

### **2023 Athletics Carnival**

Given the positive feedback we received from parents and teachers last year, we will continue to hold our school Athletics Carnival at Maitland Athletics Centre. In 2023, it will be held at the venue on Thursday 29 June. All children in Kinder to year 6 participate in this day and you are very welcome to join us at the venue in High St Maitland.

### **Traffic Reminders**

A reminder to please abide by traffic laws when dropping off and picking up your child/ren. We all want our children to arrive and leave school safely. You are asked to be respectful of staff and other motorists at these times. Also, if you are walking home with your child (or they are on bikes) please be mindful that there are buses passing by and your children should not be on the road at these times.

### **Rosary Park Bushfire Survival Plan**

Our school is in a bushfire prone area. As a result, we have a clearly defined bushfire survival plan, attached to this newsletter. The plan has been developed in consultation with NSW Fire and Rescue, NSW Rural Fire Services, local Police and the Safety and Wellness team from the Catholic Diocese. Copies of this plan have been provided to these organisations.

As the plan outlines, it follows these principles in the event of a bushfire:

1. Evacuate.
2. Shelter onsite in the school hall.
3. Evacuation to St Nicholas Centre Branxton if we cannot remain in hall
4. Evacuation to Branxton Golf Club

As part of this plan, the school follows a strict maintenance plan where surrounding scrub (Asset Protection Zone- outside of the school boundaries) is cleared annually as well as the guttering and downpipes. Arborists monitor trees on site on an annual basis as well as ongoing grounds maintenance to reduce undergrowth fuel load on the site.

Our school practices regular lockdown and evacuation procedures (every term), as well as visits from the local fire brigade. Children are also familiarised with fire safety through lessons in the Personal Development Health Physical Education Syllabus.

Thank you for taking the time to familiarise yourself with this document to prioritise the safety of all in our school community. It is important that you give consideration as to how you would collect your child in the event of a bushfire evacuation.

### **Working Together**

Rosary Park has around 370 students with many more parents. We also have around 40 staff members. This makes us a large and growing community! It is wonderful when we can all come together for community events and celebrations. Inevitably at times, things will go wrong. To effectively work together in the best interests of the children, we need to always maintain open,

respectful and supportive relationships. If at any time, you have concerns for your child, their Class Teacher should always be your first point of contact. As your child's Class Teacher is with them most of the time when they are at school, usually issues can be quickly resolved at this level. If a problem continues after discussing it with your child's class teacher, the next step would be contact either myself or Janelle Dixon (Assistant Principal).

### **School Routines**

We hope that this year will mean the return of further normality for our children, including student attendance at parish masses at St Brigid's Church Braxton. This means that children are leaving the schools grounds to go to the church and on other rare occasions our children might access the grounds across the road from our school. This is considered a normal part of our school process. If you have any concerns about your child leaving the school grounds with teachers, please contact me.

### **Bus Safety Week**

This is to be held from Monday, 20 February to Sunday 26 February, 2023, and raises awareness for all road users on how to stay safe on and around buses, helping to reduce injuries and fatalities.

<https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/campaigns/be-bus-aware/index.html>

Please remind your children of what is expected in regards to their safe travel on the bus.

### **Attendance**

***All children should be at school on time each day and remain until the conclusion of lessons in the afternoon.*** This ensures a consistent routine for students which helps children feel secure, as well as allowing children to learn and grow. We ask that you try to limit appointments through the school day, we understand that doctors, dentists and specialist appointments can be difficult to organise out of school hours. These appointments are important for your child to attend. However, parents sometimes sign their children out early to go to the hairdresser or because it is their child's birthday, these need to be avoided. Frequent lateness should also be avoided, as children need to get into a good routine each morning. If you are having difficulty getting your child to school on time, please talk to their class teacher.

### **Complaints Resolution and Feedback page for Parents and Carers**

The diocese now has a new complaints and feedback process. Brochures are available in our school foyer should you wish to access these.

The CSO website has now been updated to reflect the new Complaints Resolution Framework.

Please see Complaints Resolution and Feedback at

<https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/about/complaints-resolution-and-feedback/>

### **Social Media**

Our newsletter, our school website and Compass are the main forms of communication between home and school. Our school does not moderate or endorse any school social media. Please ensure you have your log in for Compass as we regularly send reminders about school events.

While social media and emails are great ways to keep in touch, using them to criticise or make negative comments about others is dangerous and is not in keeping with the values we teach and live by in our Catholic Schools.

The use of social media by parents or carers to engage in abusive or inflammatory remarks about staff or the school can have serious legal implications. If comments are made about the school, the school can also act, which may include responsible persons being excluded from the school.

Please remember that you cannot share photos on social media that include children other than your own. If you are setting up a class or grade parent Facebook page you are not permitted to include the name of the school in naming this page.

In your child's enrolment form, you indicated whether you gave permission for your child to be photographed or videoed for school and diocesan advertisements and promotion in newsletters. Please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible **if you do not give permission** for your child to be photographed or videoed.

Kind regards,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

## **Assistant Principal News**

### **School Rules and PBL**

At Rosary Park we follow a Positive Behaviour for Learning framework. This ensures that teachers interact with students in a positive way. The primary focus is on rewarding positive behaviours and specifically teaching children what these positive behaviours look and feel like.

In the first few weeks of the year, every classroom has a focus on building positive relationships. Your child's teacher will be working on getting to know your child better and building a positive relationship with them. If your child is having trouble with friendships or relationships with others in the classroom, on the playground or on the bus, we suggest you encourage them to discuss these concerns with their classroom teacher. This will assist the teacher to get to know your child and work together with them to solve any issues they may be experiencing.

We have a school rule and mercy value scope and sequence (below). This means that each 2-week block has a focus rule and a value. This rule is announced at the Monday morning assembly and is specifically taught in each classroom in an age-appropriate way. The class discusses the rule and value and may role play examples of what it might look like when this rule is followed and when it is not.

Our weekly rules are linked with the Mercy Pillars. Teachers reward a child who has displayed this focus pillar each week with our Mercy Award.

### **Gotchas**

Teachers give gotchas to reward positive behaviours. Children collect these "Gotchas" to trade for fun prizes. Classrooms gotchas are tallied throughout the term and the colour house with the most gotchas throughout the school are rewarded at the end of term with the "Spirit Cup" and they can choose an ice block or extended play time to celebrate this success.

### **Parent Night**

There will be more information about our Positive Behaviour for Learning at our parent night on Monday night. If you have any questions about our behaviour model, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Janelle Dixon  
Assistant Principal

## Religious Education News

Gracious God, we come to you at the beginning of this academic year with our many feelings, expectations, fears and hopes. Help us to remember, however, we have the comforting assurance from you: "I will always be with you."



Last Tuesday, staff from Rosary Park travelled down to The Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newcastle for the Catholic School Offices Called to Serve Mass. As a part of these celebrations Ms Stanbridge, Mrs Dixon and Mrs Moylan were recognised for 25 years of service within the Dioceses of Maitland Newcastle. We congratulate them on a wonderful achievement.

### OPENING LITURGY

Today we held our opening school Liturgy, in which we officially welcomed students and their families back to school for 2023 as well as commissioning our school leaders for 2023. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all students who participated beautifully and reverently throughout.







## SACRAMENTAL NEWS

The Branxton Parish Sacramental Team would like to invite you to an Information and Registration Session on

**Thursday 16 February 2023 at 5.30pm in St Catherine's Church, Greta.**

You and your child will be given all the information regarding the formation program to receive the *Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion* during 2023 and you will be able to submit your child's enrolment form. Please bring a copy of their baptism certificate with you if they were not baptised in Branxton or Greta.

If you require any other information, please contact:

Erica Janssen – Parish Secretary  
 Singleton and Branxton Catholic Parishes  
 Office Hours are Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 3pm  
 Phone: 02 5507 4048

Kind regards,

Joshua Garnsey

Religious Education Coordinator

## Sports News

Congratulations to our age champions for our swimming carnival:

Junior girl and boy: Emily A and Darby T  
 11yrs girl and boy: Rubi B and Korban L  
 Senior girl and boy: Lisa O and Will L

Well done to the following students who competed at our Regional Swimming Carnival yesterday.

Emily A, Shonoa A, Ellie A, Rubi B, Elke B, Bryce B, Logan C, Jesse C, Joel C, Phoebe C, Charli F, Anika F, Ava J, Will L, Korban L, Holly N, Ruby N, Lisa O, Liam P, Darby T, Stella W, Luke W and Cohan Y.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students who have been successful in qualifying for the Diocesan Swimming Carnival.

Holly N, Brailyn L, Ellie A, Charli F, Rubi B, Logan C, Jesse C, Liam P and William L and Junior Girls Relay Team (Emily A, Ruby N, Charli F and Ellie A). Well done and good luck.

### **SPORTING TRIALS:**

**Touch football** - Last week we saw many of our talented touch players in Year 5 & 6 represent Rosary Park at the Regional Touch Trials held at Lochinvar. Well done to Phoebe C, Sophia H, Brody B and Cohan Y.

**Netball** - we also held netball trials last week and congratulations to Aubree C and Phoebe C who will represent Rosary Park.

Mackenzie Gageler  
Sports Coordinator







## Library News

Dear Parents/Carers

A huge thank you to the Chard family for their very generous donations of dirt bike magazines to the school library. These magazines will be very popular with our students.

Also, a massive thank you to the White family for their very generous donation of novels to the school library. These books will be a great support in our teaching and learning across all levels. Mrs. White also runs a book blog on Instagram called Lovefourreading in which she reviews many children books. Go and check it out!!!!

We hope you all fall in love with a good book as much as we do here at Rosary Park. Happy Valentine's Day!

Happy Reading  
The Library Team





## Weekly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards this past fortnight.

### Week ending Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2023 (Week 2)

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>MJR Award</b>
Kinder Blue	--	--	--
Kinder White	--	--	--
Year 1 Blue	Eli B	Maisy C	Sawyer D
Year 1 White	Leo B	Teagan S	Maya S
Year 2 Blue	Matilda M	Jaxon C	Annedrea H
Year 2 White	Alfie T	Aramaia M	Noha M
Year 3 Blue	Hunter I	Blake C	Jackson L
Year 3 White	Fletcher B	Emmett C	Anika F
Year 4 Blue	Shelle C	Elijah C	Aleah D
Year 4 White	Alyssa B	Darcy H	Hudson O
Year 5 Blue	Hunter G	Elara B	Jaegar D
Year 5 White	Brooke H	Charlie B	Logan K
Year 6 Blue	Borrklyn O	Cooper T	Macy D
Year 6 White	Aurora L	Jordan G	Lawson M

### Week ending Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2023 (Week 3)

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>MJR Award</b>
Kinder Blue	Leilani D	Noah L	Marshall C
Kinder White	James L	Tanner H	Maxx R
Year 1 Blue	Caleb H	Dominic P	Josie W-H
Year 1 White	Alexis I	Alfie W	Kenny A
Year 2 Blue	Brailyn L	Finn M	Addison B
Year 2 White	Taylah H	Cooper S	Arielle F
Year 3 Blue	Hannah C	Isaac L	Addison K
Year 3 White			
Year 4 Blue	Jesse C	Laylah K	Samuel W
Year 4 White	Georgie W	Sylvester R	Darby T
Year 5 Blue	Hunter G	Elara B	Jaegar D
Year 5 White	Brooke H	Charlie B	Logan K
Year 6 Blue			
Year 6 White	Aurora L	Jordan G	Lawson M

## Principal's Awards

Leo B, Finn M, Lexi B, Maya S, Charlie B, Emily A, Alyssa B, Noha M, Darcy H



**REGISTRATION IS NOW  
OPENING ON**

**25TH OF JAN!!!**

**CLOSING ON 28TH OF FEB**

Remember to activate your active kids voucher



#keepcalmnetballseasonisalmosthere

1. The Trustees for the Roman Catholic Church for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle (the Diocese) on behalf of the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) is subject to the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) and the Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW). All information provided is treated in accordance with the CSO's Privacy Policy and this Collection Notice.
2. The CSO, both independently and through its schools, collects personal information, including sensitive information, about students and parents or guardians before and during the course of a student's enrolment at the school. This may be in writing or in the course of conversations. The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable the school to provide schooling to students enrolled at the school, exercise its duty of care, and perform necessary associated administrative activities, which will enable students to take part in all the activities of the school.
3. Some of the information we collect is to satisfy the CSO and the school's legal obligations, particularly to enable the CSO and school to discharge its duty of care.
4. Compass is the diocese's centralised digital student information management system and CeD3 is our centralised digital storage system. Compass is owned and operated by a third-party service provider (JDLF International) and CeD3 is owned and operated by the Catholic Education Network (CENet). The personal information in the system is accessible by:
  - Compass, for the purpose of providing technical support; and
  - CENet, to provide support to the diocese. CENet has access to the personal information from Compass when it is held in CeD3 as well as information collected from other sources and held in CeD3.
5. Laws governing or relating to the operation of a school require that certain information is collected. These include the Education Act 1990 (NSW), Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW), Children's Guardian Act 2019 (NSW) and Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW).
6. Health information about students is sensitive information within the terms of the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). We may ask you to provide medical reports about students from time to time.
7. If we do not obtain the information referred to above, we may not be able to enrol or continue the enrolment of your son/daughter.
8. The CSO and school from time to time discloses personal and sensitive information to others for administrative, educational and support purposes. This may include to:
  - other schools and teachers at those schools
  - government departments
  - Catholic Schools NSW (CSNSW), the school's local diocese and the parish, other related church agencies/entities, and schools within other dioceses
  - medical practitioners
  - people providing educational, support and health services to the school, including specialist visiting teachers, sport coaches, volunteers, counsellors
  - providers of learning and assessment tools
- assessment and educational authorities, including the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), NSW Education Standards Authority, and NAPLAN Test Administration Authorities (who will disclose it to the entity that manages the online platform for NAPLAN).
- people providing administrative and financial services to the CSO and school.
- anyone you authorise the CSO and school to disclose information to.
- anyone to whom the CSO and school is required or authorised to disclose the information to by law, including child protection laws.
9. Personal information collected from students is regularly disclosed to their parents or guardians.
10. The CSO and school may use online or 'cloud' service providers to store personal information and to provide services to the school that involve the use of personal information, such as services relating to email, instant messaging, education and assessment applications and managing incidents and complaints. Some limited personal information may also be provided to or accessible by these service providers to enable them to authenticate users that access their services or provide support for maintaining software. This personal information may reside on a cloud service providers servers which may be situated outside Australia.
11. The CSO's Privacy Policy, accessible on the CSO website, sets out how parents or students may seek access to and correction of their personal information which the school has collected and holds. However, access may be refused in certain circumstances such as where access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of others, where access may result in a breach of the CSO or school's duty of care to the student, or where students have provided information in confidence. Any refusal will be notified in writing with reasons if appropriate.
12. The CSO's Privacy Policy also sets out how parents and students can make a complaint about a breach of the APPs and how the complaint will be handled.
13. The school may engage in fundraising activities. Information received from you may be used to make an appeal to you. It may also be disclosed to organisations that assist in the school's fundraising activities solely for that purpose. We will not disclose your personal information to third parties for their own marketing purposes without your consent.
14. On occasions information such as academic and sporting achievements, student activities and similar news is published in school newsletters and magazines, on our intranet and on our website. This may include photographs and videos of student activities such as sporting events, school camps and school excursions. The school will obtain permissions annually from the student's parent or guardian (and from the student if appropriate) if we would like to include such photographs or videos or other identifying material in our promotional material or otherwise make this material available to the public such as on the internet.
15. If you provide the CSO or school with the personal information of others, such as doctors or emergency contacts, we encourage you to inform them that you are disclosing that information and why.



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