



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 4 2023
Thursday 18th May

Rosary Park Catholic School

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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

MAY		JUNE	
Thur 25 th	SCHOOL PHOTO'S – Winter Uniform Caritas Boxes due to be returned	Fri 30 th	LAST DAY OF TERM 2
Fri 26 th	PUPIL FREE DAY	JULY	
Tue 30 th	P&F Association Meeting – 6pm All Welcome	Mon 17 th	FIRST DAY OF TERM 3
JUNE		Fri 21 st	Grandparent's Day
Wed 7 th – Fri 9 th	Year 5 Great Aussie Bush Camp	Thur 27 th	ASPIRE
Mon 26 th	PUPIL FREE DAY Student Led Conferences – with parents attending. ALL GRADES – all families attend	Fri 28 th	PUPIL FREE DAY
Tue 20 th – Thur 22 nd	Year 6 Canberra Excursion	SEPTEMBER	
Thur 29 th	Athletics Carnival – K to 6 ALL WELCOME	Tues 12 th	Whole School Concert @ Cessnock Performing Arts Centre – 2 performances 5pm and 6.45pm

Principal's Message

Lord Jesus Christ,

You chose to put yourself—tiny, needy, and helpless—into the nurturing and watchful hands of a human mother. Since then, every act of mothering, both physical and spiritual, in every time and every corner of the world recollects Mary's. Inspired by this example, we, too, honour our mothers and mother figures. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers and nurturers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, honour them always with a spirit of profound respect.

We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

(Diocese of Wollongong)

Dear Parents/Carers

In recent weeks I have welcomed new families to Rosary Park as potential enrolments for kindergarten in 2024. It is with pride as the principal that I can show them our wonderful classrooms and facilities that we are so fortunate to have. Bishop Michael commented likewise on his visit here last Friday. He also commented on the pride the children showed for their school and their display of the Mercy pillars as he joined our assembly and visited some classrooms.

During the enrolment tours and interviews, however it is just as important that we talk about the reasons that families are considering a Catholic education, specifically at Rosary Park, for their child. During enrolment interviews, I openly tell new parents that we are unapologetically Catholic, we strive to be like the person of Jesus, and the way we show that in our daily interactions in a Catholic school is through Respect- for self and others. It is timely then for you as an existing parent to be reminded of what we stand for as a Rosary Park community. As a parent, you have a vital role to play in working with us to form these values in your child. We work to show respect for others daily in respectful relationships where each person's dignity is upheld, and they are treated with kindness. For us at Rosary Park that is a non-negotiable for our children and their families. You as a parent, in signing our Community Code of Conduct, have agreed to work with us in this respectful way for the best outcomes for your child.

Catholic Schools Week: Empower, Journeying Together

It was so lovely to see so many parents / grandparents join us last Monday for our open day. We have much to celebrate as a Catholic School Community and I thank you for working with us to best support all our children.

On Monday 22 May, I will take our School leaders to Sacred Heart Cathedral for the annual Catholic Schools Week mass.

Annual School Visit

Yesterday we hosted a Diocesan team including our Head of Schools Steve Lemos and Diocesan Chief Operating Officer Lisa Tierney and representatives from all the Shared Services teams. The team is visiting all our Diocesan schools throughout this year. We had a productive discussion on our school, the supports offered by the system and how we can be better supported by them.

Overwhelmingly the team commended us on the work of our school and the lived example of our Mercy pillars with children and staff as well as the work we are doing in the Leading Learning Collaborative, using Learning Intentions, Success Criteria and the third teacher to engage our children in their own learning.

Parents & Friends Association

On Tuesday 30 May we will hold our next meeting from 6pm in the staffroom. All are welcome.

Safe Road use Reminder

Rosary Park has a well-defined Traffic management plan to ensure the safety of our children at drop off/pick up times. As the adult you have a responsibility to model legal and safe road use to your child/ren at these times. Please be reminded that you need to park your vehicle to let your child out of the car (on the kerb side), it is not safe or legal to stop at the crossing and allow your child to get out of the car. Thank you for your abiding by these rules to ensure that everyone is safe.

National Walk Safely to School Day is a community initiative that aims to raise awareness of the health, road safety, transport, and environmental benefits that regular walking (especially to and from school) can provide for the long-term well-being of our children.

Join us tomorrow for walk2school. Meet us at IGA from 815am for 830am departure.

Communication Between Home and School

Rosary Park uses its fortnightly newsletter and Compass as our main forms of communication between home and school. Rosary Park does not use any social media other than our school website. Please be aware that any social media groups that have been created are not moderated or endorsed by our school. Communication is the key between home and school. It is important for you and your child that there is open communication. Please contact your child's teacher sooner rather than later if you need anything clarified or if you have a concern. Most times, if there is an issue, it is easily solved between teacher and parent. Please contact Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal) or Janelle Dixon (Assistant Principal) if you still require assistance.

Interviews with Teachers

If you are concerned as to your child's progress or wish to talk to the teacher, please inform us by note, email (admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au) or a phone call and we will be most willing to make an appointment before or after school. Unfortunately, we cannot see parents 'at the door' or while in the playground on duty, as the teacher's first responsibility is for the supervision of the children under his/her care. Parent/Teacher learning conversations have been occurring in recent weeks.

Semester One reports are currently being prepared by teachers and will be available to parents via Compass at the end of this term.

Student led Conferences will be held **Monday 26 June- PUPIL FREE DAY. All Parents are expected to attend this interview with their child on 26 June. A timetable will be set up on Compass in coming weeks to register.**

Staffing

Mrs Annika Rooke is now teaching 2 White every Tuesday so that Nikola Groves can fulfil her duties as our new Gifted Education Mentor. Nikola replaces Mackenzie Gageler in the GEM role. Mackenzie is now REC.

We have welcomed some new Learning Support Assistants to Rosary Park for the remainder of term 2. These are Mrs Linda Museth, Mrs Natalie Cortis and Mrs Jessica Bellott.

Assemblies

We welcome families to join us at our whole school awards assembly on Fridays from 2:15pm.

On 2 June Kindergarten will share with us; and Year 5 will share on 23 June.

Merit awards must always be handed in for a principal's award on the Thursday afternoon before the Friday awards assembly.

Winter Uniform

Changeover to winter uniform occurred last Monday 15 May. Your support is greatly appreciated to maintain our very high uniform standard. All items are available from Flanagan's Menswear in Cessnock (there are hats available for purchase here also).

Parents are reminded that **nail polish and fancy accessories** have no place at school. Socks are not to have brand names and are to be above the ankle. Ankle socks are not part of the uniform.

Students are permitted to wear the following;

-**Blue** hair ties or ribbons

-Jewellery - studs only to be worn in pierced ears, watch, crucifix or cross

- Hair should be neat and tidy and should not impede vision or act as a distraction. Shoulder length hair must be tied back from the face.

[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/>

Kindergarten 2024 Enrolments

These are now open however they will close soon. You can collect an enrolment package from the school office. We will start collating enrolment numbers in the next few weeks so please make friends and neighbours aware that they need to attend the office and collect an enrolment package ASAP.

Kind regards,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

Assistant Principals Message

Changes to NAPLAN reports

The way NAPLAN results are reported to parents and schools will change this year. There are new proficiency standards which are challenging, but fair. These standards describe what a child should be able to do in literacy or numeracy at the time of sitting NAPLAN. They provide a reasonable expectation of what students should be capable of at the time of testing and are based on numeracy and literacy skills learnt in previous years of school. Student results will now be reported across 4 levels of achievement, instead of the old system of reporting in "bands".

The new levels are -

- exceeding
- strong
- developing
- needs additional support

These levels clearly show parents what their child's numeracy and literacy skills are at the time of testing. It provides a clear indicator of the need for additional supports or interventions for some students. These 4 achievement levels will be reported against the key areas of

- writing
- reading
- conventions of language (spelling, grammar, punctuation)
- numeracy

The NAPLAN report will still show the average results for a school and a comparison between the school and national averages.

If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN, or you would like results explained once they are released, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself at school.

Warm Regards,

Janelle Dixon
Assistant Principal

Religious Education Coordinator's Message

Parish Mass Times:

This term we have re-commenced attending our parish mass on a Thursday. Every second Thursday one of our primary grades attends Mass at 9.20am. Following that Fr Thomas then comes over to the school and visits one of our classes. It has been great to be able to build our relationship with our local parish again. See below dates when classes are attending Mass. Parents are more than welcome to join us at the church on a Thursday.

Week and Date	Grade to attend Mass	Priest visit
1 st June Week 6	Year 3	Year 6
15 th June Week 8	Year 4	Year 5

Mother's Day:

It was so lovely to see so many significant women in our children's life attend our Mother's Day breakfast last Friday. A huge thank you to Rachel B from "Elay High Tea" and her team in organizing a high tea and Elisha for preparing the children's breakfast. Also, thanks to Kellie S for bringing her coffee van for us all to enjoy.

Bishop Visit:

Last Friday we were lucky enough to receive a visit from our new Bishop Michael. He attended our assembly and was able to meet all our wonderful students at Rosary Park.

Catholic Schools Week 2023



Thank you to those families that joined us in celebrating Catholic Schools Week on Monday. It was lovely to have so many families at school and we hope you enjoyed seeing the work that your students have been working on. A special thank you to Year 5 and Year 1 children and teachers for their work in organising and practising the liturgy! The theme for this year is "Encounter, Journeying Together" which invites us to consider how we can live a life that is modelled on Jesus. This year we created a whole school Banner that shows our journey as a school community and how we can encounter Jesus every day. The artwork starts at kindergarten showing our journey that leads to encounter.

Have a lovely week and may God bless you always,

Mackenzie Gageler
Acting Religious Education Coordinator





Sporting News

Congratulations to Jesse C for qualifying for Cross Country at Polding Level.

On Friday the 6th of May, Isabelle W, Ella G and Aria G attended the interschool equestrian event in Scone. It was a huge day leaving home at 5am and not getting back until 7pm.

Ella received 5 ribbons ranging from 1st – 5th, Aria came away with 6 ribbons from 2nd – 5th and Isabelle had a wonderful day riding her new horse, Leo.

Thank you to Sam Grainger for supporting the girls in being able to compete.



Weekly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards.

Week ending 28th April 2023 (Week 1)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Noah L	Kobe M	Eva S
Kinder White	Lylah H	James L	Tanner H
Year 1 Blue	Sawyer D	Matilda B	Ari S
Year 1 White	Charlie D	Sonny R	Brooklyn Y
Year 2 Blue	Jack C	Indy M	Liam H
Year 2 White	Mackenzie H	Taylah H	Campbell C
Year 3 Blue	Addison S	Noah L	Addison K
Year 3 White	Braxton T	Charlize L	Emmett C
Year 4 Blue	Jesse C	Samuel W	Elijah C
Year 4 White	Hudson O	Calen C	Kendra C
Year 5 Blue	Samantha R	Evenlyn M	
Year 5 White	Bryce B	Rawson D	Rae K
Year 6 Blue	Cooper T	Laylah H	Robert C
Year 6 White	Joel C	Archer K	Bryden K

Week ending 5th May 2023 (Week 2)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue			
Kinder White	Jett I	Hugh M	Stella M
Year 1 Blue	Parker G	Harrison A-L	Quinn M
Year 1 White	Koa VW	Logan B	Brooklyn Y
Year 2 Blue	Mason C	Annabelle L	Annabelle B
Year 2 White	Boston B		Elliana D
Year 3 Blue	Tao D	Jaxon B	Hudson W
Year 3 White	Lean W	Hunter B	Levi C
Year 4 Blue	Evie S	Chase R	Ezme-Rose S
Year 4 White	Madden T	Alyssa B	Owen C
Year 5 Blue	Louis D	Lachlan M	Zara L
Year 5 White	Brooke H	Logan K	Ruby HD
Year 6 Blue	Cade L	Brody B	Owen S
Year 6 White	Bailey C	Aurora L	Sophia H

Principal's Awards

Ellie A, Lachlan B, Leah W, Will L, Matilda B, Jenson F, Madeleine P, Ezme-Rose S, Georgie W, Parker G,



St Joseph's College Lochinvar would like to extend an invitation to your family to attend our Open Afternoon on 23rd May, 2023. Tours will begin at 4pm and we will have information on subjects available, uniforms and facilities. Please RSVP for your tour at the link [Register Here](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to our College.



PERFORMING ARTS CULTURE CESSNOCK

Great news! Your students & teachers are invited to see Red Line Production's **JUST (Tricking, Annoying, Stupid, Crazy, Disgusting, Shocking, Doomed) LIVE ON STAGE** these upcoming July School Holidays!

"JUST (tricking, annoying, stupid, crazy, disgusting, shocking, doomed) LIVE ON STAGE! takes on the wonderful world of the JUST books by Andy Griffiths, vividly and hilariously bringing them to life on the stage with everything from invisibility pills and Mudmen, to vomiting dogs and death defying balloon rides.

This show is definitely not for the faint farted...we mean hearted!"

Performance Date: Tuesday 11 July 2023

Performance Times: 10AM & 12:30PM

Education Ticket Price: \$15.00 per student (normally \$25!), Teachers & Helpers FREE

Show Duration: 55 minutes, no interval

Suitable Ages: Ideal for primary school aged students



Dear **Parents/Guardians**,

We are delighted to inform you that **Rosary Park** will be participating in the world-renowned ICAS competition this year. This is an opt-in competition, meaning only children who have signed up will participate.

What is ICAS?

ICAS is an online academic competition that is designed to assess students' higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in a range of subjects. This year, students in Year 2-6 will have the opportunity to participate in Spelling, Writing and Mathematics tests.

Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition and development. Every student who participates will receive a printed certificate and an online results report. Top performers will be eligible for medals.

We encourage you to consider entering your child into ICAS this year.

Learn more about ICAS [here](https://icasassessments.com/products-icas/): (icasassessments.com/products-icas/)

How to participate in ICAS

If you wish for your child to participate in ICAS this year, please:

1. read about ICAS subjects and prices [here](https://icasassessments.com/products-icas/): (icasassessments.com/products-icas/)
2. read the Privacy Collection Statement below.
3. read the terms and conditions [here](https://icasassessments.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-ICAS-Assessments-Schools-TsCs_S2023.V6-1.pdf): (icasassessments.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-ICAS-Assessments-Schools-TsCs_S2023.V6-1.pdf)
4. go to Parent Portal to purchase tests [here](https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps): (shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps)
5. enter our school's access code – **JZR811**
6. enter your child's details, select the tests you would like to purchase, then proceed to payment.

Entries will close Monday 17th July, and all assessments will take place in August.

After payment is made via the Parent Payment System, you will receive an order confirmation email, please keep this for your records.

ICAS Results and Certificates

We will notify you of the date(s) that we run ICAS at the school and when your child's ICAS results are ready. Once we have received your child's ICAS certificate, we will send it home with your child. The back of the certificate shows ICAS results and the login details, "TAP ID and Pin", that you and your

child need to enter the [Results Portal](https://orti.icasassessments.com/ortiStudent) orti.icasassessments.com/ortiStudent.

Privacy Collection Statement

The following information is a privacy notification about how your child's data is kept private and secure.

ICAS Assessment is owned by Janison Solutions Pty Ltd (**We, Us, Our**).

*To deliver assessment products, Janison will require your child's School to obtain your consent to provide Janison with certain personal information of students. Janison will collect, store, use, disclose and otherwise deal with such personal information in accordance with its privacy policy (below). We are aware of our responsibility to protect personal information related to children and students from being disclosed when we deliver an ICAS Assessments product. Unless you, as the child's legal guardian consents, we **will not**:*

- *collect any personal information or data of children other than the information we need for the successful completion of an assessment, test, or exam.*
- *transfer any personal information we obtain from a child in the delivery of assessments and tests to any jurisdiction outside of Australia.*
- *share any personal information relating to children with any third parties (except for those third parties necessary for us to carry out our Services or provide our Products e.g., medal engraving).*
- *use any personal information or data relating to children for marketing purposes.*

You can view our full privacy policy at <https://www.janison.com/privacy-policy/>.

We may retain personal information and data relevant to a child for their future purposes or for research purposes by Janison for the duration of the school life cycle of the child. However, if you or your child at any time wish to have their personal information or data removed from our systems, they or you may opt out by simply contacting our Privacy Officer at privacy@janison.com or by contacting icasassessments@janison.com.

We are proud to offer ICAS and look forward to some fantastic results later in the year. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions.



Parents and Carers,

The Variety Club has a therapy grant for children residing in ACT and NSW to assist with payment for children's therapy. Some families may be eligible and could be supported to apply. Children who are waiting for NDIS approval or who are not eligible for NDIS are able to apply.

More information is available through the link below including guidelines / eligibility, types of therapy and how to apply.

<https://www.variety.org.au/nsw/we-care-therapy-grant/> (copy the link into your browser)

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