

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Term 2 Week 8 2024**  
**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

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**

JUNE	June 20-21 Ms Stanbridge away at CSO leaders retreat	JULY	
Tue 25 <sup>th</sup>	Semester 1 reports available on Compass	Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	LAST DAY OF TERM 2 – Pyjama Day
Tue 25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 to "Fame Jnr – The Musical at St Joseph's Lochinvar	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	FIRST DAY OF TERM 3
Thur 27 <sup>th</sup>	ASPIRE Workshops – SPORTS UNIFORM	Thu 25 <sup>th</sup>	Grandparents Day – Liturgy at 12:30pm
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	Aboriginal Dance Performance	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Excursion	Tue 30 <sup>th</sup> – Thu 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 6 Canberra Excursion Ms Stanbridge attending
JULY		AUGUST	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	PUPIL FREE DAY Student Led Conferences	Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	Father's Day afternoon – 12:30 sausage sizzle and games
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Regional Athletics Carnival		

## 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 Tuesday 25 June. This is a report to you on your child's achievement during Term 1 and Term 2 of 2024.

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, student led conferences are planned for our **pupil free day on Monday 1 July**. Please ensure you book a time on Compass.

### **Year 5-6 Camps**

Last week I attended the Great Aussie Bush camp for 2 nights with year 5 staff and Ms Gageler. It was a wonderful time together where the children stepped out of their comfort zone and openly encouraged their friends to do the same.

On 30 July year 6 students will depart for their 2-night excursion to Canberra.

The following teachers/adults will be accompanying this excursion:

Ms Stanbridge, Mr Standing, Ms Gageler and Mrs Gargan. 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.

Year 5 had a wonderful time at their camp and upheld our school expectations of respect for self and others.

Next week we will discuss with year 6 children, our expectations about appropriate behaviour during this camp and look forward to a great time together.

### **Sport Aerobics**

It was fantastic to watch our three teams compete in the annual FISAF NSW State Championships in Sydney last Saturday.

The excitement on the children's faces said it all! A huge thank you to the parents for taking their children to this event, and to the staff of Rosary Park who attended in support of our children. A special thanks to Kimberely Gargan (Mrs G) who has worked with teams during breaks to train them.

Parents are reminded to complete the survey sent out today to gauge interest to compete at Nationals.

### **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 several 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/>

Kind regards,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

## Assistant Principal's Message

### Semester 1 Reports and Reminders for Student led conferences

These reports will be available on Compass from Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June. They will give parents the opportunity to see how children are going in class with listed strengths and areas for development.

The student led conferences will provide an opportunity for parents to have a learning conversation with their child and the teacher. Teachers and students will present some work samples and discuss current learning goals, particularly in Maths and English.

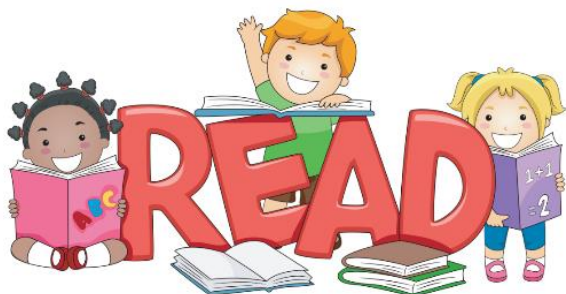
These conferences will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July and times can be booked on Compass. This day is a pupil free day, and parents are asked to bring their child along to school for the conference. Please book a time as soon as possible as we are keen to allow all students the opportunity to show and discuss learning goals with their parents.

Just in case you missed them on Compass, I have attached a list of questions that parents may find useful during the conferences to this newsletter.

If you are having difficulty booking in for your conference, please do not hesitate to reach out.

### How can I support my child's education?

There are many ways as parents you can support the learning your child is doing at school.



### Reading

Every minute spent reading with your child is valuable learning time. This does not always mean you need to sit down for long periods of time every day to read a chapter book. If your child is a reluctant reader, there are many other activities you can encourage **as well as** reading books.

- Read the rules to a game and then play it
- Read online news articles about a favourite celebrity or sport/sportsperson
- Read the school newsletter
- Does your child like music? Play songs on iTunes or Spotify, turn on karaoke and have your child follow the words
- Do some cooking and read the recipe
- For younger children, identify words/letters in the environment.

Encourage comprehension when reading by asking questions such as

- What did the character do in this chapter?
- Do you like this character? Why/why not?
- Describe what the character saw/heard/how they may have felt when this happened.
- What might happen next in the story? Why do you think that?

### Vocabulary

- Play eye spy. Use words to describe objects to help others guess what you are thinking. Try to describe more than just the colour. Think of words to describe size, shape, texture etc.
- Ask questions - what does that word mean? Can you think of another word that means the same thing? (a synonym) What about a word that is the opposite? (an antonym)

## Mathematics

Have younger students 'spot' numbers in the environment. At the shops, price tags, street numbers, on road signs, clocks, keyboards, calendars etc. Can you identify patterns in the environment? A brick wall? Petals on a flower? Veins on a leaf? Build mathematical vocabulary by using words to describe the pattern or what you can see.



Knowing our "Friends of 10," (or pairs of numbers that add to 10) is the basis of success in future mental calculations. Playing "Friends of 10" snap! (instead of snapping number pairs, snap friends of 10 pairs)



Play a board game and instead of using one dice, use two. For younger students use 2 dot dice and count the total number of dots each turn. When confident, substitute one for a number dice. Count on from that number using the dots on the other dice. For a quicker game, use one dice but double the number you roll each time. Being able to quickly double numbers can help us increase the speed of mental calculations.

## Calendars

Do you have a calendar in the house? Do you have conversations about days, weeks, months? Mark important events on the calendar and count down the weeks/days until the event arrives.

MARCH 2023						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 St Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Discussions could include:

- How many days/weeks until your birthday? Count them on the calendar.
- How many weeks in a school term? How long is it until the holidays?
- If the last day of March is a Wednesday, on what day of the week will April start? (There are questions like this in NAPLAN)

## Clocks



Is there an analogue clock in the house that your child can see? Are there set times for meals, bedtime, time for the bus, time for bath/shower? Can your child read these times on the clock? Can they work out how long it is until these times?

Discussions could include:

- The big hand is on the 4, how long until half past eight bedtime?
- It will be bedtime when the big hand is on the 12, at 8 o'clock.

## Cooking Time

Use the time you are cooking dinner to create educational moments. Help develop skills in measurement and a knowledge of litres, kilograms, cups etc. Look at the weights of items in the pantry/fridge.

Discussions could include:

- This weighs 250g, how many will I need to get to a kilogram?
- I need to use half of this litre of milk. How many millilitres will that be?
- How many 500 mL bottles can I fill with this 2L water bottle? What fraction of the total is each 500mL bottle?



If you have any questions about supporting your child in their learning at home, please contact the school.

Warm Regards,  
Janelle Dixon  
Assistant Principal

## Religious Education Coordinator

### First Holy Communion:

Congratulations to the following students who made their first Holy Communion last Friday at St Brigid's Church:

Annabelle B, Minh B, Jack C, Liam H, Cruz J, Annabelle L, Noha M, Aubree M, Holly N, Jenny N, Vy N, Ken P, Ellesse S, Alfie T, Susan P, Linda P, Ruby N, Johnny N and Sylvester R.



### Pajamas and Beanie Day

On the last day of term, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July (Week 10 Term 2), students are invited to wear their pajamas and or a beanie to school. We kindly ask for a gold coin donation that will go towards our winter appeal or you can donate through the QKR app.

Kind regards

Mackenzie Gageler  
Religious Education Coordinator

## Regional Spelling Maths Bee

Congratulations to the Rosary Park students that competed at the Regional Level Spelling and Maths Bee at Our Lady of Lourdes, Tarro.



	Maths	Spelling
Stage 1	Madi N	Aiden L
Stage 2	Jaxon C	Sofia P
Stage 3	Samantha R	Evie M

## School Aerobics

On Saturday, our three Rosary Park Sport Aerobics teams travelled to Sydney to compete at the FISAF State Aerobics Competition. All three teams have been working hard on their routines at lunch and afternoon tea times and were very excited to get up on stage to compete! Congratulations to all the students who competed, and a special thanks to Mrs G for all her hard work training the children and getting them ready to compete!

Stage 1: The Branxton Brigade – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Ava M, Stella G, Gus W, Madi N, Grace S, Charli C, Ayla B, Ava W, Hallie D

Stage 2: The Branxton Beat – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Holly N, Brailyn L, Annie H, Claire B, Addison S, Leah W, Francis M

Stage 3: The Branxton Boogie – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Lexi B, Taylah B, Shelle C, Halle G, Piper J, Rae K, Ruby N, Liana R, Lily S, Mia W



## Weekly Awards

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

Weekending 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (Term 2 Week 6)

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>Mercy Award</b>
<b>Kinder Blue</b>			
<b>Kinder White</b>	Savannah R	Emily G	Toby B
<b>Year 1 Blue</b>	Evie E	Johan C	Mason B
<b>Year 1 White</b>	Lincoln H	Myla W	Carter A
<b>Year 2 Blue</b>			
<b>Year 2 White</b>	Teagan S	Matilda C	Amelia H
<b>Year 3 Blue</b>	Elliana D	Jack C	Annabelle L
<b>Year 3 White</b>	Allie D	Jesse S	Ellesse S
<b>Year 4 Blue</b>	Noah R	Emmett C	Jaiden X
<b>Year 4 White</b>	Addison S	Max K	Addison K
<b>Year 5 Blue</b>	Karmichael A	Jema M	Eyden G
<b>Year 5 White</b>	Evie S	Ruby N	Darcy H
<b>Year 6 Blue</b>	Alexis B	Scarlett T	Aden P
<b>Year 6 White</b>	Phoebe C	Saige M	Tyler S

Weekending 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024 (Term 2 Week 7)

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Award One</b>	<b>Class Award Two</b>	<b>Mercy Award</b>
<b>Kinder Blue</b>			
<b>Kinder White</b>	Thomas S	Spencer C	George A
<b>Year 1 Blue</b>	Millah L	Vivienne S	Noah L
<b>Year 1 White</b>			
<b>Year 2 Blue</b>	Josie W-H	Olivia D	Isaac K
<b>Year 2 White</b>	Hallie D	Logan B	Emily R
<b>Year 3 Blue</b>	Liam H	Vy N	Minh B
<b>Year 3 White</b>	Boston B	Noha M	Finn M
<b>Year 4 Blue</b>			
<b>Year 4 White</b>			
<b>Year 5 Blue</b>	Liam P	Sylvester R	Charli F
<b>Year 5 White</b>	Madden T	Alex L	Jacob L
<b>Year 6 Blue</b>			
<b>Year 6 White</b>	Bryce B	Harry W	Isabella T

## Helpful **parent questions** to ask your child during a student led conference

- What are you most proud of in this piece of work?
- If you were to do this task again, what would you do differently? Why?
- What is your favourite part of (subject)? Why do you think this is?
- What do you find most challenging about (subject)? What might you be able to do to become more confident with this?
- How do you feel when you are asked to explain your thinking in (subject/topic)
- How do you feel about working independently on a writing task?
- How do you feel about working independently on a mathematical problem?
- How do you feel about your overall learning so far in (subject/topic)?
- What do you do in class when you are having trouble with a task/activity?
- What have you done so far to move toward achieving your goal?
- What do you think is the next step to achieving your goal?
- Do you use your time effectively in class/at home?
- What can I do to help you use your time more effectively at home?
- What quality do all successful learners display?
- How do you feel when you make a mistake in a task?
- What frustrates you most in the classroom?
- What do you find most difficult about completing home tasks? How can I help you with this?
- Who do you feel you work best with in group tasks? What makes them good to work with?
- Do you think people would say that you are good to work with in group tasks? Why/why not?
- Who would you choose to sit next to if you had the choice? What makes you say that?
- What might you need to change to achieve your goal?
- What makes you most excited about coming to school?
- Is there something you wish your teacher knew about you?
- What could I do to support your learning at home?

## Questions/prompts for **student/parent conversations** at home **after the conference**

- I am pleased to see you are making an effort to ...
- I am proud of your improvements in ...
- I know you sometimes have difficulty with ..., however I can see ...
- I can see that you are working on ... to help achieve your goal in (subject/area). I can help you by ...

## **References**

- <https://www.honorsgradu.com/23-guiding-questions-to-make-student-led-conferences-more-informative/>
- <https://go.lindberghschools.ws/cms/lib03/MO01920486/Centricity/Domain/1503/Parent%20Survival%20Guide%20to%20Student%20Led%20Conferences.pdf>
- <https://tech-empoweredteacher.com/2021/10/01/student-led-conferences-tips-and-resources/>
- <https://www.3plearning.com/blog/run-successful-student-led-conference/>



# Nutrition Snippet

## WINTER FRUIT & VEG

Seasonal fruit & vegies taste better, are more nutritious and better for the environment.



### Try these recipes

- [Chicken cacciatore](#)
- [Shepherd's pie](#)
- [Apple crumble](#)

For these recipes and more visit:

[healthylunchbox.com.au](https://healthylunchbox.com.au)



**Cancer Council**  
Healthy Lunch Box





- Working with Children Checks
- A professional cartoonist will be running the program
- All art materials included

**Lake Macquarie**  
Sat June 15<sup>th</sup> - Sun June 16<sup>th</sup> Kilaben Bay Community Centre  
**Hunter Valley**  
Sat June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sun June 23<sup>rd</sup> East Maitland  
Sat 10am - 2pm / 2pm - 6pm / 6pm - 9pm Sun 10am - 2pm

**\$39 per class**



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