

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 6 2024
Thursday 29th August

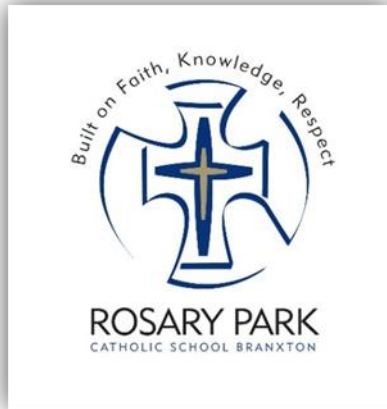
Rosary Park Catholic School

Station Street, Branxton NSW 2335

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Website: www.branxton.catholic.edu.au

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

AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
Thu 29 th	Year 5 & 6 Touch Football Gala Day	Fri 13 th	Polding Athletics in Sydney
Fri 30 th	Father's Day celebrations. Sausage Sizzle @ 11:30am followed by a game's afternoon	Wed 18 th	Awards Assembly 9am
SEPTEMBER		Fri 20 th	PUPIL FREE DAY
Wed 4 th	Learning Fair. Visit classrooms from 9:05 to watch maths activities. NO AWARDS	Fri 27 th	LAST DAY OF TERM 3
Tue 10 th	Years 5 & 6 Soccer Gala Day	OCTOBER	
Tue 10 th	Science & Engineering Excursion	Mon 14 th	FIRST DAY OF TERM 4
Wed 11 th – Tue 17 th	Sallyanne Long Service Leave	Tue 29 th	Vocabulary Day

ADVANCE NOTICE FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 27th November 2024 – Christmas Concert with Andrew Chinn starting at 5:30pm

Tuesday 10th December 2024 – Year 6 Farewell Liturgy and Dinner

Friday 13th December 2024 – Whole School End of Year Awards at 9:45am (school hall)

Monday 16th December 2024 – Swimming carnival (Singleton). Year 6 participation in MAT workshop at school on this day.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News

Strong is God's love for us;

He is faithful for ever.

Mark 16:15



National Child Protection Week: *'Every conversation matters'.*

National Child Protection Week invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

National Child Protection Week, taking place this year, aims to engage, educate, and empower Australians to understand the complexity of child abuse and neglect and work together to prevent it. This year, the theme of National Child Protection Week is 'Every conversation matters'.

Throughout Child Protection Week, and at various times through the school year, we encourage students to learn about behaviours that will help to keep them safe. One important action that children can take is to speak to a trusted adult if they have any concerns. During child protection week, our Personal Development, Health & Physical Education (PDPHPE) will focus on protective behaviours to empower and educate our children on this very important topic.

It is important that we listen to, and value, what children have to say. Where possible, include their voices in decision making and be advocates for their best interest.

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare, and wellbeing of children. The Office of Safeguarding (OoSG) is the structural expression of the Diocese's commitment to demonstrate the highest standards of recognising and upholding the dignity and rights of all children.

Annual School Visit

Yesterday we hosted the Heads of Service from the diocese of Maitland Newcastle to Rosary Park for their annual school visit.

Some of our Year 6 children warmly and responsibly welcomed the visitors to our school and gave them a firsthand experience of our school and all that makes it a welcoming and positive learning environment.

Mr Steve Lemos the Head of Schools and other members of the diocesan leadership team visited classrooms to see our third teacher and learning in action with some of our children having the opportunity to share their learning with the visitors in our classrooms.

The visitors were very affirming of the work we are doing at Rosary Park and as I said to the leaders yesterday, I am blessed to lead a school of innovative, caring and hard-working staff and to have children who want to learn and take pride in our Rosary Park community.



Learning Fair: An invitation to families

Learning and Teaching in Mathematics in schools today is very different to how we learnt at school.

In NSW in 2023 all Kindergarten, year 1 and year 2 children started a new Mathematics Syllabus as directed the National Education Standards Authority (NESA).

In 2024 Years 3-6 have done likewise. This has meant that as a school we have made Mathematics teaching and learning a major focus for our school improvement.

On **Wednesday 4 September** we will not have an awards assembly. Instead, Rosary Park invites you to our learning fair, an opportunity to spend time observing and discussing the Maths learning in your child/ren's classrooms. This will be an opportunity for you to talk with your child during their Maths activities about what they are learning and how.

The 40 minutes allocated is an opportunity for you to visit all your children's rooms and see first-hand your child working in Mathematics. As we give voice to our children as learners, they should be able to show you and explain some of their learning, both in the tasks they are working on and in the displays of learning around their classroom.

We will sound a bell halfway through this time so that you can move to your other child's classroom if required.

Teachers during this time will be busy with their class so this is not an opportunity to talk with the teacher. However, after 9:45 when the classroom visits conclude, you are invited to our staffroom to speak with our Pedagogical Mentors (PMs) Amber Van Duuren and Janelle Dixon if you have any questions about how we teach Mathematics. Perhaps there is a concept that your child has had in their homework, and you are not sure of how we now teach this. This a chance for you to understand more clearly how we now teach and learn in this area in the new syllabus.

We look forward to seeing you on 4th September.

Sports Aerobics - National Titles

Good luck to our three teams competing in the FISAF Sports Aerobics National Titles this Saturday 31 August. Thank you to the parents for showing such commitment in taking them to the Gold Coast for this event and to Kimberley Gargan who has worked so hard in training these teams over many months. Regardless of the outcome, I am immensely proud of you all and know you will represent our school with persistence and fairness.

School Attendance

Supporting positive school attendance is a shared responsibility - everyone has a role to play in promoting the regular attendance of students. 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. Days off school not only contribute to significant gaps and lost opportunities in learning, it is also hard for children to establish, develop and maintain social connections.

We ask that you try to limit appointments through the school day where possible. These appointments are important for your child to attend.

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.



Office of Safeguarding

The following site <https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide> offers tips for parents about how to keep their children safe online. The site gives a summary for the most recent downloaded apps, such as Tik Tok, House Party and as well as some of the older sites such as Instagram. For anyone who needs advice or just more information about these of social media sites, this site has some very useful information.

Resources to help educate and support parents and children

PRIMARY STUDENTS	SECONDARY STUDENTS	PARENTS/CARERS
		
https://padlet.com/childprotection/primary-school-students-resources	https://padlet.com/childprotection/high-school-student-resources	https://padlet.com/childprotection/parents-carers-teachers-resources

Staffing

Jack Montgomery (1 White teacher) has relinquished his position at Rosary Park as advised by his specialist to focus on regaining his health. We wish Jack all the very best and hope that he is well again soon.

We welcome Kylie Johns who has recently been appointed Pastoral Care Worker at Rosary Park. She will start on 11 September, replacing Jess Dougherty who has now taken on a teaching role at Rosary Park.

Road Safety

We have recently had several concerned members of the public contact us about our children walking and riding bikes to and from school. We have spoken to groups of children at school to remind them of safety in crossing roads and ensure that this is done at traffic lights and crossings, as

well as when riding in suburban streets to be aware of driveways. PLEASE remind your children of these important messages.

Parents need to be VIGILANT when dropping children near St Nick's. PLEASE watch them cross the driveway.

School Shoes

Black **leather** jogger type shoes made by Asics, Nike, Skechers etc ARE permitted at Rosary Park. If these shoes are mesh or canvas shoes they ARE NOT allowed. See examples (from various price points) below that **are permitted**. Feel free to contact us if you need clarification,

https://www.rebelsport.com.au/p/nike-court-borough-low-2-ps-kids-casual-shoes-black-us-11-57982501.html?gclid=EAlaIqObChMI7IDWnpug-QIV65NmAh2DSwVEEAQYASABEgLPD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds

https://www.rebelsport.com.au/p/under-armour-charged-assert-8-ps-kids-running-shoes-black-us-2-57500905.html?gclid=EAlaIqObChMI7IDWnpug-QIV65NmAh2DSwVEEAQYBCABEgJhKvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds

https://shoesandsox.com.au/shop-all/shop-by-age/toddler/oxford-ii-black/?nosto_source=cmp&nosto=62ea2bc54773494181afb37c

https://www.bigw.com.au/product/grosby-kids-tab-sport-shoes-black-size-10/p/645062?region_id=222222&cq_src=google_ads&cq_cmp=8679878546&cq_term=&cq_plac=&cq_net=u&cq_plt=gp&gclid=EAlaIqObChMIpoGa_puq-QIVmSQRCh0qKgQ-EAQYAiABEgJmMvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds

https://www.target.com.au/p/kids-norway-sneakers/65657058?utm_term=65657058&utm_content=kids-norway-sneakers&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=SmartShopping%7CApparel&gclid=EAlaIqObChMIpoGa_puq-QIVmSQRCh0qKgQ-EAQYAyABEgIQuvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds

https://www.platypusshoes.com.au/vortex-vortexwl-blk-blk.html?istCompanyId=c390542c-ed66-420b-95f5-d10a1535a547&istFeedId=0a6ddfb6-44c3-499f-8808-37f035e75054&istItemId=pltlprtar&istBid=t&ef_id=EAlaIqObChMIoKum76aq-QIV0ZNmAh3pcgKsEAQYBSABEgISMvD_BwE:G:s&s_kwcid=AL!645713!573741813050!!!u!297546631617!&gclid=EAlaIqObChMIoKum76aq-QIV0ZNmAh3pcgKsEAQYBSABEgISMvD_BwE

Uniform

We begin the transition to summer uniform from 2 September
FULL Summer uniform to be worn from Monday 9 September.

Our students adhere to our school's Uniform Policy with a high degree of consistency, and we greatly appreciate parental support shown in this aspect of school. Adherence to our policy strengthens pride in our School and promotes a positive image.

Just a few reminders regarding jewellery and nail polish

- Students may wear one small stud or one sleeper in each ear lobe (silver or gold)
- One necklace of a religious significance (e.g. cross)
- One single signet ring
- One plain gold or silver golf bangle
- No nail polish to be worn at school

Hair must be neat and tidy. Collar length hair must be worn in a ponytail or plait. Scrunchies, hair clips, rubber bands, ponytail holders, etc must be **blue/white** in colour and is to be worn in the hair and **not worn on the wrist.**

Tracks, rats tails and patterns cut into the hair are NOT permitted. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard. If children have a mullet it must be blended at the sides and CANNOT touch the collar (or it must be tied back).

I will be on leave from Wednesday the 11th of September and will return to school on Wednesday the 18th of September. Please contact Janelle Dixon (Assistant Principal) in my absence.

Kind regards,

Sallyanne Stanbridge (Principal)

Assistant Principal Message

National Child Protection Week

The theme for this year's Child Protection Week is "Every Conversation Matters." At Rosary Park we have regular conversations around child safety, identifying safe and trusted adults and engage in lessons to support positive mental health and wellbeing. From September 2-8 across the diocese our schools have a particular focus on child safety and wellbeing. During this time, we educate our community about agencies that are available to support us in recognising and upholding the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable adults.

At Rosary Park we are working on "decorate a space," a follow-on initiative from the "decorate your gate" promotion for Child Protection Week in the past. We will work on our decorated space on the grass at the front of the hall next Tuesday. Please feel free to check this out on Tuesday afternoon at pick up, or Wednesday morning at drop off. Keep an eye out for pictures to see how creative we can be in designing a focal point for a week that has such an important message around child safety and wellbeing.

Learning Fair – Wednesday 4 September

Do you have questions about how we teach Mathematics in the classroom today? Come and see our Pedagogical Mentors (PM's) Amber Van Duuren and myself in the staff room at around 9:45am on Wednesday 4 September after our Learning Fair open classrooms. Amber and I will have example anchor charts and bump it up walls used in the classrooms to help your child develop skills in mathematical thinking and reasoning. We hope to be able to answer any questions you may have on the way children are taught mathematics with a deeper focus on explaining the thinking than on the answer that has been given.

PB4L focus

For the past 2 weeks we have had a focus on the rule – I am an Active Learner, with the behaviour focus, I show courage when I persevere with a challenging task. In classrooms we have unpacked what this rule means and what it looks like in the classroom. The focus has been on the fact that there is nothing wrong with finding a task difficult. We have reasoned that any task is about showing effort, not about showing perfection. Please ask your child/children about their interpretation of our current PB4L behaviour focus.

Kind Regards

Janelle Dixon
Assistant Principal

Religious Education Coordinator's Message

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

This is a significant milestone in their faith journey, and we are proud of the reverence and dedication they have shown. May this sacred sacrament strengthen their relationship with God and guide them throughout their lives.

Please join us in celebrating and supporting these young members of our community as they continue to grow in their faith:

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.



Mercy Pillar- Courage

Rosary Park is founded on the Mercy tradition and holds the Mercy Pillars at the centre of our school life. Each fortnight we, as a school, focus on one of these pillars aligned to our school rule

focus for the fortnight. These rules are explicitly taught during the fortnight and teachers place an increased emphasis on rewarding children with Gotchas for demonstrating the focus rule.

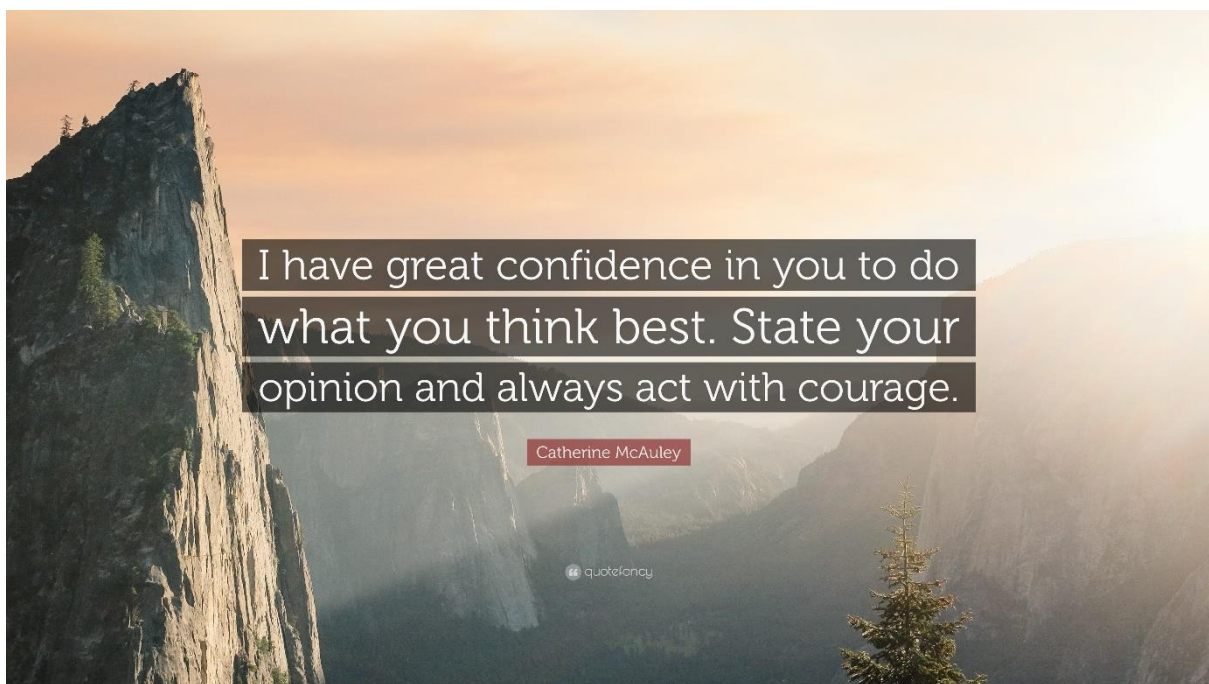
For weeks 5 and 6, the Mercy Pillar focus was Courage. Courage means confidently doing what is right even when faced with challenges.

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 courage?*
4. *How did Jesus show courage?*
5. *What way can you show the value of courage at home?*

More information on the Mercy Pillars can be found via this link

<https://www.mercy.edu.au/resources/values>



Library News

Dear Parents,

For book week 2024 we are celebrating a Vocabulary Day on **Tuesday the 29th of October** starting at 9am on our basketball court.

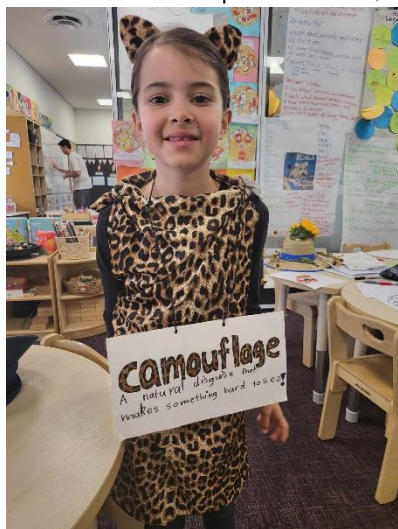
All students and staff will need to choose a word and dress up representing their chosen word.

There are only TWO RULES for making a costume:

1. Show your **WORD** on the costume you are wearing.
2. Write the **definition of your word** on the costume somewhere, so the children can share the meaning with their class.

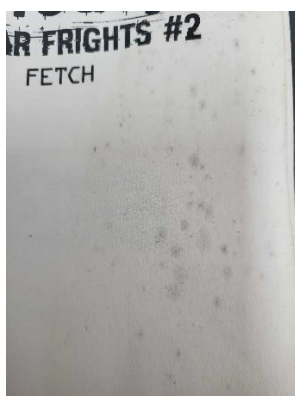
This can be a very simple activity, and we encourage the children to choose a word, design how they will represent it and what they will wear on the day.

Here are some examples below,



Parents are welcome to come and view this parade starting at 9am.

As explained at the beginning of every year all students require a library bag in order to borrow books from our school library. Unfortunately, lately we are having many books returned with significant damage.



We understand that accidents happen, especially leaking water bottles, but with water damage, as significant as in the pictures above, we have no option but to dispose of these texts. It is very saddening to make this decision especially when these are popular texts, and the rest of the school community no longer has the opportunity to borrow them.

Thank you to the parents who have reached out and replaced the damaged books or provided a monetary contribution to the school, as we can replace the damaged texts.

Going forward we ask that all students try to bring a waterproof bag, even a plastic shopping bag will do, to protect the schools' resources.

Thank you for your support,

Ms Flynn
Teacher Librarian

Public Speaking News

Over the past few weeks, students in Years 1-6 have been practicing their public speaking skills in preparation for our school based public speaking competition, which will take place in Week 7. Students have been practicing writing and presenting both prepared and impromptu speeches, focusing on the skills needed to ensure their speech is engaging!

For our school competition, the top 4 speakers from each grade will compete in a stage-based competition. Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) students will only do a prepared speech, having 45 minutes to write and practice their speech before presenting. Stages 2 and 3 will do both a prepared speech and an impromptu speech, where they are presented with the topic 10 minutes before speaking. Winners from the Rosary Park competition will be invited to compete at the Regional Competition on the 19th of September at Chisholm.

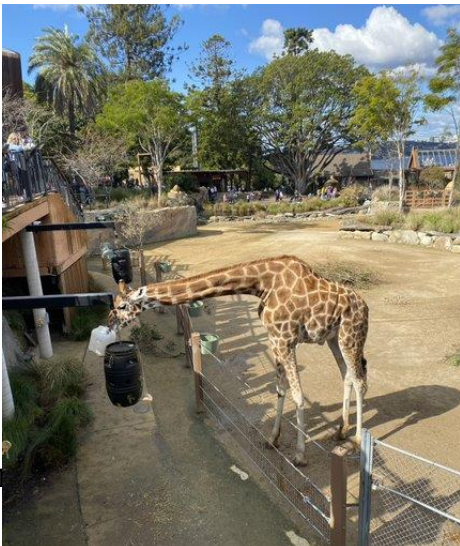
Nikola Groves
Classroom Teacher

Year 3 Taronga Zoo Excursion

On Friday 16th August Year 3 travelled to Taronga Zoo in Sydney for their excursion. Students had been learning about Living things in English and Science and linking this to their learning in Maths and Visual Arts.

To say the students were excited to see their favourite animals was an understatement! Some of the highlights included the Seal Show, Free Flight Bird show, Capybaras, Chimpanzees and the Gorillas.

We'd like to express our appreciation for our wonderful parent volunteers who assisted students in exploring the zoo as group leaders and all the wonderful family members who also joined us.





Year 3 Teachers
Naomi Rodwell, Mackenzie Gageler & Simone Cameron



Sporting News

Last week Cricket NSW visited Rosary Park. They brought some special guests along with them which included Hannah Darlington (Sydney Thunder Captain and NSW Breakers player), Chris Tremain and Ryan Hadley (NSW Blues players). These players came and spoke to Stage 2 and 3 students about why they love the game of cricket and what first got them interested in the sport. The students had some great questions that they asked the players.

Rosary Park was gifted a signed jersey from the WBBL Thunder team. Players include Hannah Darlington, Sam Bates and Phoebe Litchfield. Keep your eye out for raffle tickets that will be coming home soon and will be drawn on Cathrine McAuley day at school with all monies raised going to DPIG.



CUT OFF LEWIS'S MULLET

I am raising money for Make-A-Wish and sick kids across Australia. I'd love if you could donate to my fundraising page. Together, we can give sick kids hope, joy and inspiration through the power of a wish – will you help support me?

https://fundraise.makeawish.org.au/fundraisers/lewischard/cut-off-lewis--s-mullet?ref=ch_3PqjkHIQIRgNN5iq1IRss2kZ



13 August 2024

My Dear People,

In 2020 my predecessor Bishop Bill Wright decreed that the Sunday on or immediately prior to 15 September each year would be inscribed in the liturgical calendar of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle as the 'Perpetual Day of Remembrance'. Those familiar with the Church's liturgical calendar would recognise that 15 September is also the day for "Our Lady of Sorrows". How could any of us fail to see and understand that the abuse of children by those placed in positions of leadership and trust in the Church is one of, if not the greatest, cause of sorrow in our Church's long history.

Even the mere recognition that such abominations have occurred in our Church causes us great pain and sorrow. How much greater is the pain of those who have been abused and still suffer because of that abuse, and how much greater than our own sorrow must be the sorrow of Our Lord Jesus and his mother Mary.

"To remember" can be a deeply spiritual and religious action. In the Old Testament, God's chosen people were often exhorted to remember the many good things that God had done for them as well as remembering their own sins and transgressions. Remembering God's goodness, both to ourselves as individuals and collectively as his people, produces gratitude and hope. Remembering our transgressions, both our own personal transgressions and the transgressions of the collective Church, produces redemptive sorrow and genuine conversion.

To assist us as the Church of Maitland-Newcastle to pray in this space the Perpetual Day of Remembrance Standing Committee of the Diocesan Liturgy Council once again offers a range of resources for use in our parishes, schools, agencies, groups, and homes. It has been determined that the resources this year include only minor changes from last year since later this year my office will undertake a review into the best way for us as a community to observe the Perpetual Day of Remembrance.

The resources for 2024 are available on the diocesan website for parishes and schools who wish to begin their preparation. There is something there for everyone including Diocesan agencies, individuals, households and community groups. [Resources - Perpetual Day of Remembrance](#)

I commend these resources to you and your local community for our remembering and praying.

Yours in Christ

Most Reverend Michael Kennedy
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

Weekly Awards

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

Week ending 16th August 2024 (Week 4)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Mon B	Carter L	--
Kinder White	Zoe M	Oliver B	Archie A
Year 1 Blue	Lara T	Jasper W	Maxx R
Year 1 White	James L	Claire D	Charlie L
Year 2 Blue	--	--	--
Year 2 White	Brynn S	Ari S	Teagan S
Year 3 Blue	Minh B	Lexi D	Cruz J
Year 3 White	Mason C	Jayden M	Noha M
Year 4 Blue	Hunter I	Leah W	Brax T
Year 4 White	Matthias K	Max k	Fletcher B
Year 5 Blue	Shelle C	Cooper C	Charlotte P
Year 5 White	Nevaeh D	James D	Sam J
Year 6 Blue	--	--	--
Year 6 White	Smantha R	Tyler S	Isabella T

Week ending Friday 23rd August 2024 (Week 5)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Deon L	Nam N	Daytona A
Kinder White	Spencer C	Eva N	Hunter B
Year 1 Blue	Lylah H	Porter B-S	Vivienne S
Year 1 White	--	--	--
Year 2 Blue	Parker G	Ava W	Josie W-H
Year 2 White	Brooklyn Y	Eli B	Vinnie L
Year 3 Blue	Layla M	Jenny N	Baxter A
Year 3 White	--	--	--
Year 4 Blue	Lucy S	Elke B	Frances M
Year 4 White	Blake C	Hugo S	Hunter B
Year 5 Blue	--	--	--
Year 5 White	Evie S	Madden T	Aleah D
Year 6 Blue	Mila M	Lilly R	Lexi B
Year 6 White	Ryleigh R	Rae K	Nic I

Principal's Awards

Carter A, Vincent L, Sam R, Toby B, Holly N, Emily G, Luca C.



ASPIRE

MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA

2025 DESIGN ENSEMBLE

ASPIRE is looking for interested students to be part of the 2025 design ensemble. This ensemble is for students (Year 9 upwards) with a strong interest in visual art and design who will be involved in creating the 2025's set and costume pieces.

We are looking for Expressions of Interest from students wishing to be a part of this exciting program. **Applicants will be invited to interview to gain an ensemble position.**

Working under the direction of ASPIRE's Design Directors, students will work on areas such as costume creation, prop/set building and painting, makeup and hair design and theatrical design elements.

Available to: Students in year 9- year 12

Cost: \$100

Students can register their interest by clicking here or following the QR code →

Applications close: End of Term 4 Week 5



PROGRAM DATES

(Outline only - to be advised of the full schedule)

- Terms 1-2 - Tuesday afternoons from 4:30pm at Trinity Catholic College, Adamstown (currently known as St Pius X High School, Adamstown)
- Winter School Holidays - School Holiday Rehearsals (dates to be advised)
- Term 3 Week 2 - Production Week at the Civic Theatre, Newcastle

If you require further information, please contact Anne Atkins phone 02 4979-1331 or email: anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au

Scholarship places are available for students in genuine need of financial assistance. Please contact Anne Atkins for information.



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for the most up to date photos and information.

INFORMATION SHEET 2025

ASPIRE is the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Catholic Schools Office's Creative and Performing Arts program.

ABOUT ASPIRE

With an emphasis on fostering creativity, ASPIRE has many programs on offer. These programs include in-school workshops, design and production support, professional development for staff, and specialty projects in areas such as song writing, scriptwriting, devising theatre, and choreography. ASPIRE also produces an original theatrical performance annually. Students audition to be part of either the design, vocal, dance, instrumental or production ensembles.

SAVE THE DATE 2025

ASPIRE @ THE CIVIC THEATRE NEWCASTLE

WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 2025 - 11.00 AM

THURSDAY 31 JULY 2025 - 11.00 AM

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 2025 - 11.00 AM

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST 2025 - 7.00 PM

SATURDAY 2 AUGUST 2025 - 7.00 PM

\$15 PER STUDENTS (price may be subject to change).

Accompanying teachers free.

Tickets through Civic Theatre Box Office in Term 2 2025

HOW TO AUDITION FOR ASPIRE 2025

The ASPIRE Audition Application is an online process.

The following QR code will direct you to the:

2025 ASPIRE AUDITION FORM



1. Follow the link or scan the QR code: <http://mn.shor.tn/ASPIREAuditions>

2. FILL IN THE FORM TO APPLY

AUDITION DATES

Auditions for ASPIRE 2025 are now open for current students from Year 4 to Year 12. The auditions will be held at the Newcastle Convention and Exhibition Centre NEX, King St Newcastle. (West Newcastle).

JUNIOR DRAMA

Monday 28
October 2024

JUNIOR DRAMA

Senior Drama
Tuesday 29
October 2024

DANCE

Instrumental
Wednesday 30
October 2024

VOCAL

Thursday 31
October 2024

Please contact Anne Atkins, ASPIRE admin, if you have any queries regarding auditions: anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au or by phone (02) 4979 1331

For more details go to aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au

AUDITIONS 2025

Registrations for the ASPIRE 2025 auditions are now open for current students from Year 4 to Year 12. The auditions will be held at the Newcastle Convention and Exhibition Centre NEX, King St Newcastle (West's Newcastle).

Registrations for auditions close on Friday 27 September 2024. Once we receive your registration, you will receive all relevant audition information during the first week of the holidays. This will include the audition dates and times.

ENSEMBLES

DRAMA AUDITION

**Monday 28 October and
Tuesday 29 October 2024**

The drama auditions are comprised of a half hour workshop comprising of a series of drama exercises in movement, voice, character work and devising (creating short scenes). Students will also be required to prepare a short one-minute monologue. A list of topics for Junior applicants will be on the ASPIRE website from Week 7 of Term 3, whilst Senior applicants will be required to source a monologue of their choice.

DANCE AUDITION

Wednesday 30 October 2024

The audition is entirely workshop based. You will be taken through some skills-based exercises before learning some new choreography. You may have an opportunity to add your own choreography so it's a good idea to have some ideas ready about what you might like to do.

INSTRUMENTAL AUDITION

Wednesday 30 October 2024

All instrumental auditions are 10 minutes. You are required to prepare a short piece that you feel shows your ability. After performing your piece for the panel, you will either be given some music to sight read then asked to perform scales on your instrument or asked to improvise a melody whilst accompanied by another instrument.

VOCAL AUDITION

Thursday 31 October 2024

For the one-hour vocal audition, you will be placed in a group of up to 20 students of similar age. The first part of the audition will comprise of learning a new song as a group and some simple movement to go with it. This allows us to see how well you pick up new music, lyrics and movement and place them together. In the second half of the audition, everyone will be required to sing the first verse and chorus of one of the ten selected songs. The list of songs will be available on the ASPIRE website at the end of term 3. You will be required to sing with the backing track (we provide). A link will be provided to each applicant so they can practice.

2025 ASPIRE AUDITION FORM



1. Follow the link or scan the QR code: <http://mn.shor.tn/ASPIREAuditions>
2. Fill in the form to apply

For more details go to aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au

ASPIRE YOUNG ACTORS PROGRAM

TRAPPED

FRIDAY 30 AUGUST AT 11AM AND 6PM

WARNERS BAY THEATRE, BARAMAYIBA

LAKE STREET, WARNERS BAY



FRIDAY MATINEE: ADULT \$30 | SCHOOL STUDENT \$7.50

EVENING: ADULT \$30

STUDENT AND CONCESSIONS \$20

FAMILY TICKET (TWO ADULTS, TWO CHILDREN) \$90

AVAILABLE AT WWW.TICKETEBO.COM.AU

ASPIRE



Catholic
Schools Office
DIOCESE OF MAREMBAY-NEWCASTLE

Check out the Aspire website at ASPIRE.mn.catholic.edu.au for all the latest ASPIRE news and to find out about the ASPIRE Program.



SENIOR THEATRE MAKERS

Please refer to the ASPIRE website for all ASPIRE information, forms, updates, photos and the newsletter from the Artistic Director!

aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au

ASPIRE's Senior Theatre Makers Ensemble is for students in Years 9-11. This initiative is all about the devising process.

Working as a company of theatre makers the group will create an original performance piece that will be shared at the end of the process at the Civic Playhouse in Newcastle.

As part of the program participants will be encouraged to evaluate their work and develop their own theatrical language. They will also develop their acting skills and be challenged to keep experimenting with their voice and physicality. It's perfect for anyone studying, or thinking of studying HSC drama, as well as anyone who loves theatre and wants to learn more with like-minded peers.

The group will be led by ASPIRE's Artistic Director, Anna Kerrigan and ASPIRE Intern, Sophie Dein

Senior Theatre Makers will take place from 4.30 pm – 6.30 pm at the Catholic Schools Office, Newcastle.

2024 STM WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM



Reserve your place by following the link or scanning the QR code: <http://mn.shor.tn/ASPIRESTM>
By no later than Friday 9 September 2024

THE SCHEDULE IS:

TERM 4

TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2024
TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2024
TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER 2024
TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2024
TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2024
TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2024
TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2024
TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2024
TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2024

WEEKEND REHEARSAL

10.00 am – 4.00 pm
Saturday 14 December 2024

BUMP IN AND REHEARSAL

10.00 am – 4.00 pm
Monday 16 December 2024

PERFORMANCE DAY

10.00 am – 8.00 pm
Tuesday 17 December 2024
(Performance at 6.00 pm)

Course Cost: \$200 (scholarships are available for those in financial need).

Please contact Anne Atkins, ASPIRE admin, if you have any queries:
anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au or by phone (02) 4979 1331

aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au



Term 4

Jnr (Yr5-Yr8) - Tuesdays 4-6pm
 Snr (Yr9-Yr12)- Wednesdays 4-6pm



Rehearsals

St Pius X, Adamstown
 (Sister Marie Centre)



Performance

Civic Playhouse: 9th & 10th Dec

\$200

Includes 8 x 2hr workshops
 + 2 x performances
 (9th & 10th December)

Students will work on their triple threat skills, while engaging in musical theatre style performances, helping them become an all-round performer. A final showcase will be staged in December at the Civic Theatre Playhouse, Newcastle.

JNR: Y5-Y8
SNR: Y9-Y12



REGISTER NOW
[CLICK HERE](#)

For more info please contact:
 Anne Atkins 02 4979 1331
anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au



Keep an eye on screentime

Screens have increasingly become part of children's lives and can often be helpful and enjoyable for families. They can offer children opportunities to connect with friends and extended family, express creativity and learn.

Children and young people aged 5-17 years should limit sedentary recreational screentime to no more than 2 hours per day (excluding schoolwork).

While screen time has many benefits, long periods of time spent in front of screens can impact a child's growth and development including:

- Physical health
- Mental wellbeing
- Ability to form social connections
- Sleep

Switch the screen for other activities:

- Games
- Sports
- Bike riding
- Dancing
- Puzzles
- Walking



Source: The Sydney Children's Hospital Network (www.schn.health.nsw.gov.au)



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

Developed by Hunter New England LHD



Good for Kids acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land that we live and work on as the first people of this country, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.



VINNIES HUNTER

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ROLES INCLUDE:

- **Administration and Reception volunteers** (Maitland and Newcastle)
- **Frontline Community Support** (Emergency Relief) **Volunteers and Conference Members**
- **Inbound Call Centre phone operators** (Newcastle)
- **Hamper and pantry packing and sorting**
- **Vinnies Van crew volunteers and drivers** (drivers must be 25+)
- **Retail Volunteers**

*All skill levels, training and mentoring provided.
Flexible hours to suit you!*

Call: 0490 255 100 or Email: maitland.newcastle@vinnies.org.au



St Vincent de Paul Society
NSW
good works



Come have a Blast

MAITLAND INDOOR CRICKET BLAST

Come and join us for 4 weeks of cricketing fun!

Day: Thursdays

Time: 4.00pm - 5.30pm

Dates: 5, 12, 19 & 26 September

Where: Maitland Indoor Sports Centre

Cost: \$25 (includes a participant pack)

To register, scan the QR code or head to:

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/2a1262>



CRICKET NSW



ENQUIRIES:

PHONE: +61 2 8302 6078

EMAIL: TIGHAN.TOSEN@CRICKETNSW.COM.AU



To register for our
**All Girls Junior Cricket Skills
Program (ages 9 - 13)**

Scan the QR code or head to:

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/01bf6d>



**Girls, JOIN
THE TEAM!**



Come join our FREE Girls Cricket Sessions.

Robins Oval, Maitland

Mondays, 2 - 23 September, 4.30 - 5.45

These programs are designed for girls aged 5 - 13, whether new to cricket or wanting to develop their skills for the upcoming season with accredited female coaches.

Enquiries: Email Tighan.Tosen@cricketnsw.com.au

To register for our
**All Girls Cricket Blast Program
(ages 5 - 9)**

Scan the QR code or head to:

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/f5e1ea>



Girls just want to
**HAVE
A BLAST**



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