

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 8 2025
Thursday 11 September

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

SEPTEMBER		SEPTEMBER	
Fri 12 th	PUPIL FREE DAY	Wed 24 th	Stage 3 NRL Gala Day
Mon 15 th	Regional Public Speaking	Wed 24 th	Assembly – Year 3 Showcase followed by PEG Meeting
Tue 16 th	Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day	Fri 26 th	LAST DAY OF TERM 3 Catherine Macauley Liturgy 2011
Thu 18 th	Year 2 and Year 5 Parish Mass	Mon 13 th	FIRST DAY OF TERM 4
Mon 22 nd	Diocesan Public Speaking	Fri 17 th	Our Lady of the Rosary Feast Day

Principal's Message

A Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ,
 You are the true King of peace.
 In You alone is found freedom.

Please free our world from conflict.
 Bring unity to troubled nations.
 Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart.

Dispel all darkness and evil.
Protect the dignity of every human life.
Replace hatred with Your love.

Give wisdom to world leaders.
Free them from selfish ambition.
Eliminate all violence and war.

Glorious Virgin Mary,
Saint Michael the Archangel,
Every angel and saint:
Please pray for peace.
Pray for unity amongst nations.
Pray for unity amongst all people.
Pray for the most vulnerable.
Pray for those suffering.
Pray for the fearful.
Pray for those most in need.
Pray for us all.

It is difficult to fathom that we are in Week 8 and nearly towards the end of the Third Term of 2025. So many wonderful achievements and terrific learnings from our students.

STAFFING

We are currently in advertisement and interviews for Year 4 White for Term Four. We will announce the teacher on the class as soon as we are able. Miss Morgan is a very difficult teacher to replace, that's for sure!

We hope to, before the end of Term Three, be able to announce two new permanently employed staff also, to replace a current vacancy and Miss Groves' position. This is in the advertisement and interview stage also.

UNIFORMS

We are now in the transition stage with regard to uniforms. It is either ALL SUMMER or ALL WINTER uniform, no "in between". Please ensure that all shoes, socks, head pieces are neat and tidy also.

SPORT GALA DAYS

Thank you to the children and staff who attended our recent soccer and touch footy gala days. The behaviour, for the very large majority of students was outstanding! We will continue to support these ventures for your children, as long as the continued support comes back to the teaching staff from both student's behaviour and parent's conduct.

AEROBICS SUCCESS

We had all of our teams make the National Championships this year on the Gold Coast, which was an outstanding effort! In particular, the Stage One team, who won GOLD! It is a massive achievement to make Nationals, let alone win them! Well done to the team. A special thank you to Mrs Gargan, Miss Groves, Miss Dever and Miss Gageler for their work with the teams across the year. There will be information coming out soon regarding 2026.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICES

We recently had an information session with Alex Lynch, from NEXT Technologies, relating to the school's new portal for purchasing BYODs for Year 5 and 6 students. The portal is rosarypark.byod.shop

It is designed to be a "one stop shop" for all laptops. We have chosen the laptop for you, organised for free warranty and repairs, as well as the service from the NEXT company.

In due course, we will send home policy documentation, guidelines and information sheets for BYOD use at Rosary Park.

USE OF EMAILS

We value extremely highly, the communication between the school and families. In fact, Rosary Park staff and myself pride ourselves on it. What we ask from all families, is the following:

- The opportunity to respond to issues in a timely manner and in a sense of partnership
- The right to not respond to emails outside of school hours (8:00am – 5:00pm)
- The exclusive use of the ADMIN email as the FIRST POINT OF CALL (admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au) It is NOT Rosary Park practice to directly email teachers. This has been in place for a couple of years now and to ensure that all teacher's right to a safe workplace is respected.

Please ensure that you continue to adhere to this practice.

WORKING WITH DISPUTES

Like all schools, there are times when staff and parents need to work together, for the betterment of all students. As Principal, I have a responsibility to students, teachers, as well as families, to ensure that decisions are made in the best interests of all people.

There will be times where agreement is difficult, but we ask that you trust that every decision that we make as teachers is in the best interests of all. It has been disappointing, to say the least, that there have been reports of demonstrative and argumentative behaviour amongst some of our families relating to decisions made.

We aim to be as transparent and upfront as possible but, in the interests of privacy and the dignity of all students, we are unable to provide details of the names of students involved in incidents, the circumstances of the incident, apart from the facts, and we are absolutely unable to provide any details of sanctions, consequences of any other student, other than your own.

Please be understanding of this and please think of the other family in the issue, as I have always been told, you can never judge someone until you walk a mile in their shoes.

We are a CATHOLIC school, and it is our mission to ensure dignity, love, respect and compassion for all. This involves the student who makes the wrong choice. Do we "tar, hook and feather" a student for one mistake? ABSOLUTELY NOT. My expectation is that we all treat each other with respect, compassion and dignity, even though at the time we may not wish to.

The things we teach and talk to our children about at home, make the greatest difference when they come into our school gates. As a TEAM we can make Rosary Park the best environment for your child to thrive.

SPEAKER SYSTEM AND HALL SETUP

Thank you to you all for the very positive feedback relating to our recently fixed speaker system in the Hall. It turns out that we only had to press a few buttons to fix the speaker system!

We want to engage with families and listen to all of your feedback, to make Rosary Park the place to be.

To this end our next PARENT ENGAGEMENT MEETING is scheduled for after assembly WEDNESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER. Please come with ideas for what we might spend our fundraising money on. As you may be aware, we firstly budget for the school's needs, then our fundraising money might go towards what we want as a school. Your suggestions are always valid and meaningful, but it does not always mean I can apply them to our budget.

Here is hoping you have a great fortnight ahead,

Mr Ashley Borg
PRINCIPAL

Assistant Principal Message

Child Protection Week 2025

This week Rosary Park took the time to recognise Child Protection Week. During this special time the diocese encourages schools to recognise the important messages associated with Child Protection and decorate a gate or space with reminders about agencies and initiatives to promote child protection and wellbeing throughout our diocese. This year's motto "Every Conversation Matters' Shifting Conversation to Action" promotes the importance of regular open and honest dialogue and taking action as a result of conversation to support child protection initiatives.

Many parents would have noticed our decorated front gate promoting the importance of conversation and action on child protection initiatives. Thanks to Mr Fitz and children from all classes for creating our gate decoration. A great job!



Summer Uniform

We have had such beautiful weather this week and it is great to see the children coming to school in their summer uniforms again. Please **ensure all items**, especially hats and jackets, are **clearly labelled** with your child's name. Names tend to fade over time, please check to ensure your child's name is still clearly visible on uniform items.

I take this opportunity to remind you of the uniform expectations at Rosary Park. We can all agree that it is a lovely sight when children all wear their uniforms correctly with pride. Please remember that socks must not be the short "no show" length. **All socks must be visible above the shoe and long enough to cover the ankle bone.**

I also ask parents to remember that there are strict guidelines when it comes to the wearing of jewellery. Children may wear **one necklace with a religious symbol** on it. They may also wear **one signet ring** and **one plain bangle**. **Earrings must not be hoops** big enough for a small finger to catch and rip it out. Wearing earrings that dangle below the ear lobe is also against our uniform guidelines.

Hair that is long enough to touch the collar needs to be tied back and any **clips/bands/ribbons** must be **small in size** and **in school colours**. Please do not forget to pack a hat each day to protect your child from the sun. **If a child does not have a hat they will be asked to remain in the shade during break times.**

School Summer Uniform Guidelines

School Sports Uniform: Summer



TOP/ PANTS	Blue and White Sports Polo with school logo Navy microfiber shorts with school initials
SHOES/ SOCKS	Predominately-white joggers. Plain white socks (no sport logo such as Puma, Adidas), worn above the ankle

Summer Uniform - Girls



TUNIC	Blue & white check summer dress
SHORTS/SHIRT	Blue shorts, white emblem shirt with Peter Pan collar
SHOES	Black Shoes (lace up or Velcro) with white socks, to be worn above the ankle

Summer Uniform - Boys



TOP	School blue shirt with embroidered logo.
SHORTS	Navy shorts, not cargo.
SHOES	Black Shoes (lace up or Velcro) with navy socks to be worn above the ankle.

Please assist us to ensure everyone is in uniform at Rosary Park. If something is broken or your child outgrows part or all of their uniform, please let us know at school so we are aware that you are working on purchasing something new.

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 grade will have the opportunity to attend Mass at 9.20am led by Fr Thomas. 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
18 th September Week 9	Kinder, Year 2 and Year 5

Father's Day

Thank you to all the families who joined us for our Father's Day afternoon on Friday. It was lovely to welcome you into our school!

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for all fathers.

For the new ones, who endure sleepless nights with infants in arms.

For the busy ones, who juggle the pressures of home and family life.

For the steadfast ones, who nurture and care for our special vulnerable children.

For the patient ones, who always seek to forgive and engage with their pre-teens.

For the persistent ones, who cleverly find new ways to connect with their mini-adults.

For the father uncles, who step in to cradle and care for nieces and nephews.

For all granddads, who love and support their precious grandchildren.

For the foster dads that are called to gather and cover the fragile ones.

For the Sunday dads who care for our children and lead them in faith.

For the dads who give far beyond their own resources, who overcome disability to cherish and love.

Thank you, Lord, for all our beautiful fathers. Help us to support them and keep them in our prayers.

May you bless them now and on their special day.

Amen.

Catherine McAuley

Catherine McAuley, the founder of the sisters of Mercy, played an important role in the development of our school. As a Mercy school, we are part of a rich tradition inspired by her life and work. Our school's vision and mission are deeply rooted in the Mercy Charism. This feast day is

an important time for our school community to come together and honour the legacy of Catherine McAuley, celebrating the values she instilled.'

Our Year 3 students will lead us in a Liturgy in the hall at 12:00 pm, followed by a reflection puzzle activity on the Mercy pillars back in the classrooms, which parents are warmly invited to attend and participate in.

Afterwards, we will move into afternoon tea, which families are welcome to enjoy, before the school day continues as normal from 2:00 pm.

God Bless,

Mackenzie Gageler
Religious Education Coordinator



Kindergarten News

Kindergarten had a fabulous day at Oakvale Wildlife Park! The children enjoyed feeding baby animals, spotting reptiles, koalas, and meeting lots of wonderful farm animals. It was a fun-filled day of learning, laughter, and memories.



Weekly Awards

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

Week ending Friday 22nd August 2025 (Week 5)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Sophia F	Ivy E	Lucas H
Kinder White	Byron R	Noah B	Logan D
Year 1 Blue	Harvey D	Oliver C	Pearl B
Year 1 White	Titan L	Mon B	Nam N
Year 2 Blue	Winnie C	Johan C	Vivienne S
Year 2 White			Harvey C
Year 3 Blue	Ava M	Jordie D	Sawyer D
Year 3 White	Alexis I	Lauren M	Eli B
Year 4 Blue	Alfie T	Cruz J	Willow J
Year 4 White	Jenny N	Emily S	Elliana D
Year 5 Blue	Noah L	Sasha A	Tuan N
Year 5 White	Paige I	Jye D	Fletcher B
Year 6 Blue	Eyden G	Sylvester R	Liam P
Year 6 White	Taylah B	Kyson C	Kendra C

Week ending Friday 29th August 2025 (Week 6)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Harvey M	Ari P	Hazel S
Kinder White	William C	Jaxon K	Polly L
Year 1 Blue	Georgie-Lee K	Thomas S	Carter L
Year 1 White	Henry C	Knox M	Luca C
Year 2 Blue	Maxx R	Miya W	Lara T
Year 2 White	--	--	--
Year 3 Blue	Gus W	Grayson B	Sadie R
Year 3 White	Lleyton L	Harrison A-I	Ari S
Year 4 Blue	Jaxon C	Zoe H	Cooper S
Year 4 White	Lexi D	Louella T	Hudson I
Year 5 Blue	Leah W	Dev T	Charlize L
Year 5 White	Shahaan S	Amarlie K	Jaxon B
Year 6 Blue	Charli F	Halle G	Johnny N
Year 6 White	Georgie W	Karmichael A	Maxwell T

Week ending Friday 5th September 2025 (Week 7)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	George H	Reuben L	Anakin k
Kinder White	Emmett B	Ivy T	Kelsie L
Year 1 Blue	Bentley K	Isla H	Sophia S
Year 1 White	Lara A	Toby B	Arabella D
Year 2 Blue	Armaan S	Kobe M	Tanner H
Year 2 White	--	--	--
Year 3 Blue	Ayla B	Reeve W	Piper R
Year 3 White	Aiden L	Eleanor C	Kenny A
Year 4 Blue	Anderson P	Annie H	Stanley H
Year 4 White	Kade B	Addison B	Minh B
Year 5 Blue	Hannah C	Hunter I	Tuan N
Year 5 White	Matthias K	Tao D	Addison S
Year 6 Blue	Samantha F	Alyssa B	Charlotte P
Year 6 White	--	--	--

Week ending Friday 12th September 2025 (Week 8)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Harlyn H	Lukas E	Alayah G
Kinder White	Liliana H	Harvey S	Ava M
Year 1 Blue	Aurora M	Ava S	Tate K
Year 1 White	Ayla K	Angus M	Dustin P
Year 2 Blue	Claire D	Hugh M	James D
Year 2 White	Mia D	--	Lincoln H
Year 3 Blue	Josie W-H	Theo C	Parker G
Year 3 White	Isaac K	Olivia D	Bronson Q
Year 4 Blue	Brailyn I	Indy M	Noha M
Year 4 White	Annabelle L	Louella T	Hendrix B
Year 5 Blue	Dev T	Leah W	Elke B
Year 5 White	Hudson W	Noah R	Ella Y
Year 6 Blue	Charlotte P	Samuel W	Logan C
Year 6 White	--	--	--

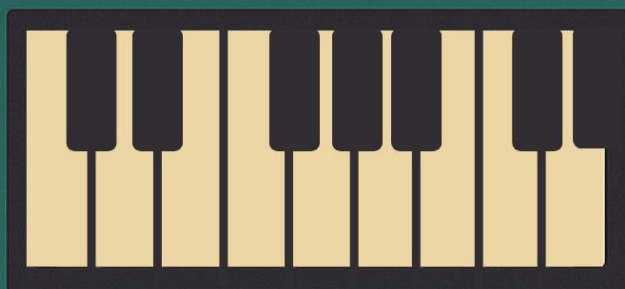
Principal's Awards

Darby T, Alfie T, Astrid C, Oliver T, Vinnie L, Alani B, Annie H, Matilda M, Oliver C, Harvey D, Charlie D, Myla W, Ivy E, Jett I, Lilly S, Emily R, Sophia S, William C, Ellesse S, Paige L, Kelsie L, Hazel S, Zara S, Georgie W, Leah W, Halle G, Nicholas L, Henry C, Thomas S, Lara T, Mia W, Ari s, Zoe H

POLYPHONIC

FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY INTENSIVE

Explore. Create. Connect.



October 7 - 9th

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Ages 12-17 | Free

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PLAY ANYTHING
MUSIC THERAPY



This program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services



Smart school snacks

Helping kids stay energised and focused at school starts with nutritious snacks!

When packing your child's lunchbox, aim for snacks from the five food groups - add wholegrains, fruit, vegetables, dairy and lean proteins.

Try these smart snack ideas:

- Fresh fruit
- Vegetable sticks with hummus
- Wholegrain crackers with cheese
- Yoghurt tubs or pouches
- Boiled eggs
- Mini tuna or salad wraps



Hunter New England
Local Health District

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

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.

BRANXTON GRETA LITTLE ATHLETICS

Registrations Open Now!!!

Get ready to hit the track!

**Free trial nights
25 September & 2 October.**

**Season kicks off
Thursday, 16 October at 6 pm
Miller Park Sports Ground**

Open to ages 3–20.

**Scan the QR code to
jump into the action!**



Registration



Facebook



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