

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 2 2026

Thursday 30th April

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		MAY	
Fri 1 st	Polding Rugby League	Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd	CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
Wed 6 th	Diocesan Cross Country	Wed 20 th	After School AFL – 3:15pm – 4:15pm
Thu 7 th	Mother's Day Stall	Thu 21 st	School Spelling Bee
Thu 7 th	Baiame Cave Excursion – Year 3	Fri 22 nd	Walk to School Day
Fri 8 th	Mother's Day Liturgy & Breakfast	Wed 27 th	Reconciliation Week Ceremony and Launch – 9:15am
Mon 11 th	Sports Jersey Day for DIPG – gold coin donation in memory of a former student	Wed 27 th	After School AFL – 3:15pm – 4:15pm
Wed 13 th	Assembly at 9am	Wed 27 th	After School AFL – 3:15pm – 4:15pm
Thu 14 th	Baiame Cave Excursion – Year 4	JUNE	
Fri 15 th	Catholic Schools Week Liturgy (Newcastle)	Tue 2 nd	School Photo Day – WINTER UNIFORM

Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 2. A very busy start already but one in which will fly by! We have Student Reports, Student Led Conferences all in this term!

SPIRITUALITY DAY – FRIDAY 24 APRIL

Staff attended the annual Spirituality Day at Cypress Lakes Golf Course and Resort on Friday of last week.

Adam Frost, from the Religious Education and Spirituality Team, led staff through a reflective practice in our Mercy Tradition, focussed on the life of Catherine McAuley and gave us opportunities to discuss ways forward for the students and families of Rosary Park, to continue the great work in this area.

PASTORAL CARE WORKER WELCOME

We welcome Mrs Charmaine Clark to the role of Pastoral Care Worker. She started Thursday and has a wealth of experience in counselling, and general pastoral care work.

COGAT

Year 4 have been completing the CoGAT test, which occurs every year around this time in Year 4, to assess general cognitive skills and is used by the Catholic Schools Office to ascertain students who may be Gifted or Talented in a particular area of skill.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Thank you to Miss Dever and the staff for a wonderful Athletics Carnival on the second day back at school for the term. The athleticism, determination and enthusiasm from each student was amazing.

Special congratulations to Mr Standing on retaining his Teacher's race championship!

The Regional Athletics carnival will be held later on this term.

UNIFORMS

Please be advised we transition into our WINTER UNIFORMS by Week 4.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

We have a huge request for enrolment this year, so if you know of anyone who wishes to apply, they will need to get cracking, as applications CLOSE on May 22:

STAFF LEARNING

On May 5, we will be having visitors from other schools in the Lower Hunter Region for the COSI (Continuum of School Improvement) day at Rosary Park Branxton. This is a chance for all schools to collaborate on how well the Lower Hunter does Catholic Education. We are extremely proud of our work at RPB, so showing off our great school was never going to be a problem! If you see different teachers throughout the school on this day, please make them feel welcome and say hello! It is a normal day for all.

GOOD LUCK - CROSS COUNTRY

Good luck to all of our students on May 6 for the upcoming Diocesan Cross Country event at Maitland. Miss Graham and I are very much looking forward to seeing you do your personal bests.

ANZAC DAY THANKS

Sending a massive thank you to every staff member, student and family who attended either the dawn or day service on Saturday. We had over 80 students attend, which is amazing.

CROSSING

Please speak with your students about appropriate crossing of the road at the pedestrian crossing. Students are not crossing in the correct areas of an afternoon.

Here are some helpful links.

[Walking safely together to and from schools](#)

[Hold your child's hand](#)

SWIMMING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Relay Team (Matilda, Elke, Ellie and Holly) and Makayla on outstanding efforts at the NSW Primary Schools Championships at Homebush on Tuesday. We are so proud of all of your efforts.

Every swim and performance placed inside the Top 20 in NSW. Matilda finished 7th in the 50m Backstroke, which is phenomenal!

Wishing everyone a terrific fortnight ahead.

Mr Ashley Borg
PRINCIPAL

Assistant Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope you all enjoyed a restful holiday break and you were able to take time to reflect on the significance of the Easter story in our Christian tradition.

PB4L

A key aspect of our PB4L system at Rosary Park is the explicit teaching of expectations to students. Students may receive gotcha tokens if they are observed displaying the behaviour focus throughout the week. These gotcha tokens are collated twice a term and a reward is given to the colour house with the most tokens. I have included the Term Two scope and sequence for your reference.

Term 2	School Rule	Behaviour Focus	Mercy Value
Week 1 and 2	I am Safe	I show courage when I make safe choices travelling to and from school. (e.g. entering and leaving school).	Courage
Alternate 2			
Week 3 and 4	I am an Active Learner	I show respect by actively listening with my eyes and ears	Respect
Alternate 4			
Week 5 and 6	I am an Active Learner	I show courage when I use a growth mindset to persevere with challenging tasks.	Courage
Alternate 6			
Week 7 and 8	I am Respectful	I show hospitality when I say kind words and use my manners	Hospitality
Alternate 8			
Week 9 and 10	I am Safe	I show compassion when I use safe hands and feet	Compassion
Alternate 10			
Week 11	I am an Active Learner	I show service when I stay on task and let others learn.	Service

Diocesan-wide initiative supporting student wellbeing

Our school is pleased to introduce a new, evidence-based student wellbeing initiative: Pivot's Wellbeing for Learning program.

Catholic Schools Maitland-Newcastle is committed to fostering school environments where all students feel cared for, valued, supported and ready to learn. We aspire to provide a holistic education that promotes human flourishing and honours the dignity of each person.

Our school's involvement in Pivot's Wellbeing for Learning program is part of a diocesan-wide initiative. This approach represents a proactive and collaborative approach to understanding and supporting student wellbeing. The program aligns with the Diocesan '**Wellbeing Together**' framework and strengthens our shared commitment to student voice, wellbeing education, and timely support.

What is Pivot's Wellbeing for Learning?

Pivot is an **evidence-based student wellbeing survey tool** that supports students to reflect on key areas of wellbeing, including:

- general wellbeing
- sense of safety
- belonging
- protective behaviours

- resilience

These areas are strongly linked to improved engagement, attendance, and learning outcomes.

The insights gathered will help our school and Catholic Schools Maitland-Newcastle understand student experiences and continually improve wellbeing programs and supports. Importantly, the surveys also provide students with a simple and safe way to let school wellbeing staff know if they may need additional support.

What will participation look like for students?

From **Term 2**, students will take part in brief wellbeing check-ins throughout the year. This will include:

- an initial **baseline survey**, followed by
- short **weekly surveys over several weeks**

How will the information be used?

Survey responses will be used to:

- inform school-based and diocesan wellbeing approaches
- evaluate the effectiveness of wellbeing programs
- support early identification of students who may benefit from additional support

All information relating to these surveys will be handled in line with privacy requirements and existing student wellbeing procedures.

What happens next?

Families will receive a **consent letter via Compass**, which includes further details about Pivot's Wellbeing for Learning.

Participation is voluntary. Families who prefer their child not to take part will have the opportunity to opt out. Students who do not participate will continue to receive full access to all regular wellbeing supports offered by the school.

We value our partnership with families and appreciate your ongoing support in nurturing students to feel safe, connected, and confident in their learning. Pivot's Wellbeing for Learning program is another measure that strengthens our approach to student wellbeing

If you have any questions about this initiative, please contact Mrs Hacker or Mr Borg.

Kind regards,

Maryanne Hacker
Assistant Principal

Religious Education Coordinator's Message

Welcome back to Term 2 Everyone.

Firstly, I would like to thank the following grades and their staff for their efforts in preparing and facilitating the following events so far this term:

- Year 2: Easter/Resurrection Liturgy
- Year 4 ANZAC Day Liturgy
- Parish Mass facilitated by Year 6 and Kindergarten.

We thank all of our community members who attended these events and contributed to our Liturgies and supported our students.



Kindergarten are also busy preparing a wonderful morning for the Mother's, Grandmothers and special females who act as Mother figures in our Rosary Park community. Details are below and RSVP's are due via our QKR app by 3pm on 4th May for catering purposes. We look forward to celebrating with all of our special Mother's, Grandmother's and Mother figures on this special morning.



MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, MAY 8- ROSARY PARK

*Breakfast: for all parents starting at
8am;
toast and juice for children*

*RSVP required by 3pm on May 4 (no
exceptions) - QKR APP FOR ORDERS
Coffee van provided by The Grove*

Liturgy commences at 9am;

*Celebrating mums and mother figures to students
(All welcome)*

Project Compassion Fundraiser:

Last term our staff and student Mercy Teams did an excellent job advocating for those less fortunate than us by promoting our Caritas social justice campaign. I am pleased to announce that our school has raised close to \$800 to help unite against poverty. Our money will help 8-10 people gain access to medical equipment, medicines and supplies in the country of Gaza. I would like to thank all of

our families for their generous donations in a financially difficult period of time. This will be advertised by our Mercy school leaders at our next school assembly.

Catholic Schools Week:

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle will be launching Catholic Schools Week on Friday 15th May and our 4 leaders will be in attendance at this event. Our school looks forward to being represented at this event by our leaders and Mr Redgrove.

Kind Regards,

Nicholas Redgrove
Religious Education Coordinator

Anzac Day Liturgy

We would like to say a huge thank you to those that helped us commemorate Anzac Day, here at Rosary Park. Despite only having limited time and resources to prepare and practice, it all came together beautifully.

Year 4 would like to extend a special thanks to the RSL representatives – namely Steve and Alan – who shared some important knowledge and gifted our school with a lovely wreath.

Lest we forget.

Year 4 Teachers

Weekly Awards

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

Week ending 24th April 2026 (Week 1)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	James D	Elouise S	George B
Kinder White	Riley T	Connor O	Digby M
Year 1 Blue	Jaxon K	Levi W	Polly L
Year 1 White	Zara S	--	--
Year 2 Blue	Dustin P	Tyler T	Daytona A
Year 2 White	--	--	--
Year 3 Blue	Xavier T	Amari JB	Claire D
Year 3 White	Savannah H	Harvey C	Amelia H
Year 4 Blue	Alfie W	Josie W-H	Sonny R
Year 4 White	Stella G	Maici B	Lauren M
Year 5 Blue	Landyn W	Campbell C	Reni S
Year 5 White	Annie H	Elke M	Cruz J
Year 6 Blue	--	--	--
Year 6 White	--	--	--

Week ending 1st May 2026 (Week 2)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Chayse L	Bella P	Primrose T
Kinder White	Jaxon A	Freya M	Hartley R
Year 1 Blue	Hudson W	Hunter P	Xavier H
Year 1 White	Noah B	Savannah R	Ariella L
Year 2 Blue	Sophia S	Olivia m	Scott N
Year 2 White	--	--	--
Year 3 Blue	Leilani D	Connor T	Oliver t
Year 3 White	Zoey A	Tanner h	Claire D
Year 4 Blue	Grace S	Isaac K	Olivia D
Year 4 White	Ethan t	Tony P	Jenson F
Year 5 Blue	Mackenzie H	Aubree M	Noah K
Year 5 White	Nicholas S	Liam H	Aramaia m
Year 6 Blue	--	--	--
Year 6 White	Jaxon B	Sasha B	Brax T

Principal's Awards:

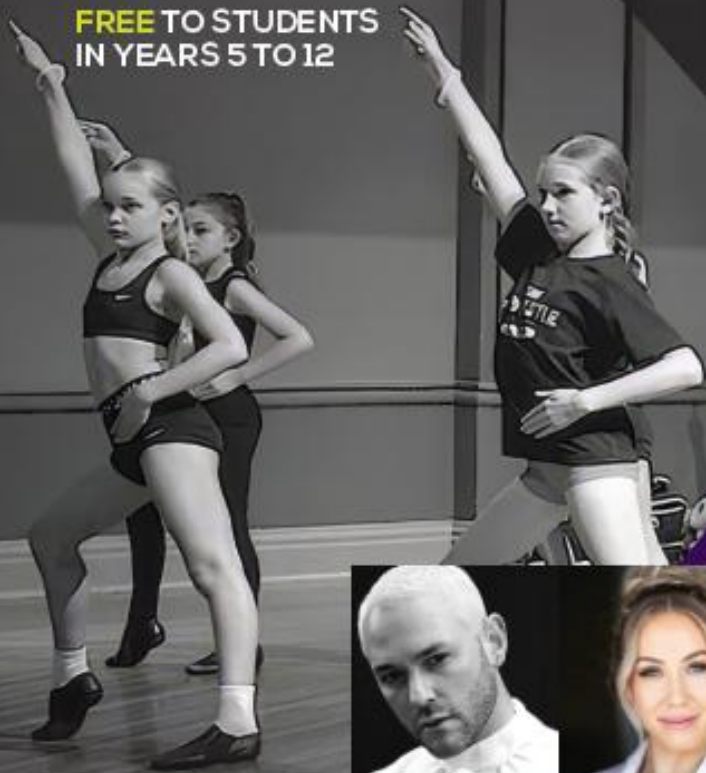
ASPIRE
PRESENTS



DANCE FEST

18 MAY
NEWCASTLE CITY HALL

FREE TO STUDENTS
IN YEARS 5 TO 12



2026

**SPECIAL GUEST
WORKSHOPS**



RYAN SHEPPARD
Musical Theatre

EDEN PETROVSKI
Contemporary

ZANE SHERWOOD
STREET

MONTANA DOYLE
JAZZ



Open to Students and teachers of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle
Must have dance training as these will not be beginner workshops

◀ **REGISTER** mn.shor.tv/DANCEfest2026

OPEN DAY 26

Saturday 9 May 10am - 2pm

We're Opening Our Doors!

See the demos, learn fire safety, meet your local firefighters plus free giveaways.

For locations visit fire.nsw.gov.au/openday



Open Day 2026 - learn about fire safety
Ngày Mở Cửa năm 2026 - Tìm hiểu về an toàn hỏa hoạn
2026开放日——了解防火安全
2026開放日——瞭解防火安全
2026년 오픈 데이 - 화재안전에 대해 배웁시다
يوم مفتوح في عام 2026-تعلم كيفية الحماية من الحرائق





UNGOOROO
Aboriginal Corporation

GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN with Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation

Supporting children and families through a smooth, confident transition to school in the Singleton and Muswellbrook area.

How We Help Your Child Get Ready for School

Our therapists will work with children to assess and screen for key areas a child may be experiencing difficulty with. If identified, the therapists will work with children to strengthen developmental areas needed for a successful transition to kindergarten.

This includes:

Occupational Therapy (OT) *School Readiness Support*

- ✓ **Fine motor skills:** using pencils, crayons, scissors; drawing, writing, cutting.
- ✓ **Gross motor skills:** balance, coordination, core strength.
- ✓ **Self-care and independence:** opening lunchboxes, zippers, toileting routines.
- ✓ **Sensory regulation:** managing sensitivities to noise, touch, and movement.
- ✓ **Attention and following routines:** sitting for mat time, completing tasks, transitioning.
- ✓ **Emotional regulation & resilience:** expressing feelings, managing big emotions, building confidence.

Speech Pathology *Communication & Social Readiness*

- ✓ **Understanding instructions** (one-step or multi-step).
- ✓ **Expressive language:** using words, forming sentences, expanding vocabulary.
- ✓ **Speech clarity:** being understood by teachers and peers.
- ✓ **Social communication:** turn-taking, asking for help, playing with other children.
- ✓ **Early literacy foundations:** sound recognition, pre-reading skills.

Supporting children to start school with confidence!

www.ungooroo.com.au | 6571 5111

Who might benefit from School Readiness Support?

- ✓ Struggles with communication or understanding directions.
- ✓ Difficulty sitting still, focusing, or following routines.
- ✓ Avoids messy play, loud environments, or busy classrooms.
- ✓ Hard time playing or socialising with other children.
- ✓ Needs extra help with self-care tasks.
- ✓ Delays in drawing, cutting, or early writing.
- ✓ Shows anxiety in new environments.
- ✓ Strong sensory reactions.
- ✓ Has a disability or developmental delay.



Our Referral Pathways

Families can access our services through:

- ✓ **NDIS** We assist families with a current NDIS early intervention plan to meet their goals of a successful school transition.
- ✓ **MEDICARE** Children can access therapy by discussing an appropriate care plan with their GP such as after completing a 715 Aboriginal Health Check.



Strategies to make the transition easier

- ✓ Personalised school readiness plans.
- ✓ Classroom-style routines.
- ✓ Strategies for emotional and sensory regulation.
- ✓ Practice communication and social skills.
- ✓ Play-based, culturally safe learning.
- ✓ Collaboration with teachers for consistency.

Referrals welcome from schools, parents & carers!

We're here to Support your Child's Future

At Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation, we believe every child deserves a strong start to their education. Our OT and Speech therapy services help your child step into kindergarten with confidence.

For further information contact us on 6571 5111 or email admin@ungooroo.com.au with your enquiry.



Scan to view UNGOOROO website.



Road safety

Walking safely together to and from school

Walking to and from school is a great way to spend time with your child and encourage safe and healthy behaviours.

Here are a few tips to help keep your child safer as a pedestrian:

- Plan, practise and talk with your child about being alert in the road environment.
- Until your child is at least 8 years old, always hold their hand, as they can be easily distracted. Children need your help to spot dangers.
- Then, up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, and hold their hand when crossing the road.
- Always use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Meet your child near the school gate. Never call them from across the road.
- Explain why the places you have chosen to cross are the safest. Talk to them about why they should **stop, look, listen, think** before crossing a driveway, road or car park.

Children learn safe road user habits from you and will continue them when they are old enough to travel alone.



For more information on keeping children safe in the road environment visit the families section on safetytown.com.au



Key road safety messages to share with your child in Kindergarten to Year 2

- Hold a grown up's hand when:
 - you cross the road
 - you're on the footpath
 - you're in a car park

Key road safety messages to share with your child in Years 3 to 6

- Hold an adult's hand when you cross the road (until at least 10)
- Use a safe place to cross the road
- **Stop! Look! Listen! Think!** every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

STOP!
one step back from the kerb

LOOK!
continuously both ways

LISTEN!
for the sounds of approaching traffic

THINK!
whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

Road safety

Hold your child's hand

Your child may be easily distracted and too small to be seen by drivers. They are still developing skills that help them to predict or identify dangers and may tend to act impulsively.

An adult should always be responsible for your child's safety when out and about.

Talk with your child about safe behaviour on the footpath. It's not a safe place to play as it is near the road and vehicles may be entering or exiting driveways.

Until your child is at least 8 years old, hold their hand:

- on the footpath
- in the car park
- when crossing the road.

Then, up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, and hold their hand when crossing the road.

If you can't be with your child, organise for another trusted adult to accompany them.

At the end of the school day, your child may be excited, distracted or tired and often not concentrating on what is happening around them. Help keep them safe by meeting your child at the school gate. Never call them across the road.

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For more information on keeping children safe in the road environment visit the families section on [safetytown.com.au](https://www.safetytown.com.au)



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Good for kids
good for life



Screen Free Week 2026

Get ready to unplug by getting involved in **Screen Free Week** during the first week of May.

Screen Free Week is a time to disconnect from screens and spend time doing activities that don't involve technology, like being active, learning new hobbies, and enjoying family time.

During Screen-Free Week, we encourage students and families to:

- Play outdoor games or sports
- Explore nature and enjoy the outdoors
- Plan a picnic or barbecue
- Write a letter to a friend or relative
- Spend quality time with family, like having a board game night or going for a walk
- Try a new hobby, like dancing, drawing, cooking, or crafting!



Source: Screen Free Week (www.screenfree.org)



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.

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