



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 8 2026

Thursday 25th 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

AUG		AUG	
Mon 3 rd	Schools Cup Netball	Thu 27 th	Book Week Parade 9:15am – ALL WELCOME
Wed 5 th	Diocesan Athletic Carnival	SEP	
Mon 10 th	Prime Minister Spelling Bee – entries close	Tue 1 st	Lower Hunter Region Public Speaking
Wed 12 th	Assembly 9am – Year 1 Showcase	Wed 2 nd	Soccer Gala Day – Stage 3
Fri 14 th	Stage 2 Sustainability Day Incursion	Thu 3 rd	Father's Day Stall (closes on QKR Mon 31 st Aug)
Wed 19 th – Fri 21 st	Year 6 Canberra Excursion	Fri 4 th	Father's Day Lunch and Sports Activities
Wed 26 th	Regional Soccer Gala Day – Stage 2	Wed 9 th	Assembly 9am – Year 5 Showcase

Principal's Message

PRAYER

"Lord, help us to live each day in a way that honours you. Give us strength, wisdom, and compassion."

"We pray for your presence in our lives, and for your guidance in all that we do."

"Thank you for your love and your grace. Amen."

WELCOME BACK

We hope that you have had a terrific time with your children over the term break. Semester One is in the books, Semester Two is busy, yet fun and exciting at the same time! You will find all of the dates, items and events in our School calendar, on Compass and in a post in your news feeds. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you are having difficulty locating this.

UNIFORMS

I wish to make note of the uniforms at school.

We realise that the weather is getting colder and the wearing of a DARK BLUE BEANIE, is correct uniform, for those children who require it. The provisos are that the beanie is only worn outside and it is taken off inside the classroom.

Based on positive feedback from families, there will be a new Fleece Jacket on the uniform list. Again, this is not compulsory, however, it will be a very handy item to have when the days get cold.

We strongly suggest jackets and jumpers be worn at school. These must be purchased from our supplier Lowes located in Cessnock and school (for those who require a second-hand piece of clothing – please be aware that we don't stock all sizes as these are donated)

Black, polishable shoes are also a strong feature of our uniform. If you are having difficulty sourcing these, please send me an email and we can assist.

Students are required to tuck their shirts in, this is to foster a self-discipline and neat presentation. If the shirt is long-sleeve, then it is tucked in.

Ribbons, headbands, etc must either be NATURAL SKIN COLOUR, DARK BLUE or WHITE. Earrings must be sleepers or studs only. If the hoop of the earring is large enough for a pinky finger to go through, then it is too large. This is for basic safety.

Regardless of the hairstyle, any children's hair which is collar length, must be tied back. This is to help students learn by keeping hair out of their face and for hygiene purposes. Children's hair should not have patterns shaved into it. This is great for holidays, but not indicative of Rosary Park's presentation. We are encouraging of individual style, but our standards are once again to foster a self-discipline and a tidiness around presentation.

Please support the school with these endeavours.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

A reminder that emails are sent through the admin@branxton.catholic.edu.au platform and that the teacher / staff member concerned will answer your query within 48 business hours. Our first priority is the safety and wellbeing of your children so that we can effectively employ our outstanding pedagogy (teaching strategies) to get the best result for your child.

We are here to help, we just need to know about it and be communicated to respectfully and effectively.

GRANDPARENTS DAY THANKYOU

What a wonderful morning we had with our grandparents and families on Monday! I wish to personally thank everyone that came to Rosary Park for a terrific experience. BIG thanks go to Year Three teachers, students and special thanks to Father Thomas, for taking time from his rostered day off to be with us.

It would be remiss of me to note how many families commented on how calm and well-mannered our students were on Monday. This is a real testament to the hard work being done at school, by all staff, to create meaningful, realistic and consistent boundaries for students. It is, also due to the partnership we have with the very large majority of our families.

THANK YOU!

We are very appreciative and thankful for all the support we have been given over the past 6 months, especially during transition from some major changes in Executive.

People come and people go, but the fabric of a school is its students, the staff who are in the school and the families who make RPB the place to be.

I'm so proud of what we are doing at Rosary Park. Year Five NAPLAN results are the best they've been for five years, Year Three have had a year-on-year improvement for the past three years and our student's behaviour in and out of school has been INCREDIBLE!

Events like Monday are a shining example of how community minded our school is, we would love to hear any feedback or anything relating to what you would like to see more of, at Rosary Park.

From my staff and students to you, the families, thank you.

PUBLIC SPEAKING THIS TERM

We will be holding our Public Speaking competitions this term. These are a wonderful tradition, which were started many years ago now, as an initiative of one of our former Principals in the Diocese, as a response to public school competitions of the same nature.

Miss Connolly will be organising these for the school and we will update parents further in due course.

DIOCESAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL – GOOD LUCK!

Next Wednesday is our Diocesan Athletics Carnival. We have the following contingent of athletes attending and competing for not only Lower Hunter Catholic Schools, but more importantly, ROSARY PARK.

Congratulations to:

ANNIE H – Year 5

LUCY S – Year 6

VINCENT L – Year 4

WILLIAM M – Year 5

WILLIAM H- Year 2

We wish you all the very best children, do yourselves, your families and us proud!

CRICKET GALA DAY

Cricket NSW Smash Gala Day was a fantastic success.

Throughout the day, students participated in three modified cricket games, giving them plenty of opportunities to develop their skills, work as a team and enjoy friendly competition.

Students had fun with an inflatable catching drill as well as a catching challenge, with signed Sydney Sixes hats awarded as prizes.

A highlight of the day was the visit from Sydney Sixers players Elsa Hunter and Harjas Singh, who generously spent time with students and participated in an engaging Q&A session.

Students discovered Elsa's amazing achievement of being the youngest ever international women's cricketer and Harjas with his incredible batting innings, scoring a massive 314 in a one day match (including 35 sixes).

They enjoyed hearing about their cricket journeys, their favourite food and their taste in music. Elsa and Harjas then got involved and played with the students.

Their enthusiasm and willingness to connect with the students was super impressive and I have no doubt that they have left them feeling inspired.

All students represented their schools exceptionally well.

Their behaviour, sportsmanship and positive attitudes were outstanding.

All were actively involved and having fun, with many commenting afterwards that they were keen to continue playing cricket as a sport.

We have quite a few sporting opportunities coming up in the next couple of months, so stay tuned. Unfortunately, these are generally only available in the Primary Years of schooling.

FAREWELL MRS ALLEN

After a wonderful few years at Rosary Park, Mrs Allen says goodbye to the school today, to await the impending birth of her first child.

Mrs Allen is one of the hardest working, diligent, caring and compassionate teachers I have ever had the pleasure of working with. She is friendly, kind and a terrific colleague.

On behalf of all of the Rosary Park community, Naomi, we wish you and Isaac all the very best and know you will be wonderful parents!

We welcome Mrs Kylie Bardetta to the school on Monday. She has already been in several times and worked with the students. Kylie is a beginning teacher who has been involved in schools as a Learning Support Assistant for many years and has taught casually in over ten schools.

Until next newsletter, stay safe and well. God Bless,

Mr Ashley Borg
PRINCIPAL

Assistant Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 3! We have enjoyed a very positive start to the term, with students returning to school refreshed, enthusiastic and ready for a great term of learning. It has been wonderful to see classrooms quickly settle into routines and students engaging positively with their teachers and peers.

One of the exciting changes this term has been the reorganisation of our playground spaces. These adjustments have been made to ensure students have more room to play, explore and enjoy active break times. The additional open space has already been well received, providing greater opportunities for students to participate in a variety of activities and interact with their friends.

To further support safe and enjoyable play, designated areas have now been established for ball games, including soccer and touch football. These clearly defined spaces help students enjoy their favourite games while allowing other playground areas to remain available for different activities. The changes have contributed to a calmer and more organised playground environment and have encouraged positive participation from all students.

We are proud of the way our students have adapted to these new arrangements and have demonstrated respect, responsibility and cooperation during break times. Thank you to our staff and students for embracing these changes so positively.

We look forward to another successful term filled with learning, growth and opportunities for all students.

Maryanne Hacker
Assistant Principal

Religious Education Coordinators Message

A Grandparent's Heart

A grandparent's heart is made of gold,
With gentle hands and stories told.
A listening ear, a loving smile,
They walk beside us every mile.

With wisdom born of years gone by,
They teach us how to reach and try.
Through every laugh and every tear,
Their loving presence draws us near.

God's gift to families, faithful and true,
A grandparent's love shines brightly through.
A treasure held within our days,
A blessing sent in countless ways.

Grandparents Day at Rosary Park:

This week, our school community was blessed to celebrate Grandparents Day, giving us the opportunity to honour the incredible role grandparents play in the lives of our children and families. Inspired by Saints Anne and Joachim, the grandparents of Jesus, we reflected on the

love, wisdom, faith, and guidance that grandparents so generously share with younger generations.

Grandparents hold a special place in our hearts. They are storytellers, mentors, cheerleaders, and faithful companions who help shape the values and character of our children. Through their unconditional love, patience, and encouragement, they provide a sense of belonging and stability that enriches family life. Their wisdom, gained through years of experience, offers lessons that cannot be found in books, and their faith continues to inspire future generations to walk with God.

Grandparents are living witnesses of faith, hope, and love. They help connect children to their family history, traditions, and to God's enduring presence in their lives. We are deeply grateful for all that grandparents do and the lasting impact they have on our children.

A sincere thank you to our Year 3 students and teachers who hosted such a reverent and memorable liturgy. Your preparation, prayerfulness, and joyful participation created a beautiful celebration worthy of this special occasion. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Father Thomas for joining us and offering a special blessing to all grandparents in attendance.

Prayer for Grandparents

Loving God,

We thank You for the precious gift of grandparents. Bless them for the love they give, the wisdom they share, and the faith they model each day.

May they know the joy of being cherished and appreciated. Strengthen them with good health, fill their hearts with peace, and surround them with Your abundant grace.

Like Saints Anne and Joachim, may they continue to inspire future generations through their example of faith, kindness, and devotion. Help us to honour and value them always.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal:

It is always inspiring to see our students putting faith into action and living out the Gospel values of compassion, service and justice. Through the leadership of our Year 6 Mercy Leaders and the generosity of our school community, Rosary Park Catholic School proudly raised more than \$500

for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal to support those experiencing hardship in our local area. In addition, our families generously donated enough food, clothing and essential items to fill an entire mini van.

We congratulate our Year 6 Mercy Leaders for their outstanding commitment to this important social justice initiative. Last week at our school assembly, the leaders formally presented the donations to Anne from Cessnock St Vincent de Paul, representing the collective efforts of our students, staff and families. We thank everyone who contributed so generously and demonstrated the true spirit of mercy, kindness and service to others. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of those most in need within our local community.



Nicholas Redgrove
Religious Education Coordinator

Library News

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday the 27th of August, RPCS will be holding its annual Book Week costume Parade. This year we ask you to come dressed as your favourite book character (I know we are going to have a lot of Wallys and Harry Potters/Hermione Granger's!).

It will be held on the basketball court in front of the Kindergarten rooms starting at 9:15am. Please join us on this morning to celebrate the love of reading!

We can't wait to see your costumes!

Hope to see you all there!

Melanie Flynn
Teacher Librarian

NAIDOC Week 2026

A huge thank you to Joey Butler (Clontarf Academy) and the boys from Singleton High and Kirsten Lane for organising and supporting some of our NAIDOC activities this year. We had a lovely morning learning about and celebrating the culture and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.





Weekly Awards

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

Week ending 24th July 2026 (Week 1)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Bella P	Libby S	Chayse L
Kinder White	Hartley R	Zavier A	Riley T
Year 1 Blue	Toby B	Zoe S	Ivy E
Year 1 White	Byron R		
Year 2 Blue	Scott N	Daytona A	Dustin P
Year 2 White	--	--	--
Year 3 Blue	--	--	--
Year 3 White	Addison M	Winnie C	Darcy J
Year 4 Blue	--	--	--
Year 4 White	Tony P	Harley R	Matilda B
Year 5 Blue	Caelan G	Anabelle L	Keir N
Year 5 White	Baxter A	Nicholas S	Imogen M
Year 6 Blue	--	--	--
Year 6 White	--	--	--

Week ending 31st July 2026 (Week 2)

Class	Class Award One	Class Award Two	MJR Award
Kinder Blue	Max M	Jonty C	Mia H
Kinder White	Zac A	Digby M	Annabelle F
Year 1 Blue	Jaxon D / Archie S	Liliana H	Harlyn H
Year 1 White	Savannah R	Lucas H	--
Year 2 Blue	Ivy T	Cali D	Yuri K
Year 2 White	Bruno B	William H	Dylan J
Year 3 Blue	Dominic V	Jasper W	Amari J-B
Year 3 White	Savannah H	Millah L	Armani L
Year 4 Blue	--	--	--
Year 4 White	Lauren M	Hendrix M	Maici B
Year 5 Blue	Indy M	Layla M	Jenny N
Year 5 White	Baxter D	Elke M	Allie D
Year 6 Blue	Hunter B	Noah L	Lucy S
Year 6 White	Braxton T	Max K	Addison K

Principal's Awards: Anderson P, Libby S, Ava W, Tao D x 2, Reuben L, Aster R, Imogen Mc x 2, Jimmy S, Sadie R, Dustin P, Ivy E, Pearl B, Toby B, Emily R, Jaxon C, Sophia S, Ellesse S, Louis H



Nutrition for Learning

Did you know that what children eat throughout the day can affect how they learn?

A balanced diet provides the nutrients children need to concentrate, solve problems, remember new information and stay energised throughout the school day.

Help your child fuel their brain by:

- Starting the day with a healthy breakfast
- Enjoying regular meals and healthy snacks from the five food groups
- Eating a variety of colourful vegetables and fruit
- Drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated, especially at school

Healthy eating isn't about having a perfect diet — it's about making small, everyday choices most of the time. Every nutritious meal and snack helps children grow, learn and thrive.



Hunter New England
Local Health District

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

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