



St John Vianney's Parish School

# NEWSLETTER

I WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY TO HEAVEN

Term 1

March 17, 2021

Issue 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

We all know the importance of reading and writing when acquiring and improving language skills. Equally important is the development of talking and listening skills. Teachers often talk about oral language development in terms of expressive and receptive language development. Simply put, expressive language is the ability to produce clear, spoken messages while receptive language is the ability to comprehend (understand) spoken language.

As talking and listening are important life skills, children actively participate in oral language activities from Kindergarten to increase their confidence. The following points from the NSW English K-10 Syllabus, outline what successful early learners need to demonstrate:

- engage in conversations and discussions, using active listening behaviours, showing interest, and contributing ideas, information and questions
- describe in detail familiar places and things
- contribute appropriately to class discussions
- recognise and respond to instructions from teachers and peers
- retell familiar stories and events in logical sequence

Parents and carers can assist the learning that happens at school by:

- being attentive to your children and showing interest in what they are saying
- encouraging conversation by asking open-ended questions
- listening patiently and paraphrasing what they have said
- hearing children out and avoiding cutting them off or finishing sentences for them
- adding to conversations by sharing your own thoughts and ideas

Happy talking and listening!

Cameron Lievore  
Principal

Last Friday we formally welcomed our Kindergarten children as well as children in other grades and teachers who have joined the St John Vianney's school community. Our Year 6 children did a wonderful job of processing in with their Kinder buddies and sitting with them during the assembly. It was also the first time in almost 12 months that we were able to have parents attend an assembly, subject to COVID-safe requirements (signing in/out; physical distancing) that remain in place.

My thanks to Mr Stennett, Mrs Rutherford, Mrs Thurbon, Mrs Field, Mrs Bayada and Mrs Brooke for planning the Welcome Assembly and to the Year 6 children who were outstanding buddies and role models for the younger children.

## IMPORTANT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### OPEN DAY (for Kindergarten 2022)

Friday 7 May  
9.30am – 10.30am  
(subject to Covid restrictions)  
*Bookings Essential*  
Please contact School to book

### ICE BLOCK STALL

Lunchtime - Friday 19 March  
\$1.00 each

## INFORMATION SENT HOME

Sibling registration for  
Kindergarten 2022

### WHOLE SCHOOL SPORTS DAYS

18<sup>th</sup> March  
23<sup>rd</sup> March  
30<sup>th</sup> March  
All students to wear Sports Uniform

### CROSS COUNTRY / FUN RUN

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – Full Sports Uniform  
Years 3-6 only

**NAPLAN** Information for parents and  
carers – Years 3 & 5 only

Newsletter available on Skool Bag  
App or subscribe through our School  
Website

17 Cameron Street  
Doonside NSW 2767  
Phone: 8869 6300  
E: [stjohnvianneys@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stjohnvianneys@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
W: [www.stjohnvianneysdoonside.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjohnvianneysdoonside.catholic.edu.au)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



### HEAD

### HEART

### HAND

Last week I introduced what the Parramatta Diocese name the '**essential dispositions**' or ways of being - prerequisites for Catholic teaching and learning. They are a way of helping us consider the values of the Gospels, lived out by Christ, of whom we follow. Each of the three pillars of the dispositions are divided into four descriptors. This fortnight I want to focus on:

### HEAD - Attentive   Intelligent   Reasonable   Responsible

When you look at the gifts of the Holy Spirit - *Wisdom, Knowledge, Awe, Right Judgment, Understanding, Courage, Reverence* - you'll notice that the majority are based around using your brain well. The 'Head' disposition follows this trend - how can we make sense of the world and see it as God would want us to.

**Attentive** - are we focussed on what is in front of us? - the present task, the need, the person? Are we distracted or do we procrastinate?

**Intelligent** - are we making good sense of the world around us and solving the problems that we are faced with by choosing smart, thoughtful solutions? Do we think things through and seek ideas that are informed?

**Reasonable** - do we use reason when making decisions? What are we weighing up and what are we making our judgements based on?

**Responsible** - do we consider the roles that we have? It may be student, parent, friend, sister - how are we considering our part to play and what we are doing to perform this role well?

### Feast of St Joseph this Friday

This Friday we pause to commemorate St Joseph, foster father of Jesus. Joseph is someone who we can turn to for guidance, as a parent or as anyone who looks over the care of children.



### A Parent's Prayer to Saint Joseph

O glorious St. Joseph, to you God committed the care of His only begotten Son amid the many dangers of this world.

We come to you and ask you to take under your special protection the children God has given us. Through holy baptism they became children of God and members of His holy Church.

Guard them, guide their steps in life, form their hearts after the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

St. Joseph, who felt the tribulation and worry of a parent when the child Jesus was lost, help protect our dear children in our own care.

Let them, like Jesus, grow in age as well as in wisdom and grace before God.

Amen

Mr Simon Stennett  
Religious Education Coordinator

## NUMERACY INFORMATION

### Why Math Word Problems are Important?

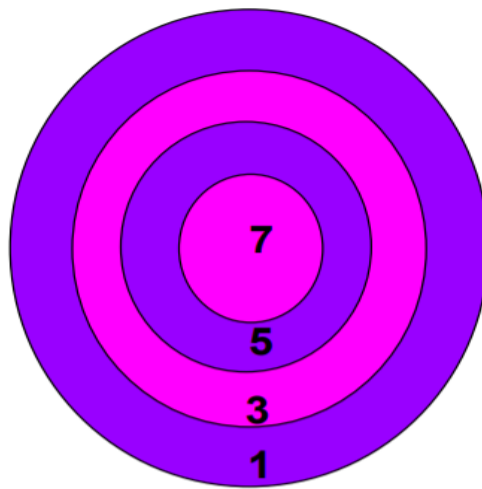
Math Word Problems are regarded as the vital part in the Australian Mathematics curriculum as it enhances the student's mental skill, develop logical analysis and boost creative thinking.

Problem solving is one of the basic skills that students must take along with them throughout their lives and use long after they have left school. Problem solving involves a range of processes including analysing, interpreting, reasoning, predicting, evaluating and reflecting.

Below is a mathematics word problem that your child can complete. Please feel free to change the numbers on the target below.

### **Lucy Likes Darts**

Lucy throws darts at this target. She never misses the target. Her darts always score 1, 3, 5, 7.



She throws 2 darts. She adds the 2 numbers together. Her score is 8.

- What could her numbers have been? Is there another way she could have scored?
- After her third throw, her total score was 13. Where did her third dart hit?
- Lucy throws a fourth dart. Explain why her total score is now even.
- Lucy threw 17 darts for a total of 80. Explain why she must have made a mistake in her adding up.

Mrs Derjani  
Numeracy Coordinator

## NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in **Years 3, 5, 7 and 9**. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN is the measure through which the government, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not our students are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be improved. NAPLAN tests are just **ONE** aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

The NAPLAN test will take place online **during Week 4 and Week 5 of Term Two, from Tuesday 11<sup>h</sup> May to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021.**

Students do not need to be computer experts to take the NAPLAN test online. Making sure students have computer skills is part of our school curriculum, and our teachers will ensure your child is familiar with the online format. All students in **Year 3 and Year 5** will participate in **Practice tests during week 9 of this term from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, allowing students to become familiar with the functionalities of the platform.

To see the types of questions and interactive features of NAPLAN Online, visit the public demonstration site - <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

*For more information please visit:* <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

# NAPLAN Online – Information for parents and carers

## What is NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses the literacy and numeracy skills of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Students participate in NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN provides an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. The tests are just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools and education authorities with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

## Moving to NAPLAN Online

Schools in all states and territories are moving from paper tests to online tests. It is expected that all NSW schools will transition to NAPLAN Online by 2022. The move to NAPLAN Online brings new benefits for teachers and students.

## What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

### More precise results with an adaptive design:

Tailored tests adapt to a student's performance and ask questions that match the student's achievement levels.

**Better engagement:** Research into online assessment indicates that students engage well with online tests as the questions are tailored to their achievement levels.

## Tailored testing

Tailored testing provides a more precise assessment of students' performance. Students at each year level start with a similar set of questions. Depending on the number of questions they answered correctly, the next set of questions may be more, or less, difficult.

A student's NAPLAN result is based on both the number and difficulty of questions the student answers correctly. A student who completes a more difficult set of questions is more likely to achieve a higher score.

Watch a video (3:06 length) to learn more about tailored testing – <https://youtu.be/oGFseJAM3Ew>

## Supporting your child

The best approach for preparing your child for NAPLAN is to encourage your child to do the best they can on the day.

Excessive preparation or the use of coaching providers is not recommended.

Students can use the public demonstration site to familiarise themselves with the tools and type of questions they will experience in NAPLAN Online – <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

## Students' digital skills

The digital skills required to complete NAPLAN Online are skills that students use in everyday classroom activities.

Students do not need to be able to touch type to complete the test. The online test is not about keyboard skills (just as the paper test is not about handwriting skills).

## Withdrawals and exemptions

You can withdraw your child from NAPLAN tests.

A student may be granted a formal exemption if they have:

- a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the tests, or
- recently arrived in Australia and have a non-English speaking background.

Contact your child's school for further information and to complete the parent/carer consent form.

## Practice tests

NSW schools participating in NAPLAN Online will participate in practice tests between 22 March and 1 April 2021.

The practice test is a trial-run and key preparation activity for NAPLAN Online in May. It is not an assessment of student ability.

Participation in the practice tests is highly beneficial as it allows schools and students to become familiar with the online assessment platform tools and processes.

## NAPLAN Online 2021 test window

**Practice test window:** 22 March – 1 April

**NAPLAN Online test window:** 11 – 21 May

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is nine days instead of the three days provided for the paper test. This is to give schools flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

## What if my child was absent on the day of a scheduled test?

Where possible, schools may arrange catch-up tests for individual students who were absent on the day of a scheduled NAPLAN Online test.

Catch-up tests are not permitted after Friday 21 May 2021.

## COVID-19 advice

Parents should keep students at home if they are experiencing flu-like symptoms and monitor NSW Health advice on COVID-19 case locations across the state. For more information, visit <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19>.

Your child's school will be required to conduct NAPLAN testing in accordance with the latest NSW Government COVID-19 advice.

## Year 3 writing test

The Year 3 writing test is conducted on paper at schools participating in NAPLAN Online. All other Year 3 NAPLAN tests will be online tests.

## Privacy

NESA is responsible for the collection of personal information from NSW schools to be used during NAPLAN testing and reporting.

All data collection for NAPLAN is managed in accordance with NSW and Federal privacy legislation described in NESA's privacy management plan, which can be found on the NESA website:  
<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/who-we-are/privacy/naplan-privacy>

## Results

Parents receive two reports showing their child's achievements in NAPLAN; the individual student report (ISR) and additional student report (ASR). The ISR and ASR should always be interpreted with care. Teachers will have the best insight into a child's educational progress.

Reports are usually dispatched to schools towards the end of Term 3. Schools then distribute the reports to parents.

## Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.



**NSW Education Standards Authority  
NAPLAN team**

**Phone:** 1300 119 556 or 02 9367 8382

**Email:** [naplan.nsw@nesa.nsw.edu.au](mailto:naplan.nsw@nesa.nsw.edu.au)

# NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2021

## Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Federal, state and territory education ministers agreed that all schools will gradually transition from the current paper-based NAPLAN to NAPLAN Online in order to provide a better and more precise assessment that is more engaging for students.

State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online. The current plan is for all schools to transition to NAPLAN Online by 2022.

One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, in which the test presents questions of higher or lower complexity depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

## Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

## What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the tests online or on paper. Results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

## What can I do to support my child?

On its own, NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for and students are not expected to do so.

You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply do their best.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs is a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills. There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

See the types of questions and related functionalities available in the NAPLAN Online assessment at [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site)

## Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should discuss the use of any adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

## NAPLAN Online timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is nine days instead of the three days provided for the paper test. This is to give schools flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 11 May and finishes on Friday 21 May 2021.

The online test scheduling requirements are detailed in the table below.

## How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

## How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at [myschool.edu.au](https://myschool.edu.au)

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](https://nap.edu.au/TAA)
- visit [nap.edu.au](https://nap.edu.au)

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](https://nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy)

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test (on day 1 only)  Year 5 must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only)  Years 7 and 9 must start on day 2 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 2 and 3 only)	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 42 min. Year 7: 42 min. Year 9: 42 min.	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	To ensure online schools are able to complete NAPLAN tests within the nine-day testing window, Years 7 and 9 students can start with reading on day 1; however, writing must start on day 2 as the writing test takes priority over any rescheduled reading tests from day 1  To be completed <b>before</b> the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	To be completed <b>after</b> the reading test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	This test assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	To be completed <b>after</b> the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	This test assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability

## **ASSEMBLY**

**Every Monday morning, we begin the week with an Assembly.** The whole school gathers to pray our School Prayer, which was composed by one of our students many years ago. We begin each day in the classrooms with this prayer which is led by one of our student leaders over the PA system. I share this prayer with you as we begin this new year. Perhaps you can make time at home to help your child become familiar with this special prayer.

## **OUR SCHOOL PRAYER**

*Dear Father,*

*Thank you for bringing us safely to St John Vianney's today.*

*Please bless our families, friends and teachers.*

*Help me to make today a nice day for myself and everyone I meet.*

*Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

## **KEEP US INFORMED**

If you have changed your address, email address or phone numbers, please update via the Skoolbag App or contact the school office for a Change of Details form as soon as possible. It is important to have ALL contact details up to date for our records to ensure we can contact you when necessary.

## **VISAS**

If you or your child have been on a visa and the status of that Visa has changed, please advise the school office as soon as possible so that your records can be updated.

## **SCHOOL BANKING**

Please send your child's banking in on Friday morning and hand to their class teacher.

## **CLOTHING POOL**

If you wish to purchase second hand clothing, please contact the School Office to make an appointment.

Donations are appreciated. Please send through any used clothing, washed, to the school office.

## **HELPFUL LINK**

Families might be interested in the following program that has been designed to help children who have been targets of bullying and who have high levels of anxiety:

[https://coolkidstakingcontrol.com.au/?fbclid=IwAR3GSUcco5bm6G4Byp5ipVg-fnUqTD\\_oSpfnp-HZDYroomxB86Zw4zDoX8U](https://coolkidstakingcontrol.com.au/?fbclid=IwAR3GSUcco5bm6G4Byp5ipVg-fnUqTD_oSpfnp-HZDYroomxB86Zw4zDoX8U)

## SUPERVISION

Morning supervision starts from 8:30am. Please ensure that your child is NOT at school before 8:30am as there is NO supervision before this time. School finishes at 3:00pm and children should be picked up promptly. Afternoon supervision in the amphitheatre finishes at 3:30pm.

If you are running late, please contact the School Office on 8869 6300 so that we may inform your child.

## MEDICATION

If your child requires medication during the day, e.g. antibiotics, please send a note to the office together with the medication (in its original packaging), details of dosage and time to be administered. If medication is required for a period of 5 days or more, a form will be sent home for completion.

**NO MEDICATION** is to be in your child's school bag. All medication must be kept in the office as we need to record all medication given to students.

Asthma Action Plans and Anaphylaxis ASCIA plans are requested in the beginning of each year. Please inform School Office if your child's medication changes during the year.

## TERM 1 CALENDAR

### MARCH

Thursday	18 March	Whole School to wear Sports Uniform
Friday	19 March	<b>NO STUDENT SCHOOL BANKING TODAY</b>
Friday	19 March	Ice Block Day – lunch time
Friday	19 March	2.15pm Merit Assembly – MPR (Children Only)
Tuesday	23 March	GRIP Student Leaders' Day
Tuesday	23 March	Whole School to wear Sports Uniform
Friday	26 March	12.30pm Student of the Term – MRP (Children Only) Open Day 9.30am-10.30am – <i>Bookings Essential</i>
Tuesday	30 March	Whole School to wear Sports Uniform

### APRIL

Thursday	1 April	Holy Thursday – Last day of school
Friday	2 April	Good Friday
Sunday	4 April	Easter Sunday
Sunday	4 April	Daylight Saving ends
Monday	19 April	Staff Development Day – No students at school

**STUDENTS RESUME FOR TERM 2 ON TUESDAY 20 APRIL**

## SPORTS UNIFORM DAYS

K Blue	Thursday & Friday
K Gold	Thursday & Friday
1 Blue	Thursday only
1 Gold	Wednesday only
2 Blue	Thursday only
2 Gold	Wednesday only
3 Blue	Friday only
3 Gold	Wednesday only
4 Blue	Thursday & Friday
4 Gold	Thursday & Friday
5 Blue	Thursday only
5 Gold	Wednesday only
6 Blue	Wednesday & Friday
6 Gold	Wednesday & Friday

## WHOLE SCHOOL SPORT DAYS FOR TERM 1

Sports uniforms are to be worn by the entire school on the following days:

Thursday (Week 8)	18 March
Tuesday (Week 9)	23 March
Tuesday (Week 10)	30 March

This will be due to extra athletics program in addition to your child's usual sport day.

## LIBRARY NEWS

**LIBRARY MONITORS** - Congratulations to the following students who have volunteered to take on the role of Library Monitors in 2021: Aayana Chaudhary, Alexia Williams, Ayurvi Chaudhary, Carmen Sokar, Shreya Bijo, Tayana Hamilton, Rosalind Cabiguen, Julianne De Guzman, Maria Kanesh.

It is so exciting to have all these enthusiastic students working in the library to make it a great place to visit and explore the world of books. Thank you for giving up your time to help. Welcome to a new year of reading. Could you please ensure your child uses a library bag to help protect our precious library books. *Library Bags are to be purchased from the office at a cost of \$10.00.*

Mrs Kersivien  
Teacher/Librarian

## CLASS LIBRARY DAYS

<b>K Blue</b>	Monday	<b>4 Blue</b>	Wednesday
<b>K Gold</b>	Tuesday	<b>4 Gold</b>	Tuesday
<b>1 Blue</b>	Wednesday	<b>5 Blue</b>	Friday
<b>1 Gold</b>	Friday	<b>5 Gold</b>	Friday
<b>2 Blue</b>	Monday	<b>6 Blue</b>	Thursday
<b>2 Gold</b>	Monday	<b>6 Gold</b>	Friday
<b>3 Blue</b>	Thursday		
<b>3 Gold</b>	Thursday		

## SCHOOL FEE BILLING TIMETABLE

Fee accounts will be posted to your residential address.

Term	Approximate Date of Billed Invoice	Fee Due Date
1	15 Feb 2021	17 March 2021
2	26 April 2021	26 May 2021
3	19 July 2021	18 August 2021
4	12 October 2021	11 November 2021

### INSTALMENT 1 SCHOOL FEES



Instalment 1 School Fees are now due. Unless you have a payment arrangement with the school, please contact Mrs Dawinan on 02 8869 6300 to discuss payment of your school fees.

Families who are experiencing financial difficulties are requested to contact the school as soon as possible so that a confidential appointment can be arranged with Mr Lievore or Mrs Dawinan.

### REQUESTS FOR COPIES OF REPORTS

Many families are submitting applications for their child to attend high school and the office has had a number of requests for photocopying of reports already provided to the parents i.e. NAPLAN and Semester 2 reports.

As per school policy, there will be a \$5.00 per report charge for any copies the office is required to make. We ask that you give our office staff time to complete this request with either an email notification or via telephone.

## MERIT CERTIFICATES

**Congratulations to the following Students:**

**5 & 12 March 2021**

### **K BLUE**

Naeshika Umarangan  
Oscar Jones  
Hadraniel Mendoza  
Joseph Atua  
Markos Jovic  
Amarynes Ramos

### **K GOLD**

Cassidy Yu  
Jesua Mercado  
Anthony Nguyen  
Terry Chen  
Mia Arranz  
Julian Kasemmongkol

### **1 BLUE**

Amira Saumatua  
Alexander Villaret  
Om Nepal  
Eesha Lal  
Max Muljono  
Lucas Tee

### **1 GOLD**

Izabel Lopez  
Lucas Odur  
Krishna Kakade  
Dre Sio Ngaha  
Augustin D'Antonio-Valenzuela  
Nakotah Wortley

### **2 BLUE**

Rosa Talione  
Valentino Thompson  
Marcus Gergawy  
Cecille Rucat  
Antoine Alfafara  
Bhavya Sangroula

### **2 GOLD**

Isaiah Hanna  
Michael Hellouie  
Jake Laidlaw  
Eli Gray  
Victoria Lobokakodkar  
Chloe Otazu

### **3 BLUE**

Sienna Hayman-Lafo  
Ayrton Tiongco  
Justin Nasif  
Emma Bajada  
Neralie Bennett  
Jesiah Flores

### **3 GOLD**

Jorell Pascale  
Eli Panaligan  
Charlotte Bayada  
Noah Angelo  
Olivia Jesson  
Ryan Shobin

### **4 BLUE**

Celestine Cabiguen  
Jessica Laidlaw  
Teejay Pineda  
Chanel Maningat  
Bethenny Scott  
Simon Pastoral

### **4 GOLD**

Oliver Villaret  
Demiana Abdelmalak  
Jonathan Cabrera  
Manny Cabiguen  
Elisha Odur  
Aseda Appiah

### **5 BLUE**

Jaideen Labo  
Majella Nguyen  
Isaac Robertson  
Jasmine KC  
Chloe Marcelo  
Tiago Belista

### **5 GOLD**

Eason Zheng  
Justin Dela Pena  
Caetlynn Dolores  
Lachlan Fajardo  
Caleb Dacayo  
Jamae Adadiano

### **6 BLUE**

Lidya Habtemikel  
Vatican Talione  
Madison Divina  
Bridget Mercado  
Marcus Liao  
Ayurvi Chaudhary

### **6 GOLD**

Isaac Bayada  
Alana Jesson  
Adrienne Mahusay  
Meghan Bartlett  
Zyra Broadfoot  
George Sokar

## SPORTING NEWS



On Tuesday 9th March 2021, Bernadette McIntyre represented St John Vianney's and the Blacktown Zone at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival.

Bernadette came third in 50m butterfly, 4th in 50m breaststroke and 200m individual medley

We are all so proud of Bernadette's achievements and wish her all the best.

## PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

DATE	EVENT
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	ICE BLOCK STALL
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	LAST DAY TO ORDER EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	EASTER RAFFLE DRAWN
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	ICE BLOCK STALL

### ICE BLOCK STALLS

Ice Block stalls will be running on a fortnightly basis throughout Term 1.  
Ice Blocks on sticks are \$1 each,  
No need to pre-order, please bring the correct money on the day.

### EASTER RAFFLE

Our Annual Easter Raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 31 March.  
There is still time to purchase your tickets! Tickets are \$1 each.

### P & F MEETINGS for TERM 1

Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions with parents onsite, we have cancelled our P&F meetings for Term 1.

We would still love to hear from our parents if they have  
any questions, suggestions, or ideas...  
Simply email the office and they will forward your email onto us.

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

### EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY!

- ◆ School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools.
- ◆ Every day of attendance adds to a students' academic achievement and success at school.
- ◆ If a student is not at school, they can't be part of the learning.
- ◆ A student who is consistently late to school misses the learning too!
- ◆ School attendance is compulsory for every school age student.

It's OK to **NOT** be at school if you are sick or there is some kind of disaster ...but it is not OK to be away because you slept in, didn't feel like coming to school, went shopping, met up with friends.

*At St John Vianney's we are monitoring school attendance as one part of building your child's success at school. We will communicate with you if we become concerned about your child's attendance.*

Parents can help by promoting the importance of school by:

- ✓ ensuring your child attends school every day
- ✓ arriving at school punctually (school begins at 8:55am)
- ✓ leading by example ... be organised and ready

We are keen to support parents in developing and consolidating good attendance habits in every student.

### ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

*The Education Act (1990) clearly states that parents have a responsibility to ensure that children attend school regularly and must provide an explanation for any absences. If your child is away from school could you please advise the office via phone, email or the Skoolbag App by 9:30am on the day they are absent.*

### APPLICATION FOR EXTENDED LEAVE

Parents, as you know, it is very important that children attend school every day. Quite often leave is requested by parents for various reasons. While we understand that this may be necessary sometimes, it is not encouraged. **Every school day is important for every student.**

If you intend taking your child out of the school for **five days or more** you must make a formal application to the Principal **in writing** and complete the '**Application for Extended Leave**' form which is available from the school office. The application must be **submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the expected leave** or earlier if possible.

**It is important for parents to know that, depending on circumstances, this leave may not be approved.**

Each application will be considered on an individual basis and could depend on circumstances such as the intention for the leave, your child's attendance and the impact the leave may have on your child's academic progress.

These regulations are in place in all schools in the Parramatta Diocese to make sure that all students have the best opportunity to achieve to their full potential. We appreciate your support and understanding of these requirements.



## ST JOHN VIANNEY'S PARISH SCHOOL

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12 March 2021

Dear Parents and ~~Carers~~

Our annual school cross country will be held at school on Friday 19 March. The course will be 2km for juniors aged 8, 9 and 10 years and 3km for seniors aged 11 and 12 years. Diocesan Cross Country will be held on Tuesday 4 May, 2021. Students will need to qualify to participate at this next level and will compete in the age group that they are turning or have turned this year.

All other children in Year 3 – 6 will participate in a fun run with their grade.

As the children will be running a long distance they will need to supply their own water bottle for the day. If your child is an asthmatic they will also need to have their puffer with them in case they need it during the race. Remind your child to use their puffer before the race if necessary.

All children in Year 3 to Year 6 will need to wear their sports uniform on this day.

It is expected that each child will participate in the cross country as it is part of their Physical Education for Term 1.

Yours sincerely

Mariette Asaad  
Sports Coordinator

Marg Hancock  
PE Teacher

# Sydney Zoo Year 4

On the 8th of March, 2021, Year 4 students, along with their teachers, went to visit Sydney Zoo. It was a rewarding day, as it continued to teach us all about the living status of various animals as we explored the zoo. We were amazed to see some of these animals as they were close to extinction. It was great to have the opportunity to watch the animals, and learn about their behaviour in person. We loved watching the baboons as we sat down to rest, "It was funny because some acted like humans" – Bryan Malonzo

The highlight of our excursion was when Zoo Keeper, Lachlan led a workshop, that taught us about the survival of orangutans and tigers and how they are threatened by Palm Oil Plantations. He also let us touch some reptiles, which was scary at first but exciting.

"I liked going to the zoo because I got to see the elephants, squirting each other with water." - Bernadette Mclyntre

"The lizards skin looked bumpy and rough but when I felt it, it was smooth." - Emily Bottomley

"The signs told us if the animal was close to extinction." - Bethenny Scott





GBW: mr

8 March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! As you may already know, the NSW Government has updated its COVID-19 advice: **parents and carers can now be welcomed back on the school site while continuing to remain COVID-safe.**

We are hoping for a more settled year as we move into the next phase of our response to COVID-19. The past 12 months have been an important reminder to us all of how much we value the participation of parents and carers in our school communities.

Here's what's changed:

- Parents and carers can enter the school to drop off and pick up students in accordance with local school arrangements
- Parents and/or community members can gather for school events. This includes Open Days
- **Anyone attending a school site must continue to comply with the gathering limits prescribed by the Public Health Orders, and physical distancing and hygiene measures**
- All visitors to a school site need to comply with sign-in arrangements including checking in using the Service NSW QR codes
- School orientation and transition programs, (as well as school open days) can proceed, but these events must continue to follow COVID-19 safety guidelines
- School activities such as singing, music and drama performances and P&F meetings can take place, following COVID-19 safety protocols
- Parents and carers can attend school sporting events and activities, whether indoors or outdoors, in line with the requirements in place for other community sporting competitions and training activities
- Inter-school activities can continue to take place.

Your child's school is aware of the protocols required for holding these events.

#### About Physical Distancing

- Students are now able to mix together across year groups or other cohorts for all school-related activities.
- Parents and carers are asked to continue to physically distance from one another and from staff during school pick-up and drop-off.

Please continue to take a cautious approach to COVID-19. If you or your child have any of the symptoms of COVID-19, please get tested and provide the negative test result to the school before returning.

Thank you for your continued support. Your school will continue to keep you updated.

Regards



**Gregory B Whitby AM KSG**  
Executive Director  
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

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Locked Bag 4 North Parramatta NSW 1750  
9840 5600 [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

# Stepping Beyond

## Support Group for Separated / Divorced Adults



Living through a separation or divorce can be an overwhelming experience. Not only are the hopes and dreams for your future shattered, but this experience accompanies isolation, loneliness, challenges supporting or caring for your children, and sometimes difficulty communicating with your spouse or partner over legal matters.

**Stepping Beyond Monthly Support Group is a safe environment to explore these issues. Together with trained facilitators, each month members explore their challenges and celebrate their achievements on their journey.**

**Due to Ongoing Covid concerns, this group will be held in person or via Zoom meetings, depending on restrictions. To join or be part of this group, registration is essential, please contact Rita on details below.**



**DATE:** Last Tuesday of each Month (Feb –Nov)  
**TIME:** 7.00pm – 9.00pm  
**FEE:** Donation

For Further information and registration, please call Rita on 8843 2500  
or email [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## ANAPHYLAXIS LIFE THREATENING ALLERGY

Dear Parents,

Schools cater for many differences that children present academic, emotional, social and health issues.

Throughout our school, we have children with life **threatening allergies**. This is a serious matter, one that the school must address. Therefore we appeal to all parents to assist us in caring for these children by considering the type of foods you pack for your own child's lunch.

Our aim is to minimize the amount of **peanut** and **nut** products brought into the school and avoid all foods that contain **nuts**. These foods are extremely dangerous to our children with allergies. Common foods that trigger an allergic reaction are listed below and we ask that they **not** be brought to school **any time**.

**Peanuts: include M&M peanuts, cashews, hazelnuts, almonds, walnuts and all tree nuts**

**Peanut butter**

**Nutella**

**Sesame seeds remember some bread rolls have sesame seeds on the including some McDonald's hamburger buns**

**Food that contain satay e.g. Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian dishes**

**Egg**

In the case of a child bringing a nut product to school, teachers will bring the matter to the attention of parents.

If peanut or nuts are **not** on the ingredient list of a particular packaged food but the food has the statement:

***"May Contain Traces of Nut ..."***

this food may be brought to school and consumed only by **non-allergic children**.

Due to safety concerns, **we discourage children from sharing food.** We would also appreciate parents speaking with children regarding this matter.

We thank you for helping us provide a safe environment for all our children.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **KINDERCARE LEARNING CENTRE BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL**

#### **PICKUP & DROP OFF DAILY SERVICE**

Kindercare Learning Centre located in Doonside is a privately owned centre offering a variety of services including Long Day, Before & After School Care and Vacation Care for ages 0-12 years. Full Government subsidy and eligibility offered.

Our centre is open 7am to 6pm all year round.

Our Before School Care operates from 7.00am – 8.45am.

Our After School Care operates from 3.00pm to 6.00pm.

For further enquiries, or to make the switch please contact Jackie De Abreu on (02) 9622 8214 or visit our website [www.kindercare.com.au](http://www.kindercare.com.au)