



Good Shepherd Primary School Newsletter

**Second Sunday
of Easter**



**Good Shepherd
Primary School
134 Hyatts Road
Plumpton NSW 2761**

Telephone: 9836 7100

Email:
goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au

Principal:
Mrs Patricia Carr



**Good Shepherd Parish
136 Hyatts Road
Plumpton**

Telephone: 9832 4461

Email:
parishof@tpg.com.au

Parish Priest:
**Fr Vincy D'Costa
ofmcap**

Term 2

Week 1

Tuesday, 30th April, 2019

Dear Parents

No matter how old you are, there is always a sense of wonder and fascination, when you come across a cicada shell still clinging to the bark on a tree. It looked dead but somehow you knew, that in some mysterious way, it was alive; the neat split down its back, was from where the living creature inside had escaped and taken flight. You couldn't actually see it anywhere but at some point you would hear it singing away in some tree.

The cicada shell is a good analogy for the empty tomb that was found by the women then Peter and John on Easter Sunday. The resurrected, living Jesus, who had once been inside it, was gone. He was out amongst the living to whom he appeared several times. Every time he came to his friends, they became stronger, wiser, kinder, more daring. Every time he came to them, they became more like him.

Now that Jesus was raised from the dead, the Apostles and disciples, his followers, were commissioned to give witness to his death and resurrection.

By rising from the dead, Jesus shattered the hold that death had over all of us. Death could not keep him down and, if we are joined to him, neither can it keep us down for we are "Easter People", full of the new life of Jesus. This is why Christian faith does not rest on the death of Jesus and an empty tomb but on the continuing experience of the risen Jesus.

We Christians today are summoned to live, proclaim and celebrate Jesus' victory over death by resisting all those forms of death and violence that saturate our society and not only unjustly take the lives of innocent people, but can desensitise our spirit and damage our belief in freedom and justice for all.

The Resurrection announced that human values can not be extinguished by violence or death; no one can be forgotten. Here and now, God holds onto the lives of all the departed including the lives that have been wasted, violently cut short, damaged by oppression. All have worth in God's sight.

There are constant hints of resurrection in our daily lives, foretastes of our ultimate resurrection. These are found daily in our downs and ups, our sorrows and joys, our worries and relief, our disappointments and successes. Easter Sunday offered an opportunity to celebrate all our small, personal "resurrections" and unite them with Jesus' Resurrection. It offers us renewal to be people of faith, hope and love in our home and in our community.

"Lord, we ask this Easter to become more like you. Help us to develop an inner strength that is capable of handling life's situations. Help us to provide a place in our heart where you reside. Amen."

Patricia Carr

Tricia Carr
Principal



Term 2 commences:
Monday, 29th April

Term 2 concludes:
Friday, 5th July

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 1st May:	Resurrection Liturgy (9.00 am Good Shepherd Church)
Thursday, 2nd May:	Mother's Day Stall
Friday, 3rd May:	5c Coin Fundraiser
<u>Monday, 6th May:</u>	<u>Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)</u>
Tuesday: 7th May:	Mother's Day Mass (9.00 am Good Shepherd Church. Following Mass, there will be a morning tea in the school staffroom.
Tuesday, 7th May:	Diocesan Cross Country
Friday, 10th May:	Good Shepherd Day—Mufti Day—Gold coin donation please. Students are to wear appropriate casual clothing.
Tuesday, 14th May:	Reconciliation (11.00 am Good Shepherd Church)
Tuesday, 14th May:	Naplan for Years 3 and 5 commences this week and the following week.
Friday, 24th May:	Kindergarten excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm

Library and Sports Days for Term 2, 2019

Sports Day:

Wednesdays:	KB, KG, 2R, 2W and Year 6
Thursdays:	1B, 1G, 2B, 2G, 3B, 3G and Year 5
Fridays:	KR, KW, 1R, 1W and Year 4

Library Borrowing:

Mondays:	Kinder and Year 6
Tuesdays:	Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesdays:	Year 4 and Year 5
Thursdays:	Year 3



Canteen News

Dear Parents, please find attached Term 2 Canteen Meal Deals. Also new to online ordering ...Italian Meatballs \$4.50.

Parish News

Sacrament of Confirmation

Parent Information Night: 29 April, 2019

Lessons: 5th May, 12th May, 19th May, 26th May 2019

Rehearsal: 1st June, 2019

Rite of Confirmation: 2nd June 2019

* Candidates must attend ALL lessons

For further details, please contact the parish on 9832 4461 or email the parish on: sacraments@tpg.com.au

Winter Uniform for Terms 2 & 3

Dear Parents, please note the following uniform requirements for Terms 2 & 3.

School Uniform

Girls:

School Uniform Checked Tunic
White Long Sleeve Blouse
Checked Scissor Tie
Green Hair Ribbons
Grey Tights or Grey Long Socks
Black School Shoes
Green Zip-Up Jacket
School Uniform Hat

Sports Uniform

Girls:

White Polo Shirt with School Emblem
Bottle Green Shorts
Bottle Green Tracksuit Uniform
Predominantly White Joggers/Sneakers
A White Skivvy (colder weather)
White Socks
School Uniform Hat

Boys:

Black Long Pants
White Long Sleeve Shirt
Green Zip-Up Jacket
Black Socks
Black School Shoes

Boys:

White Polo Shirt with School Emblem
Bottle Green Shorts
Bottle Green Tracksuit Uniform
Predominantly White Joggers/Sneakers
A White Skivvy (colder weather)
White Socks
School Uniform Hat



Parents, please note that the changeover date for winter uniform is officially **Monday, 13th May, 2018 (Week 3 Term 2)**. **All students must be in the correct winter uniform by this date.** The correct school uniform should be worn at all times, in order to maintain expectations. If, for any reason, a child is unable to wear any part of the correct uniform, a note should be sent to your child's class teacher. Parents who have difficulty securing uniforms for their children please make an appointment with Mrs Carr, Principal, to discuss options. **THE SCHOOL HAT IS AN ESSENTIAL ITEM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM. THE WEARING OF THE SCHOOL HAT IS COMPULSORY.**

2019 Dates

Term 2

Commences: Monday, 29th April (Week 1)

Concludes: Friday, 5th July

Term 3

Commences: Monday, 22nd July (Week 1)

Concludes: Thursday, 26th September

Term 4

Commences: Monday, 14th October (Week 1)

Concludes: Wednesday, 18th December

2019 Staff Development Days

(Pupil Free Days)

Term 2: Monday, 6th May

Term 3: Friday 27th September

Term 4: Thursday, 19th December and Friday 20th December

Mother's Day Stall

There will be a Mother's Day Stall on Thursday, 2nd May for students to purchase gifts, gift bags and cards. Prices range from 50 cents to \$10.00. Thanks to everyone who has reached out to us. Yes! We do need volunteers to run the Mother's day stall on Thursday 2nd May 2019. We will be commencing at 8.30 am so if you can spare a few minutes or a few hours during the day, please come on down. No need to RSVP. Please ensure you have completed the online Building Child Safe Communities for Volunteers form—see attached note. Thank you—Good Shepherd Primary School Parent Group.

Mother's Day Liturgy

On Tuesday, 7th May at 9.00 am we will be celebrating Mother's Day with a Liturgy in the Good Shepherd Church. Following the Liturgy, you are welcome to join us for morning tea in the Staffroom.

Policies and Forms

For all policies and forms, please refer to our School Website—"About Us"—"Policies & Procedures". Please note our Parent Handbook is on our School Website under "Enrol Now" for your convenience.

Complaints/Grievances Forms

Parents, please note if you would like to make a complaint/grievance in regards to any school matter, you can pick up a form from the school office. All matters will be attended to under strict confidentiality.

Mobile Phone—Settings on your phone

Parents, would you please check your Settings for "Incoming Call restrictions" and "Do Not Disturb" notifications on your mobile phones so as in a case of an emergency, we need to be able to contact you. Would you please ensure that you can be contacted quickly and easily. Thank you.

Parents picking up

Parents, unfortunately we have noticed recently that many parents are not coming to collect their children until well after 3.15 pm. **Children need to be picked up before 3.15.** There is only teacher's supervision until 3.15 pm. If you are unable to collect your child before this time, please make inquiries about COSHC (Ph. 0409 191 980). Thank you for your attention.



School Commencement time: 8.30 am

School Dismissal time: 2.50 pm

Social Skill of the Week

"Look at the person, smile and say hello"

Privacy Consent

Dear Parents & Carers,

If you do not give consent for the use of your child's image and/or works to be published in our School Newsletter or on our website, **please notify the school in writing.** If you do not want your child to sell raffle tickets, please also inform the school office. Thank you.

Communication between Parents and Staff

Just a reminder that the direct line of communication if you need to discuss concerns/issues etc regarding your child is:

Email, phone call or letter addressed to your child's teacher stating your concerns and requesting an interview if required.

Following this, you can request an interview with your child's Year Group Coordinator. Year Group Coordinators are as follows:

Kinder: Mrs Bianca Cooke

Year 1: Mrs Trish Conner

Year 2: Mrs Yvonne Davies

Year 3: Mrs Debbie Dela Paz

Year 4: Mrs Beulah Frankson

Year 5: Mr Ian Byrne

Year 6: Ms Elizabeth Le Breton

If you need to take further steps, after speaking with the Year Group Co-Ordinator, an email, letter or phone call to our Assistant Principal, then to the Principal.

Information regarding Leave from School

Leave from school for holiday/overseas trips in school time is not encouraged and must be explained in writing to the School Principal.

A leave form ("Application for Extended Leave") must be completed at least 4 weeks in advance for **5 or more school days**. If leave is **10 days or more**, an interview with the Principal is also required, together with an Application for Extended Leave form. Leave forms can be obtained from the School Office.

Leave of **4 days and less** needs to also be approved by the Principal. **Please write a letter to your child's class teacher outlining the details of the leave, including the first and last school day that the child will be absent.**

Leave during school terms is strongly discouraged.

School Banking

Parents, please note school banking will resume on Tuesday, 7th May (Week 2).



Dear Parents & Carers, please note if someone else will be collecting your child early or during school hours, on your behalf, you need to inform the school in writing or by email to: (goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au) PRIOR TO PICKUP. This policy is effective immediately. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

IMPORTANT

Kindergarten 2020 Enrolments

PLEASE!!
NOTE

Enrolment Application forms for Kindergarten 2020 are now available from the School Office. Parents, if you already have a child at Good Shepherd, you will still need to submit an

Enrolment Form for any new siblings for 2020.

School Fees 2019

Dear Parents, accounts for the second instalment of school fees will be posted to you within the next few weeks. Any family having difficulty completing term payments on time and who wish to make payments by instalments using cash, Centrelink or BPay etc, please contact the School Office for an appointment to set up a new arrangement. Please note that a term's notice in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or 10 week's fees will be payable.



No Nut Policy

A number of our students have severe allergies. Please do not send peanut butter/Nutella sandwiches or other foods containing whole or crushed nuts or sesame seeds to school. This also includes Excursions! Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.



Small change for a big result!

Don't forget each Friday we are gathering 5 cent coins—they will be going towards a new generator to help the students and community where Fr Luan is located. Please consider saving those rattling 5 cent pieces, your little change can make a HUGE difference. If you would like to be part of the small change revolution, **please send those 5 cent coins every Friday**. Thank you for being part of the Small Change—Big Result coin donation.

Religious Education News

This year our Religious Education Action Plan is to know and understand our Catholic Values.

These values are:

- POSITIVE VIEW OF LIFE
- COMMUNITY AND COMMON GOOD
- FREEDOM FROM OPPRESSION
- SEARCH FOR TRUTH AND WISDOM
- SACRAMENTALITY/GOD'S PRESENCE IN THE WORLD
- RECONCILIATION
- HOPE AND RESURRECTION

These values will be incorporated across all Key Learning Areas throughout all teaching programs.

Each week we will outline the significant aspects of each Catholic Value.

Ian Byrne
(Religious Education Coordinator)

Term 2 2019 Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

Each year Staff participate in professional development to support them in their roles as educators. The focus of these days is aligned to Good Shepherd School's goals. Staff will use information they have gathered about the children to design learning programs for the children that will best meet their needs. Term 2's Staff Development Day is a Pupil Free Day and will take place next **Monday, 6th May (Week 2)**. Our thanks to parents for organising care for their children on this day. COSHC will be able to offer spaces for care on this day. Please phone COSHC on 0409 121 980 for all inquiries and bookings.

Building Child Safe Communities - Forms for all Volunteers and Contractors

Dear Parents & Carers, just a reminder that all Volunteers and Contractors to our school need to have completed an online form. Tutors and coaches providing private services to children will also need to apply for a Working with Children Check. The tutor or coach should provide their name, date of birth and WWCC number of parent/carers for online verification. If you have any queries, please contact the School Office on Ph. 9836 7100.

Parent Group News

Uniform Shop

Our uniform shop is open on Fridays from 8:30 am to 9:00 am during school term.

The shop is located next to the library behind the Year 5 classrooms Thank you to the parents who volunteer each week to run the shop.

We are always accepting donations of the new school uniform, so if your child has grown out of theirs, we'd be happy to find it a new home.

Socks on Sale

Brand new white socks are only \$3 per pack from the uniform shop!

Please note cash sales only—No Eftpos!

Woolworths Earn and Learn is back!

Help support our school by collecting as many Earn and Learn stickers as possible so we can trade them for much needed sporting equipment.

The promotion begins on Wednesday 1st May till Tuesday 25th June. 1 token will be given for every \$10 spent in any Woolworths store (excluding alcohol and tobacco products). Stick them onto the sticker chart that was sent home or bring the stickers into school and put them in the big green box in the office. The more stickers we collect, the more items we can obtain. Ask your family and friends to collect the stickers also!

Thank you for your continued support. Mrs Cooke

Children Absent from School

In the event of your child being absent from school due to illness, **please inform the school office by phone or email. It is necessary that a written note of explanation be forwarded to the**

class teacher on the day of your child's return to school.

Prolonged absences from school due to illness should be supported by a medical certificate.

Naplan 2019

NAPLAN for Years 3 and 5 will be held from the 14th - 24th May. From this year NAPLAN tests will be online, except for the Year 3 writing test which will still be completed on paper. The children will use the technology that we have at school to complete the tests.

The children will complete four tests during this testing period.

Writing
Reading
Conventions of Language
Numeracy

More information will come home soon though if you would like to read more, visit this Catholic Education Office Parramatta web page.

<https://sites.google.com/parra.catholic.edu.au/2019-cedp-naplan-online/information-for-parents>

Mrs Cooke



Dear Parents, Last term we held our Infants and Primary Principal's Morning Tea at school. Teachers were asked to nominate one child from each class to attend morning tea with the Principal and the Assistant Principal. These nominated children have shown a positive attitude to all aspects of schooling for the term. Congratulations to the parents and teachers of these children who consistently make good choices about their learning. The following photo is from the Primary Morning Tea ...

3B: Johnny-Vee Tupou, 3G: Ken Engelen, 3R: Nishi Patel, 3W: Shlok Samli, 4B: Shanelle Escueta, 4G: Soteria Gearman, 4R: Laiza Chicote, 4W: Angeliah Elters, 5B: Carlo Calleja, 5G: Eunice Gutierrez, 5R: Tristan Duncan, 5W: Melody Cuasay, 6B: Gennina Espino, 6G: Kaelan Torralba and 6R: Zaebrriel Orayenza.



Congratulations

Gennina Espino (6B) together with her partner Xing Mei Lees have won the Gymnastics Australia State Championship gold medal. It was held recently at the Sydney Gymnastics and Aquatic Centre in Rooty Hill. Gennina and her partner competed in three categories where they have won: 2nd in Dynamics, 1st in Balance and 1st in Combined which earned them 1st overall in Level 8 Women's Pair Acrobatics Gymnastics. Gennina and her partner will be representing NSW in the coming Nationals competition in Melbourne this coming June.



Colourful
words



Blancmange:
The
blancmange
wobbled on
the plate.

Attendance at School

Just a quick reminder that **ALL student absences need to be explained.** This is a legal requirement. We ask that on your child's return to school you send a note to your child's teacher to explain their absence for school. We need to receive this note within seven days of the last day of absence. We all know that every day counts, but of course when students are unwell it is best for them and their peers, to keep them at home in order for them to recover. Thanks for your prompt action!

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day
just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,	That equals ..	Which is ...	and over 13 years of schooling that's ...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day 



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

News from the Catholic Education Office

Catholic Trade Training Centres are enrolling now for 2020

Fast track your trade while you finish your HSC!

Catholic Trade Training Centres offer a flexible schooling experience for Year 11 and Year 12 students wanting to pursue a career in a vocational field. We also offer the opportunity to accelerate your qualifications and be paid as a School-Based Apprentice or Trainee as you complete your HSC.

Get a head start in:

- Aged Care Nursing
- Automotive (Light Vehicle Servicing)
- Business/Financial Services
- Bricklaying
- Carpentry
- Civil Construction
- Early Childhood Education and Care
- Electrotechnology (Electrician)
- Engineering (Metal Fabrication)
- Hairdressing
- Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)
- Landscaping
- Plumbing
- Shopfitting

Interested in another trade or vocational course? Then talk to us to see what opportunities are available.

Attend one of our Information Evenings to choose the right trade for you.

NAIDOC Week 2019 - Voice, Treaty, Truth

NAIDOC Week 2019 will run nationally from 7-14 July 2019 and is an occasion for all Australians to come together to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people - the oldest continuing cultures on the planet.

These dates occur during the school holiday break so schools usually celebrate:

- in the last week of term 2 (1 to 5 July) or
- in the first week of term 3 (22 to 26 July)

It is recommended to start planning 3 significant activities to highlight this special event in 2019.

NSW Youth Week 2019 Design Competition

Youth Week is fast approaching. This year, the NSW Youth Week theme is: Coming together to Connect, Share, Speak out, and Celebrate. The theme was decided by the NSW Youth Advisory Council 2018. Youth Week will run from 10-18 April 2019.

To celebrate NSW Youth Week this year, the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People (ACYP) is inviting young people between 12 and 24 years of age to enter the NSW Youth Week Design Competition.

The winner will be presented with an award and will receive shoe slides with their design printed on them for themselves, their family and friends at the NSW Youth Week Forum at NSW Parliament House on Monday 8 April 2019.

Designs can include drawings, paintings, photographs and digital illustrations. It's not about being a good artist, it's about young people showing us what inspires them.

Entries close Sunday 17 March 2019.

Click on the [link](#) to find out more and submit your application.

National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD)

National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is on Friday 17 May 2019. Now in its 20th year, it is an annual event where all primary school children, their parents and carers are invited to walk safely to school. It is aimed at promoting Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment

Top 5 tips for parents to get their kids walking to school:

1. Walk some or if you can, walk all the way to school
2. Get off the bus, train, or tram a few stops earlier and walk the rest of the way
3. Leave the car at least 1km away from school and walk the rest of the way
4. Set your alarm 30 minutes earlier to fit in a walk to school
5. If you can't walk in the morning, walk home after school

Good Shepherd Primary School

134 Hyatts Road, Locked Bag 1001, Plumpton NSW 2761 - Phone: 9836 7100

Email: goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au - Website: www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au



MEAL DEALS

TERM 2 - 2019

#1

CHICKEN & LETTUCE SANDWICH,
JUICE POP TOP,
QUELCH STICK ICE BLOCK

\$5.50

#2

CHEESE SANDWICH,
JUICE POPPER,
FROZEN YOGHURT CUP

\$5.50

#3

SAUSAGES & GRAVY,
MASH POTATO,
FLAVOURED MILK (300ML)

\$5.50

#4

SINGAPORE NOODLES,
JUICE BOMB CAN

\$5.50



Invitation to Chatterbox Live Q&A Event

26 April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

CEDP has always valued parent feedback and with the use of new technologies, we now have the opportunity to become more connected with families in real-time. As part of our commitment to promoting student and parent voice in our schools, we have launched a new initiative called *Chatterbox Live*.

We have had success using social media platforms to host Chatterbox Live in a number of primary and secondary schools already. I was impressed with the range of questions students asked me on issues related to schooling in today's world.

I am extending the invitation to our parent community to join us for the first Chatterbox Live event for parents and carers. This will be held on Thursday, 13 June at St Andrews College Marayong from 7.00pm. I'm looking forward to hearing your views and responding to your questions related to Catholic schooling in the Parramatta Diocese.

Registrations to attend the event in person will open on May 20 at 9am. If you would like to attend in person, please register your interest as soon as possible by visiting chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au.

If you're unable to attend in person, you are welcome to tune in live by 'liking' the CEDP Facebook page to be reminded when the event begins. You can do this at www.facebook.com/CatholicEdParra/.

If you have any questions or would like further information in regard to this event, please contact Lachlan Andrews via landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au or on 9840 5790.

I look forward to strengthening our engagement with parents.

Regards

Gregory B Whitby AKM KSG
Executive Director

Good Shepherd Catholic Church



LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

We are looking for a
Logo Design to
promote our Parish
Expo.

Demonstrate to us your
creative design skills and
win a prize!

DEADLINE

APRIL 30, 2019

SUBMISSION

Submit your design to
parishof@tpg.com.au

REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ Reflect the Parish focus for 2019.
"Rise up and Renew Gods house"
- ✓ Use colour
- ✓ Simple & Symbolic

PRIZE

1ST- \$50 GIFT CARD
2ND - \$20 GIFT CARD



GOOD SHEPHERD PRIMARY SCHOOL

134 Hyatts Road, Plumpton 2761

Mail Address: Locked Bag 1001 Plumpton NSW 2761

Telephone: (02) 9832 1509 Fax: (02) 9832 8984

email: goodshepherd@parra.catholic.edu.au

website: www.gsplumpton.catholic.edu.au

Dear Families of Good Shepherd School,

BUILDING CHILD SAFE COMMUNITIES – NEW FORMS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS!

'Building Child Safe Communities' is a new initiative developed by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta that enhances our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students in our care.

We realise that many of our dedicated volunteers have already completed a Working with Children Check. Thank you for the providing this information to our school, however, this new requirement is in addition to the current WWCC/APP number that you have provided.

If you are **new** to volunteering to the school, or you have **already completed** your clearance, please follow the procedures below to complete the online forms.

It is now a requirement that all volunteers and contractors complete an online undertaking form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering or contracting at schools, Catholic Out of Schools Hours Care and Catholic Early Learning Centres. This undertaking form also seeks to determine the suitability of volunteers and contractors by requiring them to declare that they do not have a criminal history involving children.

- **Volunteers** – please click on '[Building Child Safe Communities – Undertaking for Volunteers](#)' or access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).



Then click on '[Volunteer Form](#)' (halfway down page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are volunteering. Thank you for assisting us in keeping our children and community safe.

Mrs Patricia Carr

Principal



JOINERY

CATHOLIC TRADE TRAINING CENTRES

INFORMATION EVENINGS
presentation start at 6pm

TUESDAY 28 MAY 6PM - 8PM

McCARTHY - 75 Mackellar Street Emu Plains

T: 4728 8129 E: mccarthycttc@parra.catholic.edu.au

 [mccarthycttc](https://www.facebook.com/mccarthycttc)  [@McCarthyCTTC](https://twitter.com/McCarthyCTTC)

WEDNESDAY 29 6PM - 8PM

LOYOLA - 91 North Parade Mount Druitt

T: 8886 9500 E: loyolacttc@parra.catholic.edu.au

 [loyolamountdruitt](https://www.facebook.com/loyolamountdruitt)

www.cttc.com.au

ENROLLING NOW

Gaining credit for prior learning

Greg Whitby



Greg Whitby is the executive director of schools for the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta



IN a few months, the recommendations following the NSW Government's review into the curriculum will be released. The review sought feedback from the community, including parents, to determine whether the current curriculum still meets the needs of students.

Many teachers believe that the curriculum is already overcrowded, meaning there is little time to dive deeper into topics or for students to explore things that really interest them.

A modern curriculum also needs to support students acquiring and getting credit for skills whether these are gained at school or outside of it. We need to be able to recognise what learners can do with their knowledge regardless of where that knowledge comes from.

Lots of students are involved in extra-curricular activities after school and on weekends. Whether it's playing sport, dancing or learning computer coding or participating in Girl Guides or Scouts, these activities teach valuable skills.

Unfortunately, there is no provision that allows schools to give students a credit (it's called 'recognised prior learning' or RPL) for these activities. Only vocational subjects currently have RPL status.

If schools were able to extend RPL to skills gained outside of school, students would have the option of spending their time during school hours pursuing other interests and activities that contribute to well-rounded and holistic education.

Students need a curriculum that expands their pathways and their learning, not narrows them.

I am not sure what the outcome of the NSW curriculum review will be, but for me, the message is simple: We need to move away from the one-size-fits-all model of schooling that continues to ignore how and where students of today are learning and gets in the way of teachers creating exciting new learning opportunities for young people.

" Students need a curriculum that expands their pathways and their learning.

**Anyone can earn
stickers to help
local schools**

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program gives schools and Early Learning Centres around Australia the chance to earn amazing school equipment. In 2017 we had over 15,000 schools and Early Learning Centres involved, and delivered over 300,000 new pieces of equipment to kids all over Australia.

Here's what to do:



Between 1 May and 25 June 2019,
collect as many stickers as you can.



Stick them on the sticker sheets and
give them to your local school or
Early Learning Centre. Or drop them
into a collection box in store.

Don't forget, you can always download
and print extra sticker sheets at
woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Need more information?

To read our Frequently Asked Questions and Terms
& Conditions visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

Sticker Sheet

**Let's stick
together
with Earn
& Learn**



Start collecting today



Stick your Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers in the squares below. Give them to your local school or Early Learning Centre, or drop them into a collection box in store by 25 June 2019.



My name:

Collecting for:

Entry to the promotion is open to primary and secondary schools, and eligible Early Learning Centres (ELC) in Australia. Promotion runs 1 May 2019 until 25 June 2019. Speak to your school or ELC to ensure they are registered, or visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn and check online. Participants must be registered by 25 June 2019. One Woolworths Earn & Learn sticker is given for every \$10 spent in a single transaction at Woolworths Supermarkets, Woolworths Metro and online, excluding liquor, tobacco, gift cards and other specified purchases. While stocks last. Stickers must be counted and submitted by 7 July 2019. Stickers must be redeemed for equipment by 21 July 2019. Retain stickers for validation. For full terms and conditions, please visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn