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Welcome to Rosary Primary School

At Rosary, our students enjoy and experience:

- Our Catholic tradition;
- A comprehensive curriculum covering all subject areas and skills;
- A safe, happy and friendly school;
- A caring learning community where all members - students, parents and teachers - are valued and respected as individuals;
- An orderly learning environment where behaviour is characterised by courtesy, good manners and consideration for others;
- A socially responsible, community-oriented school, always sympathetically aware of the needs of the wider world;
- A participating learning community, strongly represented in sports, games, competitions, festivals and cultural activities;
- A clean, attractive, welcoming school;
- Excellent out-of-school-hours facilities.
Principal’s Welcome

The Rosary community welcomes enrolments from families who are genuinely interested in a Christian education based on gospel values, taught from the perspective of the Catholic Faith Tradition.

Rosary is a Catholic School providing a challenging and comprehensive education for students from Kindergarten to Year 6, within an atmosphere permeated by gospel values. Through its defining culture, its curriculum and Religious Education studies, our school aims to foster in individuals a rich relationship with God. We are proud of our rich history and strive to keep the Dominican spirit alive. Our school motto Veritas (Truth) is reflected and promoted in all school activities and experiences.

We respect the dignity and uniqueness of each person. As a Catholic school, we seek to develop an overall curriculum that will cater for individual differences, be genuinely inclusive, employ a wide range of teaching and learning strategies so that all students participate with a heightened sense of self worth and achievement.

Our Catholic school does not function in isolation. It is part of the wider Church community that includes the Parish Priest, parents, teachers and members of the Parish and local community.

We invite you to attend and participate in our celebrations, information meetings, parent in-services, excursions and sports carnivals and to assist with class activities such as reading, craft, maths or sport. We accept help and participation in whatever manner you wish to support our community. My role as Principal is to work collaboratively with the children, staff and families to develop a community of faith and life long learners. I look forward to such partnerships and welcome your inquiries at any time.

Kind regards,

Maureen Doszpot
Principal
Rosary School is a Christ-centred community, striving for excellence in the Dominican Spirit.

TOGETHER WE DO OUR BEST

BELIEVE

We live our Catholic faith through action, attitude and prayer guided by the Dominican Tradition.

EXPLORE

Through inquiry based learning we acquire the skills to become critical thinkers who are flexible, creative lifelong learners.

STRIVE

We accept challenges with resilience and confidence.

TRIUMPH

We develop wholistically in a supportive, positive and collaborative environment and celebrate our achievements.
BELIEVE

Rosary Primary School was founded by Dominican Sisters and we keep their charism alive. We are called by the Spirit to be faithful to the mission of Jesus by the witness of our lives, and to proclaim the Truth fearlessly and confidently, as Saint Dominic did.

At Rosary our lives are rooted in four Dominican charisms: Prayer, Study, Community and Service.

- **Prayer** – We believe the word of God is our focus; personal and community prayer are at our core.
- **Study** – We commit ourselves to a love of learning and we are encouraged to be truth seekers.
- **Community** – We work together for the common good and reach out to our communities.
- **Service** – We engage in service to others both near and far.

EXPLORE

Inquiry based learning emphasises the process of learning in order to develop deep understanding in students in addition to the intended acquisition of knowledge, content and skills. It is a carefully designed, complex combination of structured learning with intentional opportunities for students to create, design, imagine and develop new possibilities.

Inquiry based learning is important at Rosary as we strive to produce students who embrace new thinking, increase their intellectual engagement and foster their development of a hands-on, minds-on and research based dispositions towards teaching and learning. At Rosary we strive to provide opportunities for both teachers and students to collaboratively build, test and reflect on their learning (Stephenson, 2014).

STRIVE

Constructivist learning environments support collaborative construction of knowledge and reflection through scaffolding that emphasises the process of learning, self-enquiry, as well as social and communicative skills.

At Rosary we promote active learners, who strive to develop and enhance their skills to achieve goal directed outcomes. Our approach to teaching and cooperative learning techniques can be thought of as having both personal and interpersonal components, feedback on progress and reflection (Johnson, 2013).

TRIUMPH

Self-efficacy is a person’s belief in one’s ability to succeed. Self-efficacy is important because it can have an impact on psychological states, behaviour and motivation. Self-efficacy plays a major role in how goals, tasks and challenges are approached.

The development of students at Rosary with strong self-efficacy is important so that they are able to view challenging problems as tasks to be mastered. It enables students to develop deeper interests in the activities in which they participate, form a stronger sense of commitment to their interests and activities and recover quickly from set-backs and disappointments (Cherry, 2012).
Brief History of Rosary School

In the early 1960s, the Dominican Sisters were invited to Canberra to start a Teacher Training College and Primary School. Rosary Primary School was started in 1963. Sisters Maura Campbell (Majella) OP and Margaret Cain (Cyril) OP were the first teachers at Rosary, with Sr June Peck (Joseph Mary) OP as the Foundation Principal. The original name of Rosary Primary School was Blackfriars but this was changed within the first few years. During the first year, construction of the buildings continued with Grade Five of St Brigid’s Dickson being accommodated in one of the newly completed rooms.

From the outset, Rosary School was a demonstration school for Signadou Teachers’ College which prepared teachers for the many dioceses throughout Australia. The demonstration lessons kept the staff at the cutting edge of education theory and practice. Enrolments came immediately and in great numbers such that the completion of the building was eagerly awaited. Sr Louise Wellbourne OP was appointed at the beginning of 1965. She states: ‘For several months in 1965 the enrolment almost doubled each Monday morning as new families arrived as tenants of the government housing in the new suburbs. The school had been planned for approximately 450 but someone miscalculated and by 1969, the enrolment was almost 700.’

The last Dominican Principal appointed to Rosary was Sister Mary Rafferty who left at the end of 1984. Mrs Meg Clark was appointed the first lay Principal.

The whole community is greatly indebted to the Dominican Sisters, who worked so tirelessly to establish and nurture the growth of Catholic Education at Rosary. We are proud of our rich history and strive to keep the Dominican spirit alive in our school. We work closely with the Dominican priests who run our Parish and feel privileged to be part of such a spiritually rich community.

Today, Rosary currently caters for 335 students and is very well resourced. The buildings and school grounds are well maintained and cared for and major refurbishments were completed in 2010.
Our Heritage
The heritage of our school stems from our Dominican tradition.

Our Name
St Dominic, the founder of the Dominicans, is considered to be the originator of the Rosary, hence the name of the school.

Our Crest
Early in the 15th Century the Dominican Order adopted a simple black and white shield with eight divisions, representing joy and penance. In the mid-15th Century the 8-pointed star was added, representing the compass points. The star is also a symbol of light and divine revelation. Dominicans are committed to bringing the light of truth to the whole world.

The crest contains the Cross of Aza, the family symbol of St Dominic’s mother. The ends of the cross are in the shape of a flowering lily, representing sacrifice turning into joy.

Our School Colours
The school colours are black and white, the traditional colours of the Dominicans.

Our Motto
The school’s motto is ‘Veritas’ which means ‘Truth’. This has always been a motto of the Dominicans. In the widest sense ‘Veritas’ means more than just truth. It means honesty with oneself; being one’s own person before God and before others. Honesty brings us closer together, and allows us to build trust-worthy relationships. Jesus says he is the way, the truth and the life. Seeking truth means to seek the way Jesus would have us live. Our school motto expresses what we believe in, and how we try to live.
School Information

Address: Rosary Primary School
        Fleming Street, Watson ACT 2602

Telephone: 02 6248 0010

Fax: 02 6247 8777

Email: office.rosaryps@cg.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.rosary.act.edu.au

School Office Hours: 8.30 am - 3.30 pm

Principal: Maureen Doszpot

Assistant Principal: Melinda Hall-O’Brien

Religious Education Coordinator: John O’Brien

Primary Coordinator: Julie Godfrey

Secretaries: Yvonne Morris
             Tania O’Rourke
Rosary School Age Care Services (ROSACS)
(Out of school hours care)

Telephone: 0437 767 135

Email: rosary@ywca-canberra.org.au

For more information visit www.ywca-canberra.org.au

Parish Information

Parish Priest: Fr Kieran Adams OP

Telephone: 02 6248 5925

Facsimile: 02 6248 7564
2017 School Dates

The school year is divided into four terms. Term dates for the year 2017 are as follows:

Term 1  Monday 30 January - Friday 7 April
Term 2  Monday 24 April - Friday 30 June
Term 3  Monday 17 July - Friday 22 September
Term 4  Monday 9 October - Friday 15 December

School Hours

8.30 am Supervision commences
9.00 am School program commences
11.00 am Recess playtime
11.30 am Program resumes
1.00 pm Students eat lunch supervised by teachers
1.10 pm Lunch playtime
1.50 pm Program resumes
3.00 pm Dismissal for students travelling by bus
3.10 pm Dismissal for all other students
Kindergarten Attendance in 2017

Rosary Kindergarten children will start school on Tuesday 31 January, 2017. The Kindergarten Orientation Day will be held on Wednesday 16 November 2016. Further details of commencement of school and times of attendance for Kindergarten students are included in the Kindergarten Orientation Pack which is available during the enrolment period from Monday 2 May to Friday 20 May 2016.

Enrolment Policy

Kindergarten children must have turned five years of age by 30 April in the year of enrolment. Proof of age will be required. If there are fewer places than the demand in any year the following priorities will apply:

- Baptised Catholic children who are members of the Rosary Parish Community
- Siblings of children already attending the school
- Baptised Catholic children from other parishes who cannot obtain places in their local parish school
- Baptised Catholic children whose parents/guardians seek to enrol them in a parish primary school outside their own parish but who can obtain places in their own parish primary school.
- Non-catholic children whose parents/guardians desire and are committed to a Catholic education.
Supervision

Supervision of students is of prime importance at all times at Rosary. Supervision has many different facets, some of which are mentioned here:

General Supervision
Supervision by a member of the teaching staff begins each morning at 8.30 am. Children should not be at school prior to this time unless arrangements have been made with ROSACS (Rosary School Age Care Service). Recess and lunchtime breaks are supervised, as is the final duty of the day from 3.10 pm to 3.30 pm. Outside these times parents requiring childcare for their children need to make arrangements with ROSACS.

Children who are waiting for parents after school must be collected from the Quad. Supervision of these children is provided until 3.30 pm. In the afternoons, bus travellers and children who walk from the school grounds crossing Higginbotham Street are provided with special supervision. No child is to be asked to wait outside the hall or in the Bus Bay. Parents arriving late must collect their child/ren from the school foyer.

Parking
Parents are asked to refrain from parking in the Bus Bay (Higginbotham Street) prior to 3.10 pm. This practice is designed to assist in ensuring the safe departure of all children.

Parking, in specially marked bays, is available on the asphalt playground (netball/basketball courts) while delivering or collecting children. Parents are urged to drive carefully and slowly. They should park cars in the desired manner as indicated by the arrows and signs and escort children to or from the quad. Children are not to cross the carpark alone.
Subject Areas


Through teaching these Curriculum areas we endeavour to develop an atmosphere conducive to the development of the spiritual, intellectual, academic, physical, emotional and social growth of our students. We aim to provide opportunities for success for each child, and to build on all positive aspects of learning.

We believe all learning is a developmental process and as a result there will be tremendous individual differences in the rate and the way in which children progress. We differentiate the curriculum wherever possible to suit the learning needs of individual students.

At Rosary, our core curriculum document for Religious Education is Treasures New and Old. We have commenced implementation of the Australian Curriculum in English, Science, Mathematics, History Geography, The Arts and Indonesian. We continue to use Every chance to learn: Curriculum framework for ACT schools P-10 throughout the school for Personal Development, Health and Physical Education and Technology.

Integration

Teachers at Rosary use curriculum integration to help the children make meaningful links across the traditional subject boundaries. Integration reflects the ‘seamless’ nature of knowledge; its primary purpose is to enhance and maximise learning both within and across the subjects. It does not abandon the skills and understandings that are specific to individual disciplines, but is a means of enriching those areas that cross the curriculum.
Religious Education
Christian values dominate our entire school program and form the framework for personal and interpersonal development. We enjoy many opportunities to celebrate and pray together.

Religious Education is based on the Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn Catholic Education Office guidelines Treasures New and Old which were introduced in the Archdiocese in 2000 and amended in 2008 and 2015. The curriculum is based around the following strands: God and God’s creation; Jesus and Discipleship; Prayer and Celebration; and, Church in the World.

Sacramental Programs
Catholic children are invited to receive the Sacraments in the following year levels:

- Reconciliation  **Year 2**
- Eucharist  **Year 3**
- Confirmation  **Year 6**

The school and families share in the preparation for these Sacraments. A major factor in the child’s preparation is the example and Catholic practice of the family. Children who have not received a Sacrament in the year level it is taught at Rosary are invited to contact the Parish and to work through the sacramental program at home.
Mathematics
Mathematics is a search for patterns and relationships. It helps children solve problems and improve their understanding of the world. The Australian Curriculum is divided into the content strands: *Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry*, and *Statistics and Probability* with the proficiency strands *Understanding, Fluency, Problem Solving and Reasoning* reinforcing the significance of working mathematically within the content and describing how the content is explored and developed. Activities combine a ‘hands on’ or practical approach with recording and problem solving.

English

Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking are four elements of English. They are viewed as a whole, and not as separate subjects. The Australian Curriculum organises English within three strands: *Language* – knowing about the English language; *Literature* – understanding, appreciating, responding to, analysing and creating literature; and *Literacy* – expanding the repertoire of English usage. Our agreed teaching practice ensures that children’s development of knowledge, understanding and skills is through an approach which allows for modelled, shared, guided and independent opportunities. The underlying skills of phonics, spelling and grammar are taught in context.
History
We promote learning about personal, family, local, ACT, national, regional and world history through the process of investigation, communication and participation. Students are taught Historical Knowledge and Understanding and Historical Skills. We utilise an inquiry approach to organise teaching and learning. These follow as: Tuning In, Finding Out, Sorting Out, Making Connections, Going Further, Reflecting and Acting.

Geography
Study in this area provides a way of exploring, analysing and understanding the places that make up our world, using the concepts of place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale and change.

The Arts
This learning area draws together the related but distinct art forms of dance, drama, media arts, music and visual arts. Through our arts program students develop intellectual, social, physical and aesthetic understanding and skills that assist them to create, explore and communicate ideas and appreciate a variety of art forms.
Science
When teaching Science, we apply three interrelated strands: Science Understanding, Science as a Human Endeavour and Science Inquiry Skills. Together students are provided with understanding, knowledge and skills to develop a scientific view of the world. Students are challenged to explore science, its concepts, nature and uses through the application of the Five E’s inquiry process: Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate and Evaluate.

Information Communication Technology (ICT)
At Rosary we believe that children learn to make effective use of computers when they are physically nearby, and ICT tasks are integrated into learning across the curriculum. Each classroom at Rosary has an interactive whiteboard, and our refurbished classrooms allow constant access to banks of computers. We also have a dedicated computer lab to allow for the teaching of specific skills. All grades are allocated a group of iPads for class use and Years 5 and 6 participate in a 1:1 Bring Your Own iPad program.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)
PDHPE helps children to see themselves as active, creative, responsible and informed decision makers. It seeks to develop in students a sense of well-being and personal worth and tries to cultivate those understandings and skills that will help the child develop and maintain satisfying relationships. To complement these skills, we also make use of various sporting clinics provided by trained instructors from local sporting codes. Each year children from Years 2 - 6 participate in school carnivals for athletics, cross country and swimming. The children who do well at these carnivals are chosen to participate in the Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) representative carnivals. In Term 4, students participate in a 10 day swimming school as part of the Physical Education program. When possible, parents organise weekend sporting teams.
Other Features of the Curriculum

Rosary offers the students an opportunity to participate in the following:

- School Camps
- Tournament of Minds
- Wakkakiri (Year 5)
- Rostrum Public Speaking
- Chess Club
- Science Club
- Sustainable Schools Group
- Running Club
- Choir

Specialist Personnel

The school provides the services of the following:

Teacher/Librarian
The Teacher/Librarian has the responsibility of working with classroom teachers, assisting them in developing work appropriate to each class level to develop research skills, providing opportunities for the borrowing of books and assisting the school with the purchase of learning resources.

Music Teacher
The specialist music teachers provide music lessons for all classes. Students have the opportunity to engage in a variety of music development activities which include singing, movement and the playing of tuned and un-tuned instruments.

Learning Support
In order to cater for the learning styles and needs of each student, the Learning Support Team provides extra assistance in literacy and numeracy where needed.
School Counsellor
CatholicCare and the Catholic Education Office provide the school with the services of a Counsellor on a regular basis. The role of the Counsellor is to be available to parents, students and teachers who seek advice or assistance with family, social or behavioural problems. Parents may request an interview with the counsellor or a teacher may refer a child. Before teacher referral, parents are contacted and their permission sought. Generally, primary aged students do not refer themselves to the counsellor without parental consent.

Language Teacher
A specialist language teacher provides Indonesian lessons for Kindergarten to Year 6.

Private piano and keyboard lessons
A qualified teacher provides tuition for piano and keyboard on a one-to-one basis. These lessons are billed outside of the school fees.

Musicorp Program
By participating in this elective program, students from Year 3 to Year 6 can learn to play instruments including saxophone, electric guitar, clarinet, flute and percussion. They become members of the Rosary Band. Tuition in stringed instruments is also offered to students in Years 1-6.
Family Involvement

To help us provide the best possible education for your child, your involvement as parents/carers is welcomed and encouraged. Help comes in many forms:

At home:
- Talking with your child about school (highlighting the positive aspects).
- Ensuring that your child is reading and/or being read to regularly.
- Ensuring that homework is completed and discussed.
- Ensuring your child is equipped each morning with the tools s/he needs to complete a successful day of learning at school – fruit break, recess and lunch, correct uniform, school hat, home reader/homework, other necessary equipment etc.

At school:
- Joining in with grade and school Masses and attending school assemblies.
- Participating in Sacramental Programs.
- Assisting teachers with literacy and maths groups
- Volunteering to help at sport carnivals.
- Training school sport teams.
- Attending grounds maintenance working bees.
- Joining Community Council Committees.
- Volunteering to assist with social / fundraising events.
- Becoming a class contact parent.

Working with Vulnerable People Card
It is a Government requirement that people volunteering in schools need to acquire a Working with Vulnerable People (WwVP) card.
Homework

At Rosary we believe that homework is most beneficial when:
- It reinforces and extends classwork and consolidates basic skills and knowledge;
- It is challenging and purposeful, but not too demanding;
- Students take responsibility for their homework, supported by their parents or caregivers;
- It is well coordinated and teacher expectations are clearly communicated;
- It is set on a regular basis and establishes a routine of home study;
- Teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varied and age appropriate;
- It takes into account students’ home responsibilities and extracurricular activities;
- It is marked promptly; and
- Feedback is provided to students.

Homework is not expected to be part of family weekend time. However we understand there are family circumstances which require this flexibility. Please discuss this with your child’s teacher if needed.

Aim
- Reinforce and/or expose children to learning
- Provide parents with a means of becoming involved in their child’s education
- Support a partnership for learning, between home and school
- Develop a pattern of independent study, self-discipline and organisation

Including reading time, the maximum amount of time recommended to be spent on homework each day is:
- Kindergarten: 5-10 minutes
- Year 1: 10 minutes
- Year 2: 15 minutes
- Year 3: 15 minutes
• Year 4: 20 minutes
• Year 5: 20-30 minutes
• Year 6: 30-40 minutes

Parents and caregivers can help by:
• Taking an interest in homework and assisting if necessary;
• Encouraging their children to read regularly;
• Assisting teachers to monitor homework by signing completed work;
• Communicating with teachers any concerns about homework and their students’ approach;
• Providing an environment for the child where supervision, encouragement and assistance are given and
• Respecting the child’s knowledge and skills.

Teachers can help by:
• Explaining to students and their parents or caregivers homework practices and expectations at the beginning of the year;
• Providing interesting and challenging homework appropriate for the varying abilities in the class;
• Ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them;
• Marking homework promptly, maintaining homework records and providing clear, explicit instructions and feedback to students and parents or caregivers;
• Suggesting strategies that can be used to assist their students with their homework;
• Teaching the necessary research and other skills to enable students to complete homework tasks and
• Communicating with parents through the student’s reading folder, the student’s diary, or other appropriate means.

Students can help by:
• Being aware of the importance of homework and school expectations;
• Completing homework within the given time frame;
• Informing parents or caregivers of homework expectations;
• Seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise and completing the work to the best of their ability.
Communication

Newsletter
The school newsletter, *Veritas*, is issued weekly on a Thursday. Information for *Veritas* should be left at the front office or e-mailed by 12.30 pm on Wednesday. *Veritas* is emailed to families and provided in paper form if requested.

School Website
The school website [www.rosary.act.edu.au](http://www.rosary.act.edu.au) is a convenient place for families to access relevant information about the school including forms, policies, notes, canteen menu and calendar dates.

Skoolbag
Families are encouraged to download the Skoolbag App to their smartphone. The school sends out reminder messages via Skoolbag and parents can use it to communicate with the school.

Absences
The school should be notified by telephone if a child will be away for a number of days. By law, teachers are required to mark attendance rolls indicating each child’s attendance at school. When a child returns to class after an absence, a brief written note from the parent/guardian, including the dates of absence, must be presented to the class teacher. Skoolbag is a convenient way of fulfilling this obligation.

Limited Access
From time to time, and for a variety of reasons, there are students to whom limited access, court orders etc. apply. It is the obligation of the parent/s to bring such orders etc. to the attention of the Principal, and also to keep the Principal updated on any changes that may be made.

Parent Information
In the interests of your child please ensure that the school has continuously up-to-date information about:

- Your address
- Your phone contacts - home, work and emergency contact
- Your email address
- Medication to be taken by your child - the school requires written permission to offer any medication to a student.
Reporting to Parents

Communication between teachers and parents is vital to each child’s success at school. The following opportunities are available for Reporting and Communication at Rosary:

**Term One**
- Grade Overviews
- Learning Journeys

**Term Two**
- Grade Overviews
- Student Achievement Reports
- Parent/Teacher Interviews

**Term Three**
- Grade Overviews
- Learning Journeys

**Term Four**
- Grade Overviews
- Student Achievement Reports
- Parent/Teacher Interviews (by request)

**Written Reports**
Written A - E reports are provided in Terms Two and Four and are followed by an opportunity for teacher/parent interviews.

**Learning Journeys**
Towards the end of Terms One and Three, parents are invited to the school to participate in a ‘Learning Journey’ with their children. This involves the child guiding the parents as special guests on a tour around the classroom and school, sharing aspects of their learning and celebrating their achievements.

**Interviews**
Please feel free to make an appointment at any time to talk about your child’s progress with your child’s teacher. Open lines of communication assist both parents and teachers and ultimately benefit the child. Quite often a word from parents can help teachers to understand marked changes in behaviour and attitude. Interviews with class teachers may be arranged before or after school hours, by writing a note to the teacher or by phoning the office. The Principal is available for interview by appointment. Parents can be assured of the principal’s interest in any aspect of school life that is of concern.
Student Welfare and Behaviour Management Policy

And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free John 8:32

The Rosary School Behaviour Management Policy draws its principles and practices from what we, as followers of Jesus, believe to be fundamental to right relationships.

Our personal and communal responses to others are reflections of our relationship with God. Therefore our policies and practices must be true to our Mission and incorporate the values of justice, inclusion, reconciliation, respect, truth and honesty.

At Rosary Primary School our Pastoral Care and Behaviour Management Policy is founded on the following beliefs which we all share.

- every person is an individual and should be treated as such
- every person is entitled to respect, dignity and forgiveness
- every person can strive to do their best

Our school rules (Respect, Pride, Safety) reflect a balance between the rights and corresponding responsibilities of each person and are designed to promote the wellbeing and safety of everyone.

We encourage every student to develop a loving relationship with Jesus and be respectful and inclusive of all cultures and backgrounds. Rosary’s Behaviour Management policy focuses on preventive, corrective and supportive strategies.

By following in the footsteps of St. Dominic we endeavour to instil the value of lifelong learning.
Student Leadership

At Rosary, the whole of the Year 6 student group are school leaders. This stems from the belief that all Year 6 students have some capacity for leadership and benefit from the opportunity to develop this potential. In addition to being ‘buddies’ for their Kindergarten friends, they act as library monitors, school office assistants and peer mediators on the playground. Other duties such as public speaking and sports leadership are shared among the student leaders.

School Houses

To develop and enhance the Rosary spirit, children are placed into one of our four houses. Children are involved in house-based activities throughout the year which promote fair play, team work, cooperation and good sportsmanship. These activities include our three major sporting carnivals. During the carnivals we encourage the children to wear a t-shirt or jumper in their house colour. Children are allocated to a house when they arrive at Rosary; siblings are always in the same house.

Mawson (Blue)  Freeman (Red)  Chisholm (Green)  Barton (Yellow)
General Expectations of the Students

- Children are expected to be clean, neat and tidy in their appearance.
- Correct uniform is to be worn to and from school.
- School hats are to be worn when outside. The ‘no hat, no play’ policy is strictly enforced except in June and July.
- All items of clothing and personal belongings should be clearly marked with the student’s name.
- Children are to be on time for school and classes at all times, heeding the bell so as to be in the right place at the right time.
- Children are to remain in the grounds from arrival at school until dismissal, unless they have a written request from their parent and such a request has been signed by the Principal or his/her delegate.
- Children who need to be collected from the school during school hours must be signed out at the office before the child is collected from the classroom.
- It is important that parents help their children apply sunscreen before coming to school, and provide them with the skills needed to reapply sunscreen as necessary.
- Children require a written, signed note when they have been absent from school. This note is to be given to the class teacher.
- Long/shoulder length hair must be tied back using ribbon/bands in school colours only.
- No jewellery is permitted other than a watch or one stud type earring in either/both ears. Nail polish is not to be worn.
Rosary’s ‘Good Sports in Sport’ Policy

This is Rosary’s code of conduct for all students participating in PE lessons, school carnivals and representative sporting activities.

Code of Behaviour for a Player

1. Play by the rules.

2. Never argue with an official. If you disagree with a decision, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.

3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.

4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your team’s performance will benefit and so will you.

5. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are on your team or the opposition.

6. Treat all players like you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.

7. Co-operate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.

8. Play for the fun of it and not just for parents or for coaches. Remember, winning isn’t everything.

(An excerpt from Rosary’s ‘Good Sports in Sport’ Policy.)
Student Services

Canteen
The canteen is outsourced to *Empire Catering* who provides staff to operate the canteen. Canteen Services, including lunch orders and counter sales at recess and lunch are available from Wednesday to Friday each week unless advised otherwise. Lunches can be ordered online or written on a paper bag with money placed inside. Children ‘post’ their orders into a special slot at the canteen before school. Lunch orders are collected from the canteen at lunch time for distribution.

School Buses
ACTION Bus Service runs special school buses to and from the school. Timetables for these and normal route service information are available from the ACTION website www.action.act.gov.au/school_services.

Country buses operate to the Murrumbateman, Hall, and Sutton areas.

Excursions and Performances
During each year children are given opportunities to participate in a variety of educational activities either at school or at other venues. The cost of the activity and transport is deducted from the Enrichment Levy which is included in the School Fees. Permission notes are required by the school before children are permitted to travel by public or private transport. Educational excursions are regarded as an integral part of the learning process; therefore, all children are expected to participate.

Rosary School Age Care Service (ROSACS)
Before and after school care is offered by the YWCA and conducted on the Rosary school premises. For contact details see page 8.
Rosary Primary School Watson
Community Council

Community Council Executive

Parish Priest
Principal
Assistant Principal
Chair
Deputy Chair (Class contact co-ordinator)
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee co-ordinator
Staff nominee

Hospitality
eg: Community events, treat days, sports carnivals

Student services
eg: Clothing pool, canteen, bookclub, ROSACS, uniforms

Environment
eg: Grounds maintenance, school garden

Sport
eg: Rugby Club, Netball Club, Carnivals

Communication
eg: Public relations, Promotion, Open days

Major events
eg: Fete, walkathon, major fundraising events

Class contacts
Rosary Community Council

The Council has responsibility to take decisions in the following areas:

- Supporting the development of the Catholic identity, ethos and mission of the school.
- Supporting pastoral care strategies in the school community.
- Promoting the school in the local community.
- Developing, approving and monitoring the annual budget, including school determined levies, loan commitments and the fees collection and remission policy.
- Developing and monitoring school enterprises, eg Outside School Hours Care (ROSACS), sports associations, hall hire.
- Developing capital and maintenance programs.
- Developing local strategic plans (finances, buildings, resources) and contributing to Archdiocesan educational strategic planning.
- Facilitating local school community debate in response to System leadership by the Catholic Education Commission (CEC) and the Catholic Education Office (CEO) in lobbying governments in school funding campaigns.
- Approving school uniform items decided at school level.
- Ensuring that the Parish and school community receives the Annual School Council Report.
- Fundraising for the benefit of students in the school community.

The Council has responsibility to provide advice in areas such as:

- School programs and activities.
- School policies, e.g. reporting, homework, student welfare etc.
- Parent support processes.
- Other matters as requested by the Parish Priest or Principal

Sustainability

At Rosary, we believe that educating the next generation about sustainability, climate change and the environment is a positive investment in a healthier future. We are reducing our carbon footprint by decreasing our usage of energy and natural resources in a meaningful and positive way.
School Fees and Financial Information

The Federal, and to a far lesser extent, the ACT government, contribute to the economic viability of our schools. However, we still rely heavily on school fees collected from parents to ensure a level of staffing and resources comparable with the government schools.

Tuition Fee
The tuition fee each year is set by the Catholic Education Office, with each child attracting a fee. For 2016 this fee per term is:
1st child - $326.00; 2nd child - $97.80; 3rd child - $65.20

Catholic Schools Building Fund Levy
These contributions are paid into a central fund administered by the Trustees of the Archdiocese. The amount is tax deductible. It is used to maintain and repair capital works such as plant and equipment; it is also required to repay the building loans on schools. In 2016 this levy is $158 per family, per term.

Rosary School Resource Fee
There is a general fee paid by each family to cover the operating costs of the school infrastructure which include utilities, cleaning, telephone, loan repayment, etc. In 2016 this levy is $210 per family, per term.

Rosary Student Resource Fee
This fee covers the costs associated with student learning, including books, class materials, excursions etc. In 2016 this levy is $110 per student per term. The school provides most of the materials students need for their work at school.

The above fees and levies will increase in 2017.

School Fee Payment
The preferred method for the payment of school fees is by fortnightly direct debit. Cash, cheque, BPay or credit card may also be used to pay fees. Parents who are having difficulty paying school fees must contact the Principal. Where necessary, mutually convenient arrangements will be made. It is not our policy to exclude children whose parents have genuine difficulty meeting costs.
Student Health Information

General Health of Students
Parents are requested to advise the Principal of any major health problem that a student may have, eg asthma, allergy, diabetes, etc. so that both the teaching staff and the first aid officers may be made aware of the condition and appropriate action to take in case of an emergency.

Should a child be unwell at the beginning of the day, s/he should not be sent to school. Coughs, colds and gastric upsets spread quickly. Parents are urged to keep their child home when it seems necessary.

Sickness at School
In the event that a student becomes ill at school they will be accompanied to the Sick Bay where they are supervised while parents are being contacted. The provision of an updated emergency contact number is vital in these situations.

Accident Procedures at School
Accidents on the playground are attended to by the supervising teacher, who refers minor abrasions etc. to the office for attention. Should a student sustain a serious injury, s/he will be attended to in a professional manner, parents notified in accordance with the gravity and urgency of the situation and conveyed to hospital (if appropriate) in accordance with the permission section as completed on the application for enrolment. Where children are involved, it is preferable to err on the side of caution.

Dental Service
All families are eligible to join the Child and Youth Dental Membership Scheme, administered by the ACT Government. Membership costs vary. For further information call the Scheme’s Administration Office on 6205 1088.
Allergy Awareness Policy

Rosary Primary School is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students. We have adopted an allergy awareness policy to protect students who have severe allergies (anaphylaxis), particularly those allergic to nuts.

It is the aim of this school to provide a peanut and nut free environment for the safety of children who have anaphylactic reactions. We are asking for your support in not sending to school any food products that contain peanuts or nuts. Peanut and nut products that pose a risk include peanut butter, Nutella and other nut spreads. Parents/carers are asked to check food labels to ensure that nuts are NOT listed in the ingredients before buying products for school lunches.

Medication

If your child has any special medical needs or conditions, (eg. asthma, allergies, epilepsy) it is essential that the school be given this information. Please record any relevant information on the enrolment form and discuss your child’s needs with the principal.

If a child is to take medication at school, written consent and directions for the teacher must be supplied with the medication in its original container. Medication cannot be administered without this information being provided in written format. With liquid medicine, a measuring device must be supplied to ensure the correct dosage is given.

Medication (other than asthma medication) is not to be stored in the children’s bags or desks. Lockable storage is provided at the School Office where a record is maintained of all medication administered. The class teacher must be made aware of any children with asthma medication in their bags.
**Immunisation**
The ACT Public Health Regulations reflect an attempt to prevent children from contracting the eight childhood vaccine-preventable diseases. The ACT Health Department requires parents to provide documented evidence of the immunisation status of each child on enrolment to schools. Parents of children attending Rosary will be required to provide the school with an Immunisation Certificate. This is obtainable from a Health Centre. Failure to comply with this regulation will entail forced absences from school should certain diseases occur. Children who are not immunised will be excluded from school when there is an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease in the school.

**Exclusion Table**
The quarantine periods for infectious diseases such as measles, chickenpox, mumps etc is stipulated by the ACT Department of Health. If your child contracts one of these diseases, you are asked to notify the school immediately and to observe the mandatory school exclusion periods. The following illnesses are common in early childhood. This is a guide to the time which the child should be away from school should an illness occur.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illness</th>
<th>Exclusion Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Pox and Mumps</td>
<td>Exclude until fully recovered. Contacts not excluded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measles</td>
<td>Re-admit when appropriate treatment has commenced, supported by a medical certificate upon request. Close contacts should be inspected regularly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ring Worm</td>
<td>Until sores have fully healed. The child may be allowed to return, provided appropriate treatment is being applied and sores on exposed surfaces such as scalp, face, hands or legs are properly covered with occlusive dressings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conjunctivitis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impetigo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Lice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Girls’ Uniform

Summer
Dress/Skorts Standard Catholic Primary School Dress; or Royal Blue Skorts with sky blue polo shirt with school crest
Jumper V-neck maroon sweatshirt with school crest
Vest Polar fleece vest maroon with school crest
Socks White above ankle length socks
Shoes Black school shoes

Winter
Tunic/Slacks Standard Catholic Tunic; or Navy slacks (no jeans or cords)
Blouse Sky blue with Peter Pan collar
Jumper V-neck maroon sweatshirt with school crest
Vest Maroon polar fleece with school crest (optional)
Tie Rosary black and white stripe tie
Tights Navy
Socks Navy above ankle length socks
Shoes Black school shoes

Sports
Shorts Black with school crest
Polo shirt Black and white with school crest
Socks White above ankle length socks
Shoes Joggers (preferably white)
Tracksuit Black and white school tracksuit with school crest

Hat Navy

Hair Accessories Plain maroon, white, blue or black ribbons and bands may be worn.
Boys’ Uniform

Summer
- Long Leg Shorts: Navy
- Shirt: Sky blue polo shirt with school crest
- Jumper: V-neck maroon sweatshirt with school crest
- Vest: Polar fleece vest maroon with school crest
- Socks: Black above ankle length socks
- Shoes: Black school shoes (no boots)

Winter
- Trousers: Navy long (no jeans or cords)
- Shirt: Sky blue long sleeved to be worn
- Jumper: Maroon school jumper/sweat shirt
- Tie: Black and white stripe tie
- Jumper: V-neck maroon sweatshirt with school crest
- Vest: Maroon polar fleece with school crest (optional)
- Shoes: Black school shoes (no boots)
- Socks: Black above ankle length socks

Sports
- Shorts: Black with school crest
- Polo shirt: Black and white with school crest
- Tracksuit: Black and white school tracksuit with school crest
- Socks: White above ankle length socks
- Shoes: Joggers (preferably white)

Hat
- Navy
School Bag
All children at Rosary are to use the navy blue Rosary school bag printed with the school crest.

Coats
Navy or maroon parkas or coats may be worn in the winter months. Coloured parkas and coats are not an acceptable part of the school uniform. If gloves or scarves are worn, these too should be in the school colours. Please note: Tracksuit tops are not an acceptable alternative to jumpers or sweat shirts.

Uniform Supplies
All new uniform may be purchased through the front office or at our preferred uniform suppliers, Personally Yours situated at 218 Gladstone St, Fyshwick. Contact phone number is 6280 4166.

Clothing Pool
The Community Council operates a second hand clothing pool. Opening times are advertised through the ‘Veritas’ School Newsletter.

The school uniform is well publicised and is to be worn with pride at all times. Should a child be unable to wear full uniform at any time, a note of explanation to the class teacher is required.
Rosary’s Emergency Management Arrangements

We have developed an Emergency Management Plan for the School and emergency procedures to ensure the safety of all children, staff and visitors at the School. Whilst developed in response to the risks identified for the site, the Plan reflects the policies and procedures of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Catholic Education Office.

Our primary focus is to maintain a safe environment for all students, staff and visitors, reduce the incidence of potential emergencies and minimise the consequences should they occur.

Rosary Primary School Safety Awareness Program

Our safety awareness program comprises several elements. These include:

- A current Emergency Management Plan available to all staff and parents
- A fully operational emergency warning system encompassing lockdown and evacuation with allocated responsibilities for all areas of the School.
- Comprehensive planning and guidance to staff on the management of evacuations and lockdowns.
- Conduct of regular emergency training and briefings to staff.
- Conduct of regular evacuation and lockdown drills.
- A safety and awareness program embracing all staff and students.
- Installation of informative emergency and safety signage throughout the location.
Prayer to St Dominic

Dear St Dominic, we gather together to ask God’s blessing and guidance on our day.

We ask you to bless our eyes that we may recognise God’s gifts to us in creation;

Bless our ears that we may listen to God’s word and respond with sensitivity and love;

Bless our mouths that we may always speak the truth in courage and justice;

Bless our hearts that we may accept and respect all God’s people;

Bless our hands that we may reach out in reverence and gentleness to others;

Bless our feet that we may walk with care and concern for the environment.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen
Notes