



# PROUILLE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# VERITAS VOICE

## PROUILLE NEWSLETTER

Issue 19 • Term 1, Week 2 • Friday 14th February 2025



5 Water Street, Wahroonga NSW 2076  
P 02 7256 2146

E [prouille@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:prouille@dbb.catholic.edu.au)  
W [www.prouilledbb.catholic.nsw.edu.au](http://www.prouilledbb.catholic.nsw.edu.au)



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to a brand-new school year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are ready for an exciting year ahead. It has been wonderful to see our students settling back into school routines, reconnecting with friends, and embracing their learning with enthusiasm.

I encourage all families to check the Calendar Summary in this newsletter, which outlines key upcoming events. Please remember that this calendar is updated fortnightly, so be sure to review each newsletter for any new or changed events.

A huge thank you to all our parent helpers who supported this week's Swimming Carnival. Your assistance was invaluable, and we truly appreciate your dedication—especially given the challenging weather conditions on the day. Your efforts helped make the event a success, and we are so grateful!

I also urge all parents and carers to read the important section in this newsletter regarding drop-off and pick-up driver safety. For the most part we can see the majority of parents adhering to our school and road rules but we have also already observed some very unsafe practices outside the school in the afternoons. The safety of our students is our highest priority, and we need everyone's cooperation to ensure a safe environment for all.

Finally, I warmly invite you to join us for two special community events on Friday, 21st February:

- Beginning Year Mass and Leadership Induction – 10:15 am at Holy Name Parish
- P & F Family Welcome Event – From 3:30 pm after school

These are wonderful opportunities to come together as a school community, and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Wishing you all a fantastic year ahead!  
Genevieve Smith  
Principal

# PRAYER FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**G**od of life and love,  
in every time and place  
you call people to serve you.

No one is too young to praise you;  
no one is too old to respond to your call.  
Help us to answer your call with all our hearts,  
turning away from sin to follow  
Christ's example.

Show us how to share the Good News  
with others in our words and in  
our deeds.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



**Quick Reference Guide to Upcoming 2024 Events**[Link to Website Calendar](#)**TERM 1 2025**

WEEK	DATE	EVENT	GRADE
3	19/2	Years 1-3 Parent Info Night 5.30-6.00pm Year - 3 Classrooms Years 4 - 6 Parent Info Night 6.00 - 6.30pm- Year 6 Classrooms EOCS - 5.30pm - Zoom Meeting	Parents
	21/2	Opening School Mass and 2025 Leadership Induction 10.15 Holy Name Parish Church	K - 6
	21/2	Whole School Assembly Veritas Hall 2.30pm	K - 6
	21/2	P & F Family Welcome Event Lower Playground 3.30pm (Children must be accompanied by an adult)	All Families
4	25/2	Year 6 Leadership Skills Day Brigidine College	Year 6
	26/2	PEC Parent Talks - 7.00pm	Prouille Parents
	27/2	North Shore Zone Swimming Carnival	Invited students
	28/2	Second Hand Uniform Stall 8.30 am Lower Playground	Parents
5	5/3	Ash Wednesday Liturgy	K-6
	7/3	School Assembly and Project Compassion Launch 2.30 Veritas Hall	All grades and parents
6	12/3	NAPLAN Commences	Year 3 and 5
7	17/3	NAPLAN Continues	Year 3 and 5
		Harmony Day and Open Classrooms	K - 6 2025 Parents
8	27/3	Camp Quality Puppet Show	All Grades
	28/3	Cross Country	All Grades
9	2/4	Stage 3 at Brigidine College Musical	Yrs 5 and 6
	4/4	School Assembly	K-6 and Parents
10	11/4	Last Day of Term 1	

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

## OPENING SCHOOL MASS AND INDUCTION

We are excited to invite you to Prouille's Opening Mass and Year 6 Leadership Induction, which will take place on **Friday, 21st February at 10:15 am** at Holy Name Church.

This special occasion will mark the beginning of our school year and provide an opportunity to celebrate the leadership of our Year 6 students. We warmly welcome all members of our school community to join us in this joyous event.

## FAMILY MASS

Join us for our first Holy Name Parish Family Mass on **Saturday, March 1st at 5pm**. This special Mass will be hosted by our Year 3 students. It's a wonderful opportunity for everyone to come together in celebration, connecting with both the school and the wider Parish community. We look forward to seeing you there!



# OTHER NEWS

## PARENT VOLUNTEERS - TERM 1

We would like to invite parents to sign up to become parent helpers for reading groups in various grades. We also have many opportunities throughout the year for parent volunteers on excursions and grade events. Any adult that comes to the school in a volunteering capacity is required to be on a CSBB register. **Parents DO NOT NEED a Working with Children Check (WWCC)** for many volunteering tasks but still need to complete the Safeguarding requirements. If you intend to be a volunteer in the school this year, please read the attached document and use the QR code to register. This new process will ensure you are on the digital register for 3 years and minimises duplication with paperwork.

If you would like to be a parent helper please complete the process via the QR Code below or go to the [CSBB Contractor & Volunteer Engagement Form](#) (also on the website under "Parent Information"). On the form, please ensure that you select the correct category of contractor or volunteer.



## 2026 ENROLMENTS

Just a reminder that if you are enrolling a sibling in Kindergarten in 2026, all forms need to be completed and lodged by the end of Term 1. All offers of Kindergarten places are made in Term 2 following enrolment interviews.

## OPEN DAY #1 - WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH 2025

Prouille is holding its first Open Day for prospective families on Wednesday 5th March from 9-10am. For existing families we will be holding Open Classrooms in Week 7

[Prouille Open Day](#)

Please register here:

Friends, relatives and neighbours are most welcome to attend.

Please note that enrolment positions are limited and offered in accordance with application date.

# IMPORTANT ROAD SAFETY



Dear Parents

As we start another academic term filled with fun and exciting learning opportunities, I'd like to take a moment to address a crucial matter concerning the safety and well-being of our school community: Road safety and pedestrian security.

Every day, our school sees a flurry of activity as students, parents, and staff arrive and depart. While we strive to maintain a safe environment within the school premises, it's equally important to extend this safety to the surrounding roads and driveways.

Here are a few reminders to help keep our community safe:

1. **Driveway Safety:** Under no circumstances should anyone walk through the school driveway. This area is designated for vehicles and poses a significant risk to pedestrians. Instead, please use the designated pedestrian entrances to access the school premises.
2. **Pedestrian Crossings:** Always use pedestrian crossings when crossing the road.
3. **Mindful Parking:** For parents dropping off or picking up their children, please adhere to the designated drop-off zones and avoid parking in areas that obstruct visibility or impede traffic flow. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE DRIVE THROUGH PARKING IN THE AFTERNOONS!**
4. **Role Modelling:** Parents, guardians, and staff members serve as role models for our students. Let's lead by example and demonstrate responsible road behaviour.

By working together and staying vigilant, we can create a safer environment for everyone in our school community. Let's make road safety a top priority and ensure that every journey to and from school is a safe one.



# PROUILLE IS BACK TO SCHOOL FOR 2025!



On Monday 3rd February, Years 1 to 6 were back to school! Our teachers were very excited to see their students after the long holidays and our students had lots of fun tales to share. Welcome to our new families! We hope that you have a happy and productive 2025.





# WELCOME TO OUR NEW KINDY STUDENTS!



Our new Kindy students commenced last Wednesday, 5th February and they have settled in beautifully! They have settled into their new routines over the last week with their teachers, Miss McCowage and Miss Hill, and spent some quality time with their Year 6 buddies. They have made wonderful progress adjusting to school life in a short space of time.







# KINDIES & YEAR 6 BUDDY TIME





# SWIMMING CARNIVAL



The Prouille swimming carnival was held on Monday, 10th February at Hornsby Aquatic & Leisure Centre.

Our students were at their competitive best: entering the various races, performing house cheers and war cries, and cheering on their friends and house competitors. Even the sudden wet weather did little to dampen their spirits!

Thank you to all our parents who came to support our students and our fabulous recording desk mums for all your help!

What made the day so special is that our students gave their best efforts - and everyone had a go. Well done, Prouille!



# 2025 SCHOOL STAFF



## PROUILLE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### 2025 SCHOOL STAFF

Prouille 2025 Staff	
Kindergarten Kangaroo	Miss Samantha Hill
Kindergarten Koala	Miss Sabrina McCowage
Year 1 Lyrebird	Miss Sofia Cordina
Year 1 Rosella	Mrs Jo Neilson
Year 2 Emu	Mr Brendan Chacon
Year 2 Wombat	Miss Gabriella Herzog
Year 3 Bilby	Mrs Catherine Davidson
Year 3 Platypus	Mrs Rachael Lees (M-Th) Mr Vincent Knight (F)
Year 4 Kookaburra	Mrs Celeste Pan (M-T) Mrs Talia Grigor (W-F)
Year 5 Goanna	Miss Gabrielle McKay
Year 6 Possum	Miss Shelby Morris
Year 6 Wallaby	Mrs Rebecca Runnalls and Mr Damien O'Brien (AP)
EOCS K - 3 Cockatoo	Mrs Veronica Gionta
EOCS 3 - 6 Dingo	Mrs Georgie Dowsett
Music	Miss Abby Fuller
Sport	Got Game (Coach Paul)
Library Technology Support	Mrs Kate Roberts
Learning Support Teachers	Mrs Ann Milling and Mr Vincent Knight (REC)
Learning Support Assistants	Mrs Lee Williams, Mrs Lixia Zhan & Mr Luke Adams
EOCS Learning Support Assistants	Mrs Janine Ness, Miss Nikki Seroukas & Mrs Vivienne Thompson
Executive Release and Collaborative Coach Release Teachers	Mrs Simone Hayward, Mrs Robyn Clyant Mr Vincent Knight
Schools Services Team	Mrs Carol White, Mrs Holly Sahlman, Mrs Jacqui Van de Velde, Mrs Stephanie Pickford & Ms Genevieve Smith

*"Veritas"*

# 2025 STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES

## 2025 School Captains

School Captains	Valentina Salinas & Max Richards
School Vice Captains	Georgina Quoye & Hamish Ronald
<b>2025 House Captains</b>	
Rawlings (Green)	Evie Jones & Tennyson Cain
O'Brien (Blue)	Millie Cooper & Matilda Quoye
Crawford (Gold)	Amelia Bhatti & Patrick Mouawad
Jennings (Red)	William Fullilove & Joseph Slade

## Committee Captains

Library/Technology	Environment
Allegra Polseli Alisha Senn Ana Sofi Salisch Nicholas Luca Huxley Jordan Henry Neal Mia Ceurvorst Lewis Willett	Mairead De Fries Liam Duggan Aarush Vekaria Grace Douglas Kitty Pinto-Engel Sofia Campisi Lex Moraleda
Mission	Playground
Elsie Adkins Abigail Jordaan Isaac Holland Lopez Alex Kirby Zoe Haigh Ethan Mbereko Ollie Dillon	Sophie Tazewell Frank Wilson Luke Wilson Emma Mina Flynn Murray Ben Neves Botelho Matthew Lo

Prouille P&F invite you to our

# FAMILY WELCOME DAY

FRIDAY, 21 Feb 2025  
3:30pm to 6:00pm  
Lower Playground

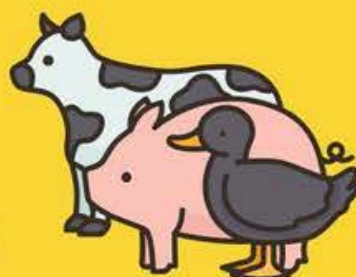
Come and enjoy an afternoon of bonding, making memories & enjoying a wide range of fun-filled activities.



Face  
painting



Balloon  
Twisting



Petting  
Zoo



Sports  
Games



Sausage  
Sizzle

[Or Click This Link to Register!](#)

RSVP  
via the  
QR code



Year 6 will be  
hosting a cake  
Stall. Cash only.



# WEBINAR ALERT: TACKLING SCHOOL REFUSAL – STRATEGIES FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**Are you struggling with a child who finds it difficult to attend school or says "School Can't"? You're not alone!**

When: Wednesday 26 February 2025

Time: 7:00 PM AEDT

Where: Online via Zoom

This free webinar will explore practical strategies to support children dealing with school refusal, including issues such as anxiety, bullying, and mental health challenges.

## What You'll Learn

- How to identify the causes of school refusal and address them effectively.
- Practical tips for engaging with schools and advocating for your child.
- Tools for building your child's confidence and resilience in the classroom.
- Exploring alternatives and personalised approaches.

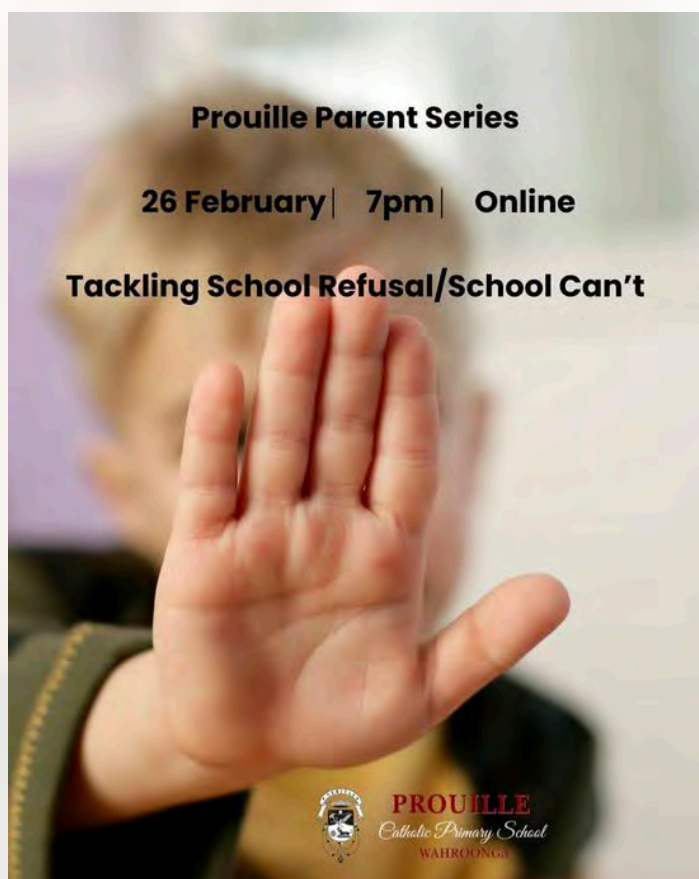
## Who Should Attend?

Parents and caregivers supporting children with school refusal.

Register Now: <https://forms.office.com/r/CnhnbFhrNC>

Spaces are limited, so secure your spot today!

Share this with someone who might benefit from some advice and compassionate support.



# NAPLAN 2025

## Information for parents and carers



### Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards.

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, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress.

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.

### Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

### What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

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

### Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program.

Information on adjustments available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs is provided in the [National protocols for test administration](#).

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the National protocols for test administration (linked above), [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), and our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, 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 adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test 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.

## What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests; however, it is not necessary for parents/carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

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

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [NAP – Public demonstration site](#).

## How is my child's performance reported?

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected of the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly

on what has been taught in previous years of schooling. Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided 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 results used?

- Students and parents/carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at [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](#)
- visit [nap.edu.au](#)

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

## NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame. **The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 12 March 2025 and finishes on Monday 24 March 2025.** Schools will schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
<b>Writing</b>	Year 3 students do the writing test on paper on day 1 only. Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing on day 1, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations).	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with an idea or topic called a writing stimulus (or prompt) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
<b>Reading</b>	To be completed after the writing 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.
<b>Conventions of language</b>	To be completed after the reading test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
<b>Numeracy</b>	To be completed after the conventions of language test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.





Prouille



# Open Day

Nurturing the Whole Child



Celebrating 75 Years in Education

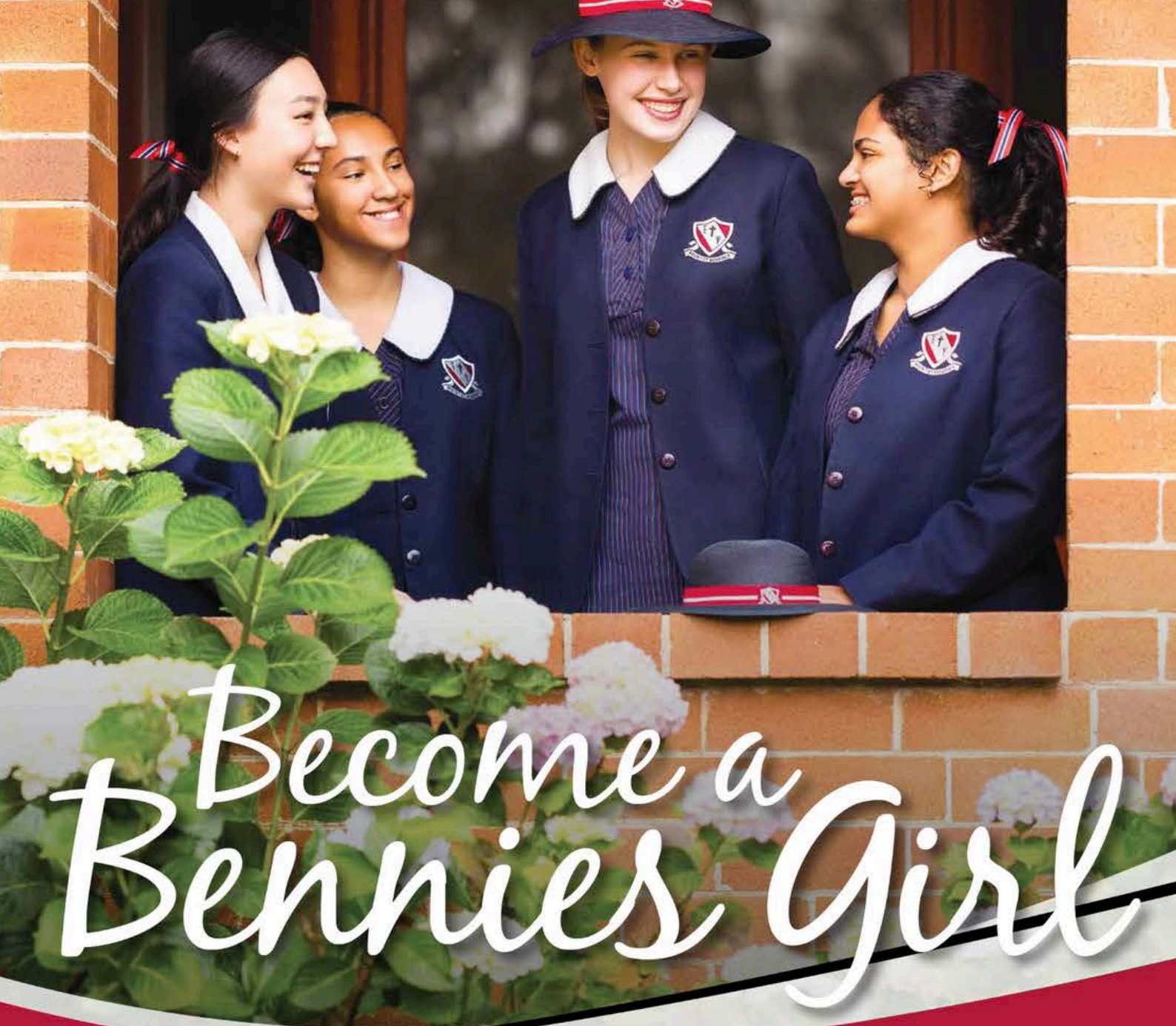
**Wednesday 5th March, 9-10am**

To register: [www.bit.ly/prouilleopenday2025](http://www.bit.ly/prouilleopenday2025)

Prouille Catholic Primary School Wahroonga

(02) 7256 2146 | [www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prouilledbb.catholic.edu.au)





**OPEN DAY** Sunday 2 March 10am-2pm

**Bookings online** [www.msb.nsw.edu.au](http://www.msb.nsw.edu.au)



Mount St Benedict  
College



# OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 2 MARCH 10AM-1PM

Mercy Catholic College Chatswood offers girls from Year 7 – 12 an authentic, professional, Catholic education, delivered with care and compassion.

We are located in the heart of Chatswood, just a short walk to Chatswood Interchange where there are connecting buses, trains and the Metro.

We are committed to creating a safe and supportive learning environment for students, staff and families through our integrated and structured Pastoral Care and Wellbeing programs overseen by specialised staff.

We recognise that the needs of our students are diverse therefore curriculum and pedagogy are dynamic and responsive to accommodate the variety of student learning needs.

This year we celebrate 135 years of teaching excellence reflected in consistently strong all-round academic results.

We offer a comprehensive range of electives in addition to mandatory studies from Year 7, leading to the award of the Higher School Certificate credential in Year 12.

Our unique Pathways & Partnerships program assists the transition to life beyond school into the 21st century workforce through a range of higher education, industry and trade partnerships.

We are committed to the development of the whole person and offer opportunities for students to participate in over 30 programs including a variety of Sports, Creative Arts and special interest clubs.



**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2027**  
[www.mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au)



St Edmund's  
COLLEGE

# OPEN DAY 2025

**The St Edmund's College 2025 Open Day will be held on Wednesday 5 March from 9.30am - 12pm.**

We warmly invite you to come along and enjoy a tour of our state-of-the-art Year 5-12 campus and facilities. We provide, for Year 5 and Year 6 students, an opportunity to access a high-quality transition program within a special needs educational context. For Year 7-12 students, our high school model provides our students with the delivery of a NESA Life Skills curriculum within a unique and innovative educational environment offering a range of experiences that include VET courses, work experience and transition to post-school opportunities.

Morning tea will be provided, as well as information sessions facilitated by members of our Leadership Team and Allied Health Team. We look forward to welcoming you.

Please register at [www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au/open-day](http://www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au/open-day)

