

NEWSLETTER 2024 TERM 1 WEEK 6

St Bernadette's Primary School Dundas Valley

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au

Email : dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Telephone: 02 8846 2600



UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 6:

Thursday, 7th March : Rug Reading Afternoon

Week 7:

Wednesday, 13th March : Naplan Testing Day

Thursday, 14th March : Naplan Testing Day

Friday, 15th March : Naplan Catch Up Day

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear St Bernadette's Parents and Carers,

On Tuesday, we proudly opened our doors to new families who are looking to join our wonderful community. I was so proud of the Stage 3 students who shared their thoughts and feelings about being a part of the St Bernadette's family with the prospective families. They were certainly impressed by our articulate and enthusiastic leaders.



St Bernadette's has joined with Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. It is a special time which encourages schools to showcase the many learning opportunities available to students and celebrate our unique Catholic schools. We began the week with a beautiful Catholic Schools week liturgy and on Thursday, our families are invited to join us for a "Rug Reading" afternoon.

As we approach March 8th, we join the global celebration of International Women's Day, a day dedicated to recognising the achievements and contributions of women around the world. It is a day to celebrate the accomplishments of women, acknowledge the challenges they face, and strive for a future where every individual, regardless of gender, has the opportunity to thrive.

Here at St Bernadette's, we believe in the importance of educating and empowering our students to become advocates for gender equality. Our commitment to providing a supportive and nurturing environment for all students extends to fostering an atmosphere where everyone can achieve their full potential, regardless of gender.

This Sunday will be the fourth Sunday of Lent. The liturgical colours change to rose in honour of the fact that Easter is drawing near. The Lenten journey is an encounter with God who formed us, God who calls us by name, God who washes us with water and the Spirit, and then God who sends us into the world to help others on their journey. Lent is a journey that calls us to new faith and transformation.

As the Cross of Good Friday appears in the distance, Lent prepares us to stand with Jesus and hold firm to our faith. Take time to sit and be silent. Read scripture, pray for others in need, pray for peace in the world. Use Lent as a time to refocus and be fed by God through the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Michelle Yager
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

2024 NAPLAN testing will be held from 13th March 2024. NAPLAN is for all students in Years 3 and 5.

The students' achievement is based on the following 4 levels of achievement:

Exceeding

Strong

Developing

Needs additional support.

The descriptors for each category will make it clear to parents what their child's literacy and numeracy skills are at the time of NAPLAN testing, and we will continue to work with you to meet your child's needs. NAPLAN will remain one of many useful ways that we assess your child's learning and support needs.

Strong means that the student is meeting the expectations of the literacy and numeracy skills required for their school level.

We wish all of our students all the best as they aim to show all that they know. We thank our teaching staff and families for supporting their preparation. We ask our families to further support our students by ensuring, especially over the next two weeks, that our children get a good night's rest and that we maintain a positive and calm approach to coming to school each day. We ask that you encourage your child to do their best and have a go, just as you would for any other day at school. Some students may feel nervous, please remind them that these assessments are just one of the many ways that teachers get to know students and then assist them in their learning to move forward with confidence. Let us celebrate and acknowledge all of the little things that make our students successful, both academically and socially.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Boidin

Assistant Principal

St Bernadette's NAPLAN testing schedule - 2024

	Day & date	Test
Week 7 9:00 am start	Wednesday, 13th March	Writing
	Thursday, 14th March	Writing (catch up tests) Reading
	Friday, 15th March	Catch up tests
Week 8 9:00 am start	Monday, 18th March	Conventions of Language
	Tuesday, 19th March	Numeracy
	Wednesday, 20th March	Additional catch up tests
	Thursday, 21st March - Monday, 25th March	Additional catch up tests

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday 10 Mar 2024

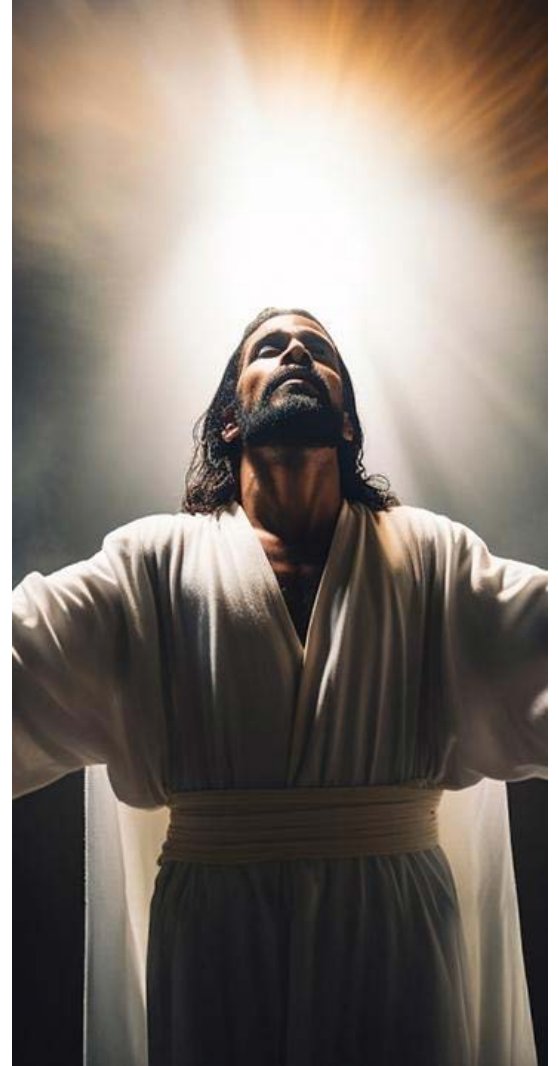
Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B

Gospel

John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe
in the name of God's only Son.
On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer
darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.
And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth
comes out into the light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'



10
March
2024

Laetare Sunday

THIS WEEK...

Reflect on and be grateful for the gifts we have been given.

PRAYER

*Father, let us take a minute to say thanks, for the gift of today.
Amen*



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

CHRON 36: 14-16, 19-23

EPH 2: 4-10

JN 3: 14-21

I don't know about you, but I love visiting art galleries and exhibitions, especially to see old masters. Either Europeans like Monet, Van Gogh, Cezanne or Australians like McCubben, Nolan, Namatjira or Roberts. There is a sense of wonder and joy about the paintings that captures your imagination and takes your breath away. The talent of the artist's creativity, their skill in capturing a moment in time and their ability to literally take you into other worlds is a true gift. And let's not forget the power and beauty of sculpture and music too in the world of art and creativity. In our second reading from Paul to the Ephesians today we hear that, "we are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life." God is the Great Master, and we are His creation. His creation dwarfs the efforts of the other great masters with each of us, made in His image. What a joy to behold we are.

I don't ever remember this until recent years, but to begin the 4th week of Lent we celebrate Laetare Sunday. The day's theme comes from the entrance antiphon reflecting on Isaiah 66:10-11: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast." Laetare is the first word — meaning "rejoice" — in the Latin text. So, in the more sombre time of Lent, we see the priest wear rose coloured vestments and we are reminded of the joy that does await us following the crucifixion.

Our readings today reflect the life and faith journey written about in the quote from Isaiah above, and the absolute and total love that God has for his people. The readings also offer us the hope of redemption where we can turn back to God, to the light, if we have turned towards the dark. In the Gospel, John gives us the promise of the resurrection and of new life, eternal life. But before we live that eternal life, Paul's message to us in Ephesians is to be that work of art created by God and to live our best lives.

How can I make others aware of the gift they are to others around them?

Reflection by Greg Ryan

CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS

A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

Can you think of a time when you were worried about being in trouble for something you did?

Have you been forgiven much easier than you expected?

When someone forgives you they show you mercy.

How do you feel when someone shows you mercy?

Who are some people you know who are merciful?

God is merciful. He loves us and does not want to be parted from us.

How can we show mercy to others?

Let us pray that we will show others mercy by following God's example.

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Term 1 Mass/Reconciliation Roster

Week/Date	Other Celebrations	Wednesday Reconciliation	Friday Mass
Students return to school Thursday 1 February - no Reconciliation/Mass			
Week 2 5 - 9 February		6	6 & 2
Week 3 12 - 16 February	Monday - (IN SCHOOL) Beginning School and Commissioning	Ash Wednesday	
Week 4 19 - 23 February		5	5 & 1
Week 5 26 Feb - 1 Mar			Cross Country
Week 6 4 - 8 March	CSW- More information to come	4	3 & 4
Week 7 11 - 15 March		6	6 & 2
Week 8 18 - 22 March		5	5 & 1
Week 9 25 - 29 March	Monday - (PARISH) The Annunciation Of The Lord	Holy Week	Good Friday
Week 10 1 - 5 April			Whole School
Week 11 8 - 12 April		4	3 & 4

SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance

Attendance Rate: 79%- To unpack this a little more, this means that 79% of our students have an attendance rate of 90% -100%.



Next Assembly

Our next assembly will be **Week 7, Friday 15th March**. The class presenting at this assembly will be year 5. The assembly starts at 2:30pm in the school hall.

School Photos

Our school photos will be on Wednesday, 10th April (week 11). All students are to wear their whole school summer uniform.

If you are wanting to purchase school photos please do so by www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the school code shown below.

All orders are to be placed online before photo day. No orders will be accepted in the school office.

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: 9BK 8ZG AKF



scan to order

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

Important Dates To Remember:

Term 1

Week 6:

Thursday, 7th March : Rug reading afternoon (2:30pm)

Week 7:

Wednesday, 13th March : Naplan

Thursday, 14th March : Naplan

Friday, 15th March : Naplan catch up test day

Friday, 15th March : Kindergarten St Patrick's Day Canteen Morning Tea (More information to follow)

Week 8:

Monday, 18th March: Naplan

Tuesday, 19th March : Naplan

Wednesday, 20th March : Naplan

Thursday, 21st March : Naplan catch up test day

Friday, 22nd March : Naplan catch up test day

Week 9:

Friday, 29th March : Good Friday (Public Holiday - no Students at school)

Week 10:

Monday, 1st April : Easter Monday (Public Holiday - no students at school)

Week 11:

Tuesday, 9th April : Mission Marketplace (More details to follow)

Wednesday, 10th April : School Photos (Summer school uniform for all students)

Friday, 12th April : Last day of Term 1

Term 2:

Week 1:

Monday, 29th April : **Staff Development Day** (No students at school)

Tuesday, 30th April : First Day Back To School For Students

Reminder :

A reminder that Smart watches are **not** to be worn to school. They are expensive and can cause a distraction in class. If children are wearing these to school they will be treated like a mobile phone and be handed into the office once they come into school and they will be returned at the end of the day.

Sibling Discounts:

The Diocese of Parramatta extends sibling discounts on Diocesan Tuition Fees to Catholic systemic schools operated by: -

- Diocese of Parramatta including students at St Dominic's College, Penrith (Kingswood)
- Archdiocese of Sydney
- Diocese of Broken Bay
- Diocese of Wollongong

Discounts are automatically applied to systemic schools within the Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese. A sibling advice notice is required for all other Dioceses. It is up to parents to advise schools of other siblings in order to receive the discount. Please note that discounts are not backdated.

Please contact our office if you need to check which schools are eligible.

Enrolments for 2025:

We had a very successful open day this week for prospective new families looking at enrolling their children to our school for 2025.

If you are looking at enrolling your child to our school for next year and have not yet contacted the school office for an application form, please do so as soon as possible as we will be starting the interview process very soon.

Faith In Action: Helping others soar in 2024

Mission Marketplace: Tuesday 9th April 11.30am -1.20pm

Plans for our Mission Marketplace are going well. Students have been discussing ideas for their stalls with their teachers and they all sound very exciting!

In Week 9, students will bring home an information sheet about Mission Marketplace as well as a slip that lists what they need to bring from home to run their stall. These contributions will be donations so we do not expect elaborate or expensive purchases. Teachers are ensuring that what each child needs to bring is reasonable.

To inform our student community more about Caritas and where our money raised will go, FIAT leaders will be holding lunchtime sessions. These sessions will be voluntary and involve prayer, story films as well as reflections.

Miss Carly
FIAT Coordinator

News from the SRC

Last week, on Friday the 1st of March, we had our school cross country. This was when Year 2- 6 participated in a running race in our local park, Curtis Oval. Although we all came out of the race red-faced and sweaty, everybody had a good time and enjoyed themselves. We thank all of our teachers and parent volunteers for assisting with our cross country and encouraging all student runners.

By Ella Merheb, SRC.

GRIP Leadership

On Thursday the 29th February, SRC and FIAT went to the GRIP Leadership Conference. SRC and FIAT were taught about leadership. All the SRC and FIAT members had a fun time learning and we will use what we learnt to help and guide everyone at school. We give a big thanks to the school who allowed us to attend this great learning experience at the GRIP Leadership Conference.

By Catherine Vandermade from SRC.

Stage 3 Leadership Day

Last Tuesday, Stage 3 had a leadership experience called Explore, Discover, Act and for good reason. Stage 3 had to explore leadership skills and techniques that they are able to use everyday. They had to discover how to work with each other and also discover new friendships. Now Stage 3 has to act on any problems or needs they see in their daily lives. Explore, Discover, Act is one step in the right direction to shape Stage 3 into great leaders.

By Tinaye Makoni, SRC.

Catholic Schools Week

We started Catholic Schools Week on Monday with a beautiful liturgy where we had a wonderful Auslan performance by the whole school. On Tuesday, we had our 2024 Open Day. Parents could come to see if St Bernadette's is the school for them. Some of our Stage 3 leaders were tour guides as well as having a Q&A session with the parents and providing great answers. On Thursday, this week there will be a rug reading time where parents will be able to read a book to the children, that will be great.

By Tinaye Makoni, SRC.

Annual Cross Country Carnival

Last Friday was our annual cross country carnival. The children all gave their best in what were perfect conditions for distance running. A big thank you to the many parents who came along to help on the day. These events cannot be safely and successfully run without your help; which is always greatly appreciated.

Many of our children have successfully qualified to compete at the Diocesan Cross Country at Sydney Motorsport Park in Term 2. The squad will be announced in the coming weeks.

Zone Swimming

On Wednesday, 28th March, 8 of our children represented St Bernadette's at the combined Blacktown & Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival. It is a great achievement to compete at this level and all of the children swam very well and were very competitive in their events.

Congratulations to our Zone swimming team for 2024!

Cameron
Jackson
Jayden E
Ayden
Anastasia
Liam
Caitlyn
Hayden

A special mention to the following children who have successfully qualified to compete at next week's Diocesan Carnival - a fantastic achievement!

Jayden - 100m open freestyle

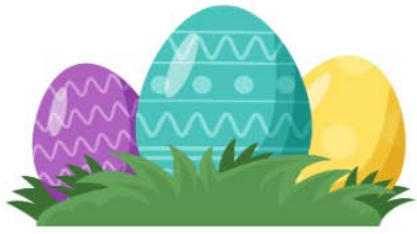
Ayden - 50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke, 50m butterfly

Anastasia - 50m freestyle

Liam - 50m freestyle, 50m backstroke

Representative sport

Ray attended the Diocesan AFL trials last week. He was successfully selected as part of the team to represent Parramatta diocese at the MacKillop AFL trials later in the term. Congratulations to Ray on this outstanding achievement!

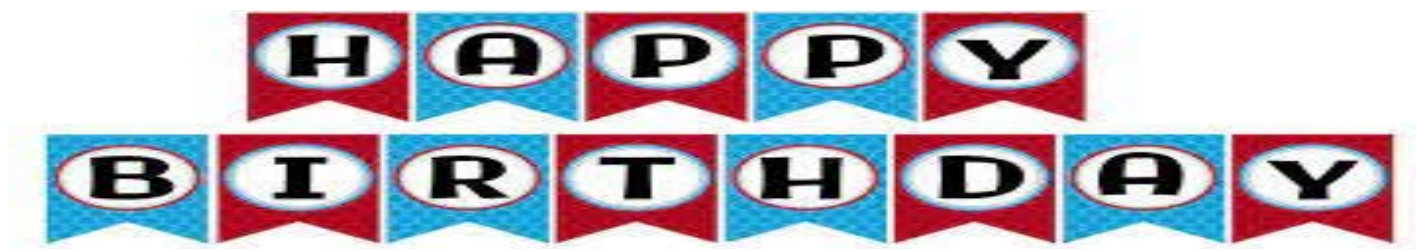


thank
you

**CARLINGFORD COLES
AND**

CARLINGFORD WOOLWORTHS

FOR THIER GENEROUS DONATIONS
TO OUR EASTER EGG RAFFLE



We would like to wish all the following children a very Happy Birthday

Ray - 26/02
Brandon - 26/02
Leo - 28/02
Dominic - 01/03
Nathan P - 04/03
Chloe X - 04/03
Ryad - 05/03
Hunter - 06/03
Rachel - 08/03
Lucas - 09/03

Just a reminder that any treats sent in are kept to a minimum and individually portioned.

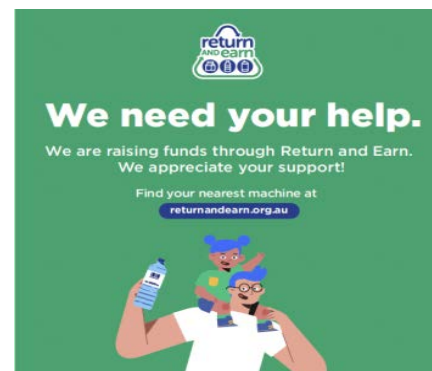
Return and Earn

Want to know how you could help the environment AND earn some money for the school?

St. Bernadette's has become a registered charity with Return and Earn so now you can recycle your containers and contribute to the school at the same time.

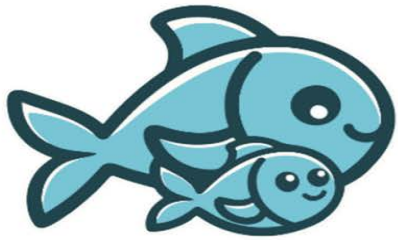
Here is how you do it:

- Collect the empty containers.
- Take them to the Return and Earn Machine **located at Victoria Road, Rydalmere.**
- Put the containers into the machine.
- At the end press DONATE.
- Then find St. Bernadette's Dundas and press that button.



With the festive season coming up please make a big effort to save all of those empty containers and bottles and drop them into the Return and Earn centre at Rydalmere.

The money raised will go towards purchasing games and other resources for the students to enjoy. So start collecting those containers to help us out. Thank you



Carlingford
Early Learning Centre

Located at 213 Marsden Road, Carlingford

Call (02) 8529 0888

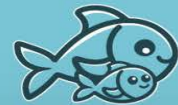
Email admin@carlingfordelc.com.au

Under New Management



ENROL TODAY!!!

**Let your child become a part of our family where
every day is an adventure in
growth and learning**





1st Brush Park Scout Group

Lawson Street, Eastwood

Access outdoor adventure, fun activities and learning by doing.

Meeting nights for all our Youth Sections are:

- Cub Scouts (8-11 years): Wednesdays 7:00pm – 8:30pm
- Scouts (11-15 years): Fridays 7:30pm – 9:30pm
- Venturer Scouts (15-18 years): Fridays 7:30pm – 10:00pm

We would like to invite you, your family and friends to join us on the above days and times to see what Scouting is about; meet some new friends and enjoy our activities. We would also like to invite the adults in your family to become involved as Adult Helpers or Leaders to help run the programs. At the moment, we have no waiting lists.

These exciting programs include hikes, camping, swimming, bike rides, cooking, campfires, skits, singing, games, canoeing, leadership development, teamwork, outdoor adventurous activities, special interest activities and hands-on problem solving. What you do is all up to you and the Unit.

Students from your school are already in Scouting, so you are sure to have friends within our group or nearby groups.

You are welcome to come along, free of charge, for a few weeks to try it out and you can bring a friend along with you, if you want.

We look forward to sharing the Scouting Adventure with you.

Contact: Lynda Calder (1st Brush Park Leader In Charge)

for further information and to contact the group

- lynda.calder@nsw.scouts.com.au
- <https://1st-brush-park.group.scoutsnsw.com.au/home/>

To attend please register for a free trial: "Registration" > "Temporary Member"



<https://bit.ly/3SS4MAc>





Enrolling now for 2024!

Just starting or yet to start your own adventure in music?

**The GKs are starting a new intake of our popular
DISCOVERY BAND in Term 1 2024!**

The Discovery Band is for people who have never played an instrument before. Under careful, expert and caring tuition members learn everything from putting the instrument together to reading music and producing a sound. Within months you'll have enough learning to be part of the new Discovery Band's first performance to an appreciative and supportive audience of friends!



Your musical journey doesn't stop there – most Discovery Band members continue to improve and go on to play with one or more of our other ensembles.

**We are located in Beecroft and meet on a Monday
evening. Contact Us to for more info and secure your
place now!**

Like and Follow us on Facebook



Contact Us at contact@goldenkangaroos.org.au



PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE ON SUNDAYS IN 2024

DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION FEES

(For a limited time)

TO CELEBRATE THE SHAMROCKS

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FREE REGISTRATION

Under, 4s, 5s & 6s

GIRLS TACKLE & TAG

~~\$149.00~~ FREE Rego

UNDER 7s & Above ~~\$149.00~~ \$100.00 Rego.

(Excludes Men's Opens Team)

**FREE Playing Uniform,
Training Shirt, shorts & more.**

REGISTER NOW

For more information:

0417 382 007 or 0414 891 644

info@shamrocksdundas.com.au

www.dundasshamrocks.com.au

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We're implementing the

Child Safe Standards

www.ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-standards



NORMANHURST BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Fostering excellence in young men through holistic education



Open Day

For Prospective Year 7 2026/2027 Families

On the day, there will be a Principal's Address and free school tours.

Address: 54-72 Pennant Hills Road, Normanhurst, NSW 2076
Phone: +61 2 94891077 **Fax:** +61 2 94895722

Tuesday 26 March 2024

Registration by 10:00 am on
Friday 22 March 2024 is essential!

Register at:
<https://nbhs.nsw.edu.au/open-day-2024/>

Web: normanhurstboys.nsw.edu.au
Email: office@normanhurstboys.nsw.edu.au



St Bernadette's Primary School

St Bernadette's Primary, Dundas Valley is a community focused, Catholic parish school catering for boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 6. The school strives to build a Christ centred community where faith is integrated with daily life. We provide learning and teaching experiences which enable the children to deepen their faith understandings, investigate, solve problems and explore their learning. We recognise the importance of creating a learning environment that provides opportunities to develop 21st century learning. Technology is integrated into the learning at St Bernadette's in all Key Learning Areas.

Address: Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley, 2117 NSW Australia

Phone: 02 8846 2600

Email : dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au