**OUR VISION**
GROWING TOGETHER
Believe ~ Discover ~ Achieve

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**VALUE - Forgiveness**

**FORGIVENESS**
Being forgiving is giving someone another chance after they have done something wrong, knowing that everyone makes mistakes. It is making amends instead of taking revenge. It is important to forgive yourself too. Forgiving yourself means to stop punishing yourself or feeling hopeless because of a mistake. Forgiveness is moving ahead, ready to act differently, with compassion for yourself and faith that you can change.

**Act of Contrition**
Oh my God,
I am very sorry that I have sinned against you,
because you are so good and with your help,
I will not sin again.
Amen

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**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOCUS**
BEING RESPECTFUL

The rule focus this week is about being respectful. Hands off! Feet off! This means interacting appropriately with others. Keeping our hands and feet off treats others the way we want to be treated.

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**A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents

**Staffing News**
I am very aware that parents are anxious to hear about staffing for next year. The arrangements currently finalised are:

- As Mrs Gemma Francis has elected to take another year off to look after her boys.
- Mrs Yvette Rosenfeld will be on maternity leave for Terms 1, 2 and 3, returning in Term 4.
- Mrs Kelly Wiggett is returning to Perth with her family, where she will take up her previous teaching position.
- Mrs Sarah Anderson will be returning to St Monica’s in Term 3 in a part time role of three day per week.

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**Walkathon News**
We made it! Money collected to date from the Walkathon is $15,230. We have a very generous community.

Listed below are the school targets.

**School Targets**

- **$10000 – Heroes Day – Monday 17 November.** The children are to dress as their favourite hero. Suggestions include TV hero, community hero, mum or dad, sports person etc. (Please wear your hat and joggers)
- **$15000- Pyjama Day + Whole School Movie – TBA.**

**Major Prizes**

Mini iPad – Child who raises the most dollars.

Pendo Pad – Lucky draw prize. For every $5 donated a child’s name will be added to the lucky draw prize box.

Last Week’s Class winner was KS and this weeks winner is KM.

**Stop Work Meeting**
On Monday there will be a staff stop work meeting from 8.30am – 9.30am. Supervision will be provided. If possible parents may wish to drop their child/ren off closer to 9.30am when school classes will formally resume. Children arriving after 9.30am will need to be formally signed in by a parent.

**St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal.**
Each year St Monica’s School is a key contributor to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal. This vital appeal provides Christmas supplies for those families and people in our parish that are struggling in many ways this Christmas season. This year our Giving Mass will be held on December 3. As we present our donations to the St Vincent De Paul Society at this Mass, we are commencing our appeal for items early this year. The St Vincent de Paul Conference is always extremely grateful to receive the items sent in. This year they have asked for non-perishable food items e.g. tinned vegetables, beetroot, pineapple, fruit salad, fruit cakes, bottled food items, packets, bottles of juice and fizzy drinks. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser**
All orders are to be returned to school by **Friday 21 November 2014** marked Cookie Dough Fundraiser. The scheduled day for pick-up of orders is **Tuesday 9 December 2014**.
Remembrance Day Poem by Imogen H (5/6C)
To the brave men who fought for us,
Who went to war without a fuss.
Who fought and fought and fought for freedom,
We hope they are accepted in Gods Kingdom.
To make the world a better place,
They have many scars upon their face.
To the daughters, sons, wives and mothers,
Who watched their husbands, sons and brothers.
Go to war against men,
Who wanted the world in the palm of his hand.
Most of them died where the poppies grow,
With each drop of blood they did sow.
Down in Flanders Field where the poppies grow,
To fight for freedom for others,
Their wives, sons, daughters and brothers.
And each year to commemorate their war,
We listen to who they fought for.
On 11th of November every year,
We remember that we no longer live in fear.
We wear our poppies of Flanders Fields,
And listen to how our men would never yield.
We have their strength we have their might,
Their souls forever locked in eternal fight.
We live unto our freedom and choice,
And each of us speak with their voice.
Remember them the men who fought so that we could live in peace and freedom, their graves marked in Flanders Field.

School Uniform Speech by Katie Forrest (2R)
“Today I am speaking about why school uniform is necessary. I think it is necessary because students look Responsible, Respectful and Safe.

They look Responsible because the clothes look neat and tidy, and by wearing the same uniform as other students we are avoiding conflicts between students and no one has to compete with others for better appearances.

Uniforms look Respectful because you are being respectful to the school by wearing a uniform that represents the school. I also believe that wearing the St Monica’s uniform helps students behave better because when you are dressed in school uniform you want your teachers and Principal to be proud of you.

I think students look Safe in school uniform because if they weren’t in school uniform people might think they are not part of our school. If we were on an excursion and someone gets lost at least if they were in school uniform an adult can tell where to return the student to.

I hope you agree that School Uniform is necessary. Thank you for listening.”

Class Structure for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our school structure for 2015 = 19 class groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder x 3 groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3 x 2 groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 x 2 groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teachers will shortly commence planning class groupings for 2015 and will consider the following:

- gender balance;
- learning styles;
- learning difficulties;
- enrichment needs;
- work habits;
- social needs;
- health considerations;
- emotional needs;
- behaviour considerations and other relevant issues.

Once again we will NOT be asking parents to confirm a child’s friendship group prior to developing our class groups. The process became too complicated and time consuming last year due to the various requests and friendship changes that can often occur following a request sheet being submitted.

I would also like to make the following points:

- We aim for an equal spread of both positive and challenging characteristics.
- Every care will be taken to ensure that your child is placed in the best situation to enhance learning and social development.
- Where appropriate, advice will be sought from the Learning Support Teacher, School Counsellor, etc during this process.
- Teachers should already be aware of any issues you have.
- Teachers have the main responsibility for placing their current students in the most appropriate class for next year.
- As Principal, I will make the final decision on all class placements.

As we are in the process of organising staff for 2015, no teacher has been allocated to a class group. We currently have several positions advertised.

Students Leaving St Monica’s
Please advise immediately if you are moving and will not require a place at St Monica’s in 2015. We currently have no vacancies and I have received inquiries from several families wishing to enrol their child/ren next year. Written notification is required.

News from the Library
Thank you to all the families who supported our Book Fair. The proceeds from the Book Fair go straight back into our own library, enabling us to buy more books for borrowing! A big thank you to Kelly Levi and Sam Manning for helping in the Book Fair.

Congratulations to the winners of the Book Fair Raffle:
Isobel C (KM)
Annie R (1D)
Charlie O’D (3K)

Happy reading - Mrs Hind & Miss Osten

School Fees Information
We have designed a calculation sheet to assist you in setting up a Direct Debit arrangement to pay your 2015 school fees. Simply enter the number of children you will have attending St Monica’s in the applicable white box and the sheet will break down the yearly
cost into pay periods for you. There are simple explanations in small text boxes to the right of the sheet to help you.

The calculation sheet can be accessed via the school website, under Publications, Fee Related Information. There are simple instructions on the website regarding how to open the worksheet. To enter information into the worksheet you will be prompted to enter a password which is monica. We trust this will be a valuable tool to assist families in meeting their school fees commitments. Please contact Allison Walsh at the school office should you experience any difficulties using the worksheet.

School Magazine Sponsorship
As the year is drawing to a close we are seeking the support of local businesses to advertise in our annual School Yearbook. Our Yearbook contains photos, events and stories from our students and staff and is a wonderful pictorial representation of the year. The St Monica’s Yearbook is distributed to over 370 families within the school community, in the Belconnen Area, at the end of each school year.

To help subsidise printing costs we are seeking sponsorship from businesses in the form of advertising. If you or anyone you know would like to advertise in our 2014 Yearbook please email your advertisement (PDF) or phone the school if you require more information.

Advertising in our school yearbook (All prices are GST Inclusive).
Details are as follows:
Outside Back Cover  A4  $ 300.00
Inside Front Cover  A4  $ 250.00
Inside Back Cover  A4  $ 250.00
Full Page  A4  $ 150.00
Half Page  A4  $ 90.00
Quarter Page  $ 60.00

The 2014 yearbook will be sent out the week beginning 15 December.
Deadline for inclusion is Friday 28 November 2014.

All advertisements need to be in electronic form - PDF please. Another option is through financial sponsorship where your business name will be listed with other businesses that have provided financial support.

If you require further information please do not hesitate in contacting Allison Walsh at allison.walsh@cg.catholic.edu.au.

Nominations for Community Council Executive Membership – Overlooked sending this information last week.
On Monday a call for a nomination for the Community Council will be sent to families, via our School App, and will also be available on our website.
The St Monica’s School Community Council is an important part of the partnership between home and school. Due to constitutional requirements council members, who have completed a two year term of office must be renominated should they wish to stand again.

This year Jayne Murray, Evan Thomas, Megan Scott and Louise Dykes complete their first 2 year term of office. While they are all happy to be renominated by members of the community they acknowledge that there may be other parents who may be interested. In the event we receive more than the number of places available we must conduct an election. I encourage families to read the information to be sent home on Monday and consider if this is something that may interest you.

KidsMatter a new St Monica’s Initiative

When children are exposed to challenging circumstances without receiving adequate support, they may experience distress and have difficulty coping. Children who experience multiple stressors – such as family breakdown, lack of academic success, parental mental illness, bullying, parental substance abuse, living in poverty or experiencing racism – are more likely to develop emotional or behavioural problems that can continue to affect their mental health into adulthood.

Currently in Australia nearly one in five people are affected by a mental illness in any one year, and the effects of mental illness are felt across our nation.

It is not always possible to predict which children will develop mental health difficulties, so programs need to target all children, with support ranging from teaching skills for emotional wellbeing to specific mental health interventions. It is now recognised that at least one in seven children will have significant mental health difficulties with serious associated problems at some time during their childhood.

Please visit the KidsMatter website for more information and helpful hints.

Looking for a Fundraising Coordinator
The Community Council are seeking a Fundraising Coordinator to plan and assist with our fundraising ventures in 2015. The Fete, Trivia Night and the Walkathon have their own coordinators so don’t think this is an onerous role! The Fundraising Coordinator works with a small committee of volunteers and prepares a Fundraising Plan for the school year to ensure our fundraising ventures are evenly spaced out. The Fundraising Coordinator liaises with the Coordinators of the Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day Stalls and assists with rallying volunteers and organising trestle tables and floats if necessary. The Fundraising Coordinator generally ensures that our fundraising ventures run smoothly. Our current Fundraising Coordinator is happy to do a hand-over with our new
volunteer and will pass over a folder filled with ideas for fundraisers and can provide templates of documents as well.

2015 Year 5 & 6 Camp - Reminder

Permission notes (all green notes) should now have been returned as we must notify Cooba of numbers attending plus any special dietary needs. Notes are also available on the school web and via the school app under excursions. If you have any questions please contact Mr Patrick Ellis (Coordinator).

God Bless

Carmel Maguire
Principal

RE NEWS

Sacrament of Reconciliation
The students of Yr 3 and Parish School of Religion are nearing the end of their preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please keep these children, their families and teachers in your prayers. This is a big step in our faith journey.


Times for reconciliation: Tuesday 18 November, Wednesday 19 November from 6:00pm-7:30pm.

Please remember that this is a sacred time and that an atmosphere of prayer should prevail in the church. It is not a time for conversation whilst you are waiting for your child or indeed another child to receive the Sacrament. Fr Warrick will be seated down near the Baptismal font. Please sit in the main body of the church to give some privacy to the moment.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Nov</td>
<td>12.15pm-1pm</td>
<td>School Assembly 4LD &amp; Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18, 19, 20 Nov</td>
<td>6pm-7pm</td>
<td>First Reconciliation Evenings – Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Nov</td>
<td>12.30pm-1pm</td>
<td>School Prayer 4M &amp; Value Awards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AWARDS, PRIZES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUE</th>
<th>CLASS AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forgiveness</td>
<td>Teacher’s Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOR</td>
<td>Tomas G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Scarlett Mc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Chloe P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Lucano P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Joshua R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Ella B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Annabel L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Jack H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2D</td>
<td>William G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3K</td>
<td>Renee S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Nathan F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3RG</td>
<td>Johnny R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Tara K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4LD</td>
<td>Adrian M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5M</td>
<td>Ethan L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5E</td>
<td>Ebony T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Martin H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Erin C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6WS</td>
<td>Madeleine C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M&M Star Medallions – Jessica K (1D), Owen L (1D), Joseph O (1D), Lachlan S (3F), Katie H (3RG), Halle F (3RG), Ava J (3RG)

Happy Birthday to the following children who are celebrating birthdays this week.

Year 1    Jasper M, Samuel G
Year 2    Sophie H,
Year 3    Hannah B, Emily C, Rocio F
Year 4    Coby W
Year 5    Jacob C
Year 6    Jayden G

K-2 Swim and Survive Program
Gungahlin Leisure Centre Swimming Program
Week 5: Tuesday November 11th to Friday November 14th
Week 6: Tuesday November 18th to Friday November 21st

Parenting Ideas – Michael Grose
This year we have taken out a subscription with Parentingideas. Our subscription gives us access to a range of Parent Tip Sheets and the Parentingideas Magazine. Please visit our Website under the Publications tab – Parenting Ideas http://stmonicas.act.edu.au/publications/parentingideas.html for access to material uploaded to date.
Flexi Schools online ordering system is available for placing lunch orders. **New to Flexi Schools** – If your child has a lunch wallet you can select the option on the menu so a paper bag is not required.

The Roster for Term 4, Week 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</th>
<th>Late 11:30am - 2:30pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MONDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/11/14</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/11/14</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/11/14</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sonia Musolino</td>
<td>Sonia Musolino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/11/14</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
<td>Assunta Tammaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/11/14</td>
<td>Lisa Simpson</td>
<td>Jan Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wilma Hird</td>
<td>Marie Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tanya Bridges</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please Keep In Mind:

* Help needed with the above VACANCIES.
~ Swap your shift if you can’t make your rostered day.
New faces greatly appreciated at any time.

**Thank you - Samantha Manning**

**ROAD SAFETY ALERT!**

As a community initiative, local Elders Real Estate consultants, Mark Johnstone and Mick Barlow are providing road safety stickers (30cm X 36cm) for placement on the side of your wheelie bin. It is a prominent message to drivers to *SLOW DOWN, KIDS AROUND*. Each week on garbage collection day, the message is made clear in our streets close to where our children walk and play.

To receive your free sticker, call Mark on 0414 382 093 or email mark@eldersbelconnen.com.au, or alternatively, Mick on 0409 560 539 or email mick@eldersbelconnen.com.au.

**Community Council Email Address**

**Council Email Address** – this was established to allow parents to let us know areas of concern that they feel need addressing. As a Community Council we can only represent you if we know what is on your mind and as many of the council and you work, this address is just another avenue of contact. Council.StMonicas@cq.catholic.edu.au

The email will be checked regularly by Louise Dykes, Council Executive Secretary. We look forward to hearing from you.

**MILO in2CRICKET**

MILO in2CRICKET Programs are ideal for boys and girls aged 5-10 years. Programs run all across the ACT and NSW, if you are keen to get involved and register your child please visit http://www.in2cricket.com.au or contact liz.mcpherson@cricketact.com.au

**Parenting for Character**

Dr Andrew Mullins has taught humanities in Australian secondary schools for over 25 years, leading to his interest in presenting ideas to help you raise your child. Andrew offers practical guidelines to develop good character and build positive habits for life. St Francis Xavier College is hosting this event for parents, carers and teachers on Tuesday 25 November 2014 between 7.30pm-9.15pm at St Francis Xavier College HUB Barnard Circuit Florey. RSVP by 18 November 2014, canberra.bookings@gmail.com.

**ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme**

The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme can provide ACT residents on low incomes with financial support for students in Years 7-10. Application forms are available online at http://www.det.act.gov.au/schooleducation/startingschool/financialassistance for families. If you require further information please telephone 6205 8262.

**THE JOURNEY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE**

The Journey Through Adolescence program for parents of Adolescents will be offered by CatholicCare commencing WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 2014 from 6-9pm at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill. The course is run over 3 weeks and the fee of $50 includes course materials and supper. This course is suitable for parents of children in Primary Years 5 & 6 and Secondary School Years 7-12. Bookings are essential. Please contact 61626100.