Learning Conversations - Years 1-6
Next week, we are conducting Learning Conversations to enable you and your child to set learning goals with their class teacher for Semester I. All families are expected to attend. In preparation for the Learning Conversations parents are also asked to take the time to discuss goal setting with their child/ren.

Before the Learning Conversation, think about:
- What are two strengths/stars I see my child as having?
- What is one area (your wish) that they need to work more on?
- What are we (or can we be) doing at home to help with this?
- Talk to them and celebrate all the wonderful things they have achieved.

Then during the Learning Conversation:
- Listen and ask questions of your child, not the teacher.
- Ask who, what, where, why, now what?
- Give supportive feedback to your child.
- Promise to support your child’s goals and their action plan.

SMOOSH BOOKINGS are currently closed for Monday to Thursday as we have reached our capacity. Please discuss the possibility of any future openings with Miss Bec Perry, our Director. Casual booking are currently closed for those days as well.

Kinder Interviews
Kinder parents are invited to attend a parent/teacher interview, next week, to discuss how your child has settled into school. The interview will provide time for you to share more about your child with their teacher.

Vomiting and Diarrhoea Outbreak
There have been several children sick with a vomiting and diarrhoea illness. If your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms - abdominal pain, nausea, fever vomiting, diarrhoea or fatigue, can you please seek medical advice and exclude them from school until they are well again as this type of infection is highly contagious. The symptoms usually occur between two to five days after an exposure. Symptoms may last for up to two weeks. Parents please assist us by reminding your children of the importance of washing their hands after going to the toilet.
Each class has been issued with a bottle of hand sanitiser for the children to wash their hands.

**Parent Information**

To ensure our parental information and emergency details are correct, each child will receive a family datasheet **this week**. Please check the details and return to your class teacher. As we are very keen to do away with paper copies of the newsletter by the end of this term, ensure your email address is recorded accurately. A paper copy of the newsletter will be available on request for families with limited access to the internet.

**Staffing News**

This week I am attending the annual Archdiocesan Principals’ retreat which goes until Friday. In my absence please refer any concerns to Mrs Marylou Gorham.

**Health Checks for Kindergarten Children in 2013**

The Women Youth & Children, Community Health Program offers a health check for all Kindergarten children in the ACT. The Health questionnaire containing an information letter to parents was sent home with your Kindergarten child last week. All questionnaires are to be **returned to the school** in the envelope provided by **Friday 8 March 2013**. The medical checks are scheduled to occur for St Monica’s at the commencement of Term 3.

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**Preparation for Fete Day**

23 March 2013

**Reminders**

**Celebrating Our History**

Dress up day for Canberra’s Birthday

To highlight the theme and the birthday of Canberra we will be holding an olden days dress up day on Friday 8 March. The children are encouraged to dress up as early Canberrans – famers, storekeepers, nurses, teachers, drovers. Suggested clothes – jeans, checked shirt, shorts, braces, long skirt and shirt. Designing the costume should not be stressful – casual clothes will be just fine – All children must wear their joggers and should not forget a hat!

Tombola Stall

On 8 March and in preparation for the fete, the children will be asked to donate a bottle/container **(no glass) of goodies that will be used as prizes on the Tombola Stall. (This is the cost for dressing up to celebrate Canberra Day). We would love to see a creative response to this request, eg container of hair ties, colourful erasers, jam, chutney, sauces.

Year Level Themed Baskets

It is a longstanding tradition that each year group fill a basket with goodies to be raffled at the fete. Each child is asked to bring in an item to help fill the **washing** basket.

Each grade has a particular theme, please be as creative as you would like.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade and Theme</th>
<th>Suggestions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder - House and Garden</td>
<td>Gloves, seeds, chux etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 - Party items</td>
<td>Party bags, hats, small toys, candles etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 - Easter</td>
<td>Easter eggs, stickers, toys, activly books, stories etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 - Pets</td>
<td>Dry biscuits, balls, pet toys etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 - Bath/Beauty products</td>
<td>Soap, bubble bath, face washers etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 - Stationary</td>
<td>Pencils, pads, stickers etc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 - Sweet Surprise</td>
<td>Packets of lollies etc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Raffle Tickets**

Fete raffle ticket books were distributed to families last week. If you would like additional books to sell they are available from front office.

**Book Stall**

Last week’s class winner for donating the highest number of books was 4M with 153 books. Each Friday the teachers tally the number of books donated. The winning class group is treated to a treat from the Canteen. Who will be this week’s winner?

**School Banking**

School banking occurs on Monday afternoons. The school will receive $5 when a student makes their first School Banking deposit plus a commission of 5% on every deposit made (up to $10 per individual deposit). The rewards available to students are wallets, handballs, money boxes, knuckles games, torches, calculators and headphones. Enrolment forms are available from the front office.

**2013 ICT Student Access Agreement**

All forms should be received. Where a child has not returned a form they will not be permitted to access the computers at school. Replacement forms can be found in our website under Publications – Forms and Notes.

**WORKING WITH VULNERABLE PEOPLE Act**

The Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011 (the Act) commenced on **8 November 2012**. Even though we all have until 7 November this year to be registered, the Catholic Education Office wishes all volunteers to be registered as soon as possible. It would be wonderful if this could be done by the commencement of Term 2.

There is **no cost for volunteers**. A form is located via the link found on our Publication page on our School Website. When filling in the details please write ‘The Principal as the school contact and office.stmonicas@cg.catholic.edu.au

**God bless**

Carmel Maguire
Principal
Pope Benedict XVI

February 28 marks the last day of Pope Benedict’s leadership of the Catholic Church. This is a new road that we travel from tomorrow onwards.

In his last address Pope Benedict said:

“In these last months I have felt that my strength had diminished and I asked God earnestly in prayer to enlighten me with His light to make me make the right decision, not for my own good, but for the good of the Church. I have taken this step in full awareness of its seriousness and also its newness, but with a profound peace of mind. Loving the Church also means having the courage to make difficult, agonised choices, always keeping in mind the good of the Church, not of oneself….I also thank each and every one of you for the respect and understanding with which you have received this important decision. I will continue to accompany the Church’s journey through prayer and reflection, with the dedication to which you have received this task, and for the new Successor of the Apostle Peter. May the Lord accompany him with the light and strength of His Spirit… Thank You”

We thank him for his leadership and pray for the Spirit’s guidance in the selection of his Successor.

Sacramental Programs First Eucharist

Home Group 1: 21 Feb- 1 March
Home Group 2: 4 March-8 March
First Holy Communion Weekend: 6 April 6:00pm, 7 April 10:00 am St Monica’s Church

ST MONICA’S SPORT NEWS

Swimming Carnival and Entries

Permission forms are due back ASAP and our request for parental assistance. As our schedule of competitive events falls in line with the ACT School Sports Association only competent Year 2 students, turning 8 this year, (born 2005) are permitted to attend. I apologise for omitting this critical piece of information in last week’s newsletter.

Carnival Date - Thursday 7 March 2013

Presentation of Ribbons

Last year, due to concerns raised as to inconsistency with who received a competitive ribbon following a carnival, the Council Executive approved the following decision:-

Ribbons will be only awarded for the 1st – 3rd overall place winners in the age groups 8 years and over. This is in line with all PSSA qualifying events in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals. Ribbons will no longer be given for heats.

Laurie Daley & Mel Meninga Cup

Good luck to all the boys who are participating at the rugby league competitions next Wednesday. St Monica’s are entering two teams in the Mal Meninga Cup (Years 3 and 4) and three teams in the Laurie Daly Shield (Years 5 and 6).

AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUES</th>
<th>CLASS AWARDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESPECT</td>
<td>RELIGION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRG</td>
<td>Nellie B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Cole A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Jessica K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Annie W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1K</td>
<td>Anthony F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Katherine B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2F</td>
<td>Samantha H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Charlie B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2DH</td>
<td>William A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Jack F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Brooke A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4F</td>
<td>Samuel V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Samuel H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Sophie A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5D</td>
<td>Ryan W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Nikola J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Rachael T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Lillia B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6AS</td>
<td>Nenah B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M&M Star Medallion

Joven M in 3F and Sarah R in 3/4F

PARISH NEWS

Adult Faith Education “Drawn Into the Mystery” The Gospel According to John – A series of five talks by Fr Warrick will be held during Lent commencing Thursday 21 February 2013. Times – 10.30am-12pm, 7.30pm-9.00pm. Venue is St Monica’s Church Meeting Room. The sessions are as follows:

1. Introduction to John (Background Issues) (Jn. 1:1-18).
3. The Book of Signs – Revelation of Glory to the World” (Jn. 6:35 12:50) (Four Texts).


Concluding Comments. Cost per session – gold coin donation.
Special Award
Thomas Southwell (6AS) was awarded a very special award at the 2013 Canberra Show in the Champion Garden Produce – Best in Student Section. Well done Thomas.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Leadership Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Mar</td>
<td>12.30pm</td>
<td>Prayer Time – 5D &amp; Value Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Mar</td>
<td>12.00-12.30pm</td>
<td>Canberra 100 Assembly Canberra's 100th Birthday - Dress Up Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Happy Birthday to the following children who are celebrating birthdays for the coming week.

Kinder: Allen F, Samuel C, Kostya B, Riley H
Year 1: Matthew P
Year 2: Halle F, Renee S, Katie H, Taeya H, Lachlan F
Year 4: Gabrielle N, Charlie C
Year 6: Abby U

CLASS CONTACT NETWORK

Calling for class contacts - parents who are interested in being a parent contact for their child’s class.
It works effectively when there are 2-3 contacts for each class as there are more hands and brains to complete the few tasks that need to be done.
The role involves:
• being a contact (via email is often a good way) for other parents in your child’s class if they are unsure of sports dates, permission notes etc.
• assisting in the organisation of class/year group or stage level events (bowling, picnic, afternoon tea etc.) during the year.
• helping build community spirit.
• welcoming new parents to your child’s class.
• assisting with the organisation of a special Mother’s Day Morning Tea.

Parents who have volunteered so far:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Parent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KRG</td>
<td>Fiona Steinberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM, Yr 1</td>
<td>Chantal Green, Marita Whitfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Charlyne Ross</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CANTEEN CORNER

Just a reminder that special lunch order forms for K-2 Cool Lunch on Thursday 7 March 2013 are due back by Monday 4 March 2013. Our canteen menu is on our school website. Just a reminder to new parents of Kindergarten children Flexi Schools online ordering system is available for placing lunch orders.

The Roster for Next Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Early 9.15 am – 11.45 am</th>
<th>Late 11.30 am – 2.30 pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY 4.3.13</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 5.3.13</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 6.3.13</td>
<td>Sonia Mussollino</td>
<td>Rose Clifton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 7.3.13</td>
<td>Emma Shea</td>
<td>Assunta Tammaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 8.3.13</td>
<td>Jan Lee</td>
<td>Jan Lee</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

GENERAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Bringing Up Great Kids course commences 27 February 2013 at Catholic Care Red Hill from 6-9pm over 4 weeks.
If you would like to gain insight and skills that promote the development of your child’s identity and a positive parent-child relationship, contact Gail Caragh on 61626122.
The cost for the course materials and supper is $60, (concessions available).

Bedwetting Programme
Based on Sydney Children’s Hospital Programme. Suitable for children from 5 years of age. Margaret O’Donovan Physiotherapist, Level 2, City Plaza Building, 222 City Walk, Canberra City. Enquiries 62485066.

National Gallery of Australia is holding a Sculpture Garden Sunday family day on 3 March 2013 – 10.30am-1.30pm. Free entry, bring a picnic to share under the trees, coffee and sausage sizzle available, art workshops and installations, local bands.
This event is subject to weather conditions.

Come and play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2013
Online Registration now open on club website at http://belconnencats afl.com.au or attend Registration Day Saturday March 2 at Belconnen Labour Club
Existing and new players who sign up at Rego Day will receive a free AFL football. All New players will receive a
free uniform upon payment of fees. For more info check club website or ring Nicole Thorne ph 0419486082.