VALUE -Cooperation

What is Cooperation?
Cooperation is working together for the good of everyone. It is a willingness to respect others and to follow rules which keep everyone safe and happy. Cooperation is being helpful to one another, sharing the load. It is joining others in order to do something that cannot be done alone. When we cooperate, we can do great things. © 2000 The Values Project Linda Kavelin Popov.

A Prayer For Cooperation
Father, we pray for a spirit of cooperation and eagerness to contribute to the needs of the whole body, so that Your Church is built not just with sweat, bricks, and mortar but with love, care, and teamwork.

Therefore we go forth in unity and purpose as we do our part in building each other up in the various natural giftings and learned skills you have given us as we strive for unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God. Amen.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOCUS
Staying safe inside the school boundary

The rule focus is 'Stay in Bounds'. Being safe means staying within the school boundaries and staying out of the school building before school and during Recess and Lunch.

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

‘CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTION OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION TO CANBERRA’

The importance of marking Canberra's Centenary year and celebrating the contribution of Catholic education to the history of the ACT was the focus of a special Mass held yesterday at St Christopher's Cathedral in Manuka.

Monsignor John Woods, Archdiocesan Administrator was the Chief Celebrant for the Mass. Close to 600 Catholic school Principals, staff, student leaders as well as Catholic Education Office staff and local clergy marked the Centenary year by attending the Mass to highlight the importance of strong relationships between families, parishes and schools as well as links with the wider community. Thank you to James W(6B) and Thomas G(6B) for being our school representatives at this special Mass.

The Director of Catholic Education Moira Najdecki says this year's Centenary invites Catholic schools to celebrate the value of “community” and affirm its presence as a central player in Canberra’s history.

"Catholic schools have shown since the first Catholic school, St Christopher’s, opened in 1928 that they develop strong relationships between families, parishes and schools and in doing so enrich the school learning environment.

"Catholic school communities are also outward-focused and recognise their valued partnerships with the wider community in a spirit of service and welcome,” Mrs Najdecki said.

The Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher shared in the celebration along with a number of other high profile local and federal politicians including the Minister for Education Joy Burch, thus recognising the important role Catholic education plays in the ACT.

Special Prayers
Please keep the following families in your prayers as they grieve the loss of a relative. Mrs Lynne Sydney whose mother passed away last Saturday. The Fulivi family whose grandfather Sitaleki Fulivai passed away suddenly on 1 March 2013 and the Hawke family who lost their grandfather last weekend.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.

Learning Conversations - Years 1-6 and Kinder Interviews
Thank you to all the families who have been able to attend their child’s learning conversation or Kinder interview. Miss Kenniff and Mrs Sydney will advise early next week when they will be conducting their appointments.
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. No casual booking are available.

St Monica’s Fun Day of Maths
Wednesday 13 March 2013

Our Whole School Maths Focus

The Greatest Difference -
To add fun to working with numbers on Wednesday 12 March the children are being encouraged to wear a T-Shirt or an item of clothing that has a number on it. It may be a football shirt, a basketball shirt, just a shirt with a number. Please encourage your students to wear normal school uniform with only the item of clothing with the number being changed. It doesn’t matter if they don’t have a shirt with a number, you could tape a number on the back or add an old birthday badge – it is meant to be a fun activity. Each class will be asked to order the numbers and work out the difference between the highest number and the smallest number.

Parent Information Data Sheets
Thanks you to all the parents who have returned their forms – we have lot of data to update. If you have not sent your form back please do so ASAP.

Health Checks for Kindergarten Children in 2013
Last Call -. All questionnaires are to be returned to the school in the envelope provided by Tuesday 12 March 2013. We are expecting the nurse to collect the forms in the coming week.

Preparation for Fete Day
23 March 2013

Reminders

Celebrating Our History

Year Level Themed Baskets
Our raffle baskets are really looking fabulous. Donations are still being accepted.

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, activity 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 - Stationery</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

Urgent - All fete raffle ticket books are now due back. Please ensure you return all sold and unsold books to the school as soon as possible.

Cakes/Sweets Stall at Fete – no more Ingredients required
A big thank you from Michelle Mason for all the wonderful donations of baking ingredients for the Cake/Sweet Stall. We now have enough ingredients.

Book Stall
Last week’s class winner for donating the highest number of books was 2J with 125 books. This week’s winner is 3/4F with 292 books. Don’t forget 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 nextweek’s winner?

White Elephant Stall
The hall will be open between 2.00pm-4.00pm on Saturday and Sunday, over the long weekend, for donations for the White Elephant stall for the fete.

NAPLAN
This year NAPLAN tests will be conducted at St Monica’s in Years 3 and 5 early in Term 2. The tests are conducted across three days and the timetable for testing is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tuesday 14 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 15 May</th>
<th>Friday 16 May</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>50 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
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</tbody>
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All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments which reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions, or who has recently arrived in Australia and is from a non-English speaking background.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or the ACT testing authority for more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption should that be your wish.

Schoolwide Positive Behaviours (SWPB)
Many of the children at St Monica’s are walking around wearing maroon and white armbands. You may be wondering what is this all about?

In 2012 St Monica’s began the implementation of Schoolwide Positive Behaviours. The St Monica’s Student Wellbeing and
Behaviour Management system is based on the Schoolwide Positive Behaviours framework.

Improving student academic and behaviour outcomes is about ensuring all students have access to the most effective and accurately implemented instructional and behavioural practices and interventions possible. SWPB provides an operational framework for achieving these outcomes. More importantly, SWPB is not a curriculum, intervention or practice but is a decision making framework that guides selection, integration and implementation of the best evidence-based academic and behavioural practices for improving important academic and behaviour outcomes for all students. SWPB emphasises four integrated elements:

- **Data** for decision making
- **Measurable outcomes** supported and evaluated by data
- **Practices** with evidence that these outcomes are achievable
- **Systems** that efficiently and effectively support implementation of these practices.

In order to recognise positive behaviours, the teachers at St Monica’s conducted a competition to design a token that would acknowledge positive behaviours at school. A student designed our token, called M and M’s (Monica’s Medallion). Students are rewarded M and M’s from the staff for displaying positive behaviours eg remaining within the school boundaries. Once a student has obtained 5 tokens they trade them all for one maroon band. When a student has achieved 5 maroon bands they trade them for a white band. When they have achieved 3 white bands they trade then for a gold medallion. So in 2013 we now have many students wearing armbands and quite a few who have achieved a medallion! Well done to all our students.

**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”

**Tutoring**
From time to time parents look to following up learning at school with tutoring. While this avenue is a parent’s decision I strongly recommend you speak with your child’s teacher or I before you embark on this costly option. At all times we want to work with families to provide your child with learning opportunities that meet a child’s needs.

Recently I was approached by The Australian Academy of Maths and English, who have established a tutoring school in McKellar. Due to the locality and the offer of two tutoring scholarships I was prepared to distribute their brochure. From time to time people ask staff to recommend a tutor of tutoring service. It is not our practice to promote a program therefore I am very interested to hear from any of our families who use The Australian Academy of Maths and English tutoring service. I understand they use a program developed by Kinetic Education which has a major focus on Maths.

If you would like your child to be considered for a tutoring scholarship complete the tear off section in the brochure accompanying this newsletter and return by Friday 14 March.

If you would like to find out more visit www.youcandomaths.com.au

**School Banking**
Due to Monday being a Public Holiday for Canberra Day, school banking for next week will be on **Tuesday 12 March 2013**.

**World Book Online**
I encourage families to explore this valuable resource at home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Login ID:</th>
<th>smpsm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Password:</td>
<td>home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

God bless and enjoy your long weekend

**Carmel Maguire**
Principal

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**RE NEWS**

**Sacramental Programs First Eucharist**
Home Group 2: 4 March-8 March
Preparation Day 3 April
First Holy Communion Weekend: 6 April 6:00pm, 7 April 10:00 am St Monica’s Church
Don’t forget the Sacrament of Reconciliation- available 4:30pm-5:30pm Saturdays in St Monica’s Church.
If you have any inquiries please feel free to contact Fr Warrick Tonkin -62583212 or Carmel Rheinberger- 62585105.

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**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:


**Second Rites of Reconciliation**
The Lenten Second Rites of Reconciliation for the Belconnen Region will be celebrated on the following dates: **Tuesday 12 March at 7.30pm – St Matthew’s, Page and Tuesday 19 March at 7.30pm – St Monica’s, Evatt.**
Congratulations to Mrs Kath Watson, Mrs Sarah Anderson and the swimming committee on the fabulous organisation of the swimming carnival. The children all had a wonderful time and we very much appreciate the assistance of parents. The children displayed real sportsmanship.

Our 2013 winning team is Buru, receiving 243 points, and the Spirit Award goes to Walga.

**Presentation of Swimming Ribbons**
Ribbons will be presented next Friday 15 March at our Assembly. **Ribbons will be only be 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**
Congratulations to the two Year 3 & 4 and three Year 5 & 6 rugby league teams who competed at the Mal Meninga Cup and Laurie Daley Shield carnival. I was very impressed with the skill level shown and most importantly pleased to see such great teamwork and good sportsmanship displayed throughout the games. Many thanks to David Whalan, Steve May, William Cummins and Andrew Mills for coaching the teams. Thank you to the parents who cheered the children on the day, set up the magnificent shade structure or assisted with transportation. Well done to St Monica’s Team A in both the Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6 divisions who have made it through to the finals day. Good luck! (Matthew Smith) Thanks also to Mr Matthew Smith for his coordination.

**Catholic Soccer Carnival**
During this week we received notification that all entries for our 6 teams had been accepted. Next week Mrs Lustica will be announcing teams and sending home a note regarding training session to be held after school in Week 7.

### EVENTS AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Mar</td>
<td>12-1pm</td>
<td>Canberra 100 Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Canberra Day Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sabbath Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Mar</td>
<td>12.30-1.00pm</td>
<td>Prayer Time – 5/6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Mar</td>
<td>12.30pm</td>
<td>Assembly &amp; Awards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- Kinder: Dion W, Ryan K, Emma B
- Year 2: Tamika S
- Year 3: Paige W
- Year 4: Christopher M
- Year 5: Nathaniel Mc
- Year 6: Elida S, Sophie F, Charlie M, Thomas E

### 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 to complete the few tasks that need to be done. If this sounds like something you would like to do please contact me as soon as possible, so we can get the social side of school life happening. Please send an email via the office.

Parents who have volunteered so far:

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

Urgently seeking volunteers!!
Special thanks to all the wonderful helpers who helped with the Special Lunch Day yesterday. Our canteen menu is on our school website. Just a reminder to new parents of Kindergarten children, our Flexi Schools online ordering system is available for placing lunch orders.

The Roster for Next Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early</th>
<th>Late</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>9.15 am – 11.45 am</td>
<td>11.30 am – 2.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.3.13</td>
<td>Canberra Day</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.3.13</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.3.13</td>
<td>Emma Shea</td>
<td>Maxine Batho</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14.3.13</td>
<td>Natalie Larkins</td>
<td>Natalie Larkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td></td>
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<td>15.3.13</td>
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</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

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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.

Come and play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2013
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.

Understanding Change, Loss and Grief
This three hour seminar is an education program which aims to build resilience in adults who are also seeking to deepen their general understanding of the nature and impact of change, loss and grief on their lives – Sunday 24 March 2013 – 2.00pm-5.00pm, cost $15.00, venue Holy Spirit Parish Meeting Room, Burdekin St in Amaroo. To register your interest in attending contact Anne Gilfelt -email Anne.Gilfelt@cg.catholic.edu.au or phone 0408 767 881.