**VALUE - Friendship**

Friendliness

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you...You are my friends if you do what I command”... Jn 15:12-14

Why should we practice Friendliness?

Friendliness keeps you and others from feeling lonely or left out. It helps people feel that they belong. When something good or bad happens, it feels good to share it with a friend. Friendships don’t just happen - they are made by people who are willing to be themselves with each other.

**A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents and Carers

What beautiful weather we enjoyed over the Easter break. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. I would like to thank all the teachers for preparing our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. The liturgies provided the children and families with a wonderfully prayerful celebration of the special events of Easter.

**First Communion**


We congratulate them on their hard work and preparation for this special occasion.

**It's a Boy**

Kai K (6AS) and Paige S (3H) have a new baby brother Finn born on Fete Day, 23 March 2013. Congratulations. We all looking forward to meeting the new addition to the family.

**Cross County Carnival – Monday**

The forecast for Monday is looking good for our Cross County Carnival. All children must return their permission note indicating that families have received the details regarding the carnival. A copy of the permission note can be found on our website under Publications:Notes.

To assist families the following arrangements, in line with our agreed policy, will occur regarding the distribution of stickers and ribbons

- Stickers will be issued, on the day, for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th place winners with an “I did my best” sticker issued to all other race competitors.
- Ribbons will be issued at school on Friday at our Assembly for PSSA identified events ie 8 years and above.
- No ribbons will be given for the 5 to 7 yr old age groups.

To enter the spirit of the day the Kindergarten children will enjoy a Kinder Fun Run.

**CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL CANTEEN PRICELIST**

Below is a list and the price of the items being sold at the Cross Country Carnival on Monday 8 April.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Macs Sausage Roll</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Macs Steak Pie</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sauce Portion</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpys (assorted flavours)</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lolly Bags</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quench Drinks (assorted flavours)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anacondas</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chomp Bars</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Various individual lollies may be available on the day.

**Chicken Pox**

We have been advised that several children have Chicken Pox. Please monitor your child’s health closely.
School Holiday Program
The first week of our school holiday program is booked out with only a few places available in Week 2. Please contact the SMOOSH Office ASAP should you wish to secure a place.

SMOOSH BOOKINGS are still 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 bookings are available.

Student Exception Requests
In early 2012 under the Education Act 2004 ACT, resident students (6-17 years of age) who were seeking to be absent from school for a period of five school weeks or greater were required to apply for an Exemption Certificate. The ACT Education and Training Directorate (the Directorate) have informed us that they are changing these requirements as outlined below.

After reviewing the application process the Directorate has determined that exemption certificates for travel and student exchange no longer require approval by the Directorate. From 1 March 2013 exemption certificates are therefore no longer required for ACT resident students who are:

- travelling, including for extended periods of 25 days or more
- undertaking an overseas student exchange, including for periods of 25 days or more.

Exemption certificates are still required for students of compulsory school age (between 6 and 17 years of age) for the purposes of:

- an exemption from the full-time participation requirement due to health issues
- undertaking an apprenticeship/traineeship
- part-time training/part-time work
- part-time education/part-time work
- full-time employment/graduated return to work

School Fees
School Fee accounts are now overdue unless you pay by instalments - Bpay, eftpos, credit card, cheque or cash. We currently have over $100 000 still owing in fees for this term; reminders were sent home today. If any family is experiencing difficulty meeting their commitment please make an appointment to discuss how I may be able to assist you. Families who received remissions last year must apply to renew the agreement for 2013. All Fee Remission requests go to the Council’s Executive Fee Committee for approval.

Following an audit of our outstanding fee issues we have been advised to engage the use of a collection agency where an account continues to rise and no reasonable explanation is given for an outstanding fee account. Should you have concerns regarding your fees please make an appointment to meet with me as soon as possible.

School Supervision
Students should not arrive at school before 8.30am. We have too many students arriving as early as 8.10am. Please understand that these children are NOT SUPERVISED. Students who are arriving prior to 8.30am are instructed to sit in the courtyard until the teacher on duty arrives. Where a student arrives early on a regular basis, the family will be required to arrange a booking with SMOOSH.

Afternoon supervision concludes at 3.30pm. It is imperative that children are picked up by 3.30pm as supervision after this time is very difficult. Teachers are often required to attend meetings and our Office staff have finished work at 3.30pm.

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>Tuesday 14 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 15 May</th>
<th>Friday 16 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing - 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing - 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMINDER TO ALL VOLUNTEERS - 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

Should you be unsure of what is required or if you are able to help in the classroom please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher or call into the office.

God bless

Carmel Maguire
Principal

Easter
Happy Easter everyone! I hope your Easter break was filled with the joy of the risen Christ. Last Thursday the students and children travelled a very prayerful road to Calvary. Yr 5 and 6 presented a solemn and prayerful Stations of the Cross. Thank you to all involved in the presentation of the Easter Story. Last Thursday we left Jesus buried in the tomb. Yesterday Year 2 completed the journey for us, Jesus is truly risen.
First Holy Communion
Yesterday the children from Year 4 and the Parish School of Religion gathered for a preparation day. We attended Mass and then practised for the ceremony. After morning tea we completed a film strip of the Last Supper and the special treat for the day was a pizza lunch. A big thank you, to Fr Warrick, Mrs Hay and Ms Larkins for their help. The children are very excited and looking forward to the weekend. Please continue to keep them in your prayers. A Final Reminders note went home yesterday. Please note arrival times for each Mass are as follows: Saturday 6 April 5:40pm, Sunday 7 April 9:40am.
Sashes: I decided not to send the sashes home- they will be available in the Meeting Room of the Church prior to each Mass. Your child needs to come to the room to gather for the Entrance Procession- Fr Warrick will bless First Communion pins at this time.

First Communion Masses:
Saturday 6 April 6:00pm and Sunday 7 April 10:00am

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Community Council Executive Report
Well, it is hard to believe that the first term of the school year is nearly over, with only 6 teaching days left for the staff and students. What a busy term it has been for all of us, with so much going on and once again another successful St Monica’s fete. Thank you to everyone who has made Term One a wonderful start to the academic year.

Community Council Executive has this term held two meetings, the first one was held after the Open Meeting and was the first time all the members of Executive got to meet each other and put their hands up for a position. I was lucky enough to score the position of Chair unopposed and hence I get to write a little something for the newsletter, which reflects back over what we have been discussing at the Community Council Meetings.

Email – this has been discussed at both meetings to date, as students in Years 3 to 6 have access to email via St Monica’s student network. The use of this email by students is a shared responsibility, it is provided to them via a secure portal by the Catholic Education system. However, it is essential that we as parents and the staff at the school educate the students to use this form of communication appropriately.

School Uniform – the role of a school uniform is to unite the students within the education environment, to consider themselves all part of one whole unit known as St Monica’s. It is set out in such a way, as to outline very clear dress codes and expectations. As parents we agree to abide by this dress code when we make the commitment to send our children to St Monica’s (it is in the handbook and on our website). However, the school is experiencing a wide variety of interpretation on the school uniform code and next term the school will be beginning a re-education approach for students, covering things such as hair, shoes, jewellery.

Swimming Carnival – one of the major aims of any school sports carnival is to encourage students to enter a race and try their best. As with any major sporting event run at a school there will be parents who struggle with the way that events unfold and next year a detailed letter outlining processes such as Test-n-Tag, clearly identifying your child’s ability to accomplish an event etc will be provided to parents.

Other issues discussed have included Class Contacts, Communication, Parent Strategic Planning suggestion from 2012 survey, Face book, and School Registration process. The Community Council, is a place for concerns within the school to be discussed, please feel free to talk to any members of the council with any issues you may have, so that we can discuss them as a school representative body, there can be no change if there is no knowledge.
Until term 2, enjoy the next 6 days of school and enjoy the school holidays even more.
Jayne Murray – Chair Community Council Executive and mum to Emma Judd 3/4F.

A WORD FROM OUR COUNCIL CHAIR

MAKE A WISH FOUNDATION

Since 1980, the Make-A-Wish Foundation has given hope, strength and joy to children with life-threatening medical conditions. Next Friday 12 April we will be raising money for the Make A Wish Foundation. We will be asking students to ‘Wear what you wish’ on this day. Students can wear whatever they wish (appropriate for school). We will also be holding an ‘I wish I knew the number’ competition where students can try and guess the number of lollies in the jar for only 10c a guess. This will take place at recess and lunch in the courtyard. Lastly, there will be a Colouring Competition for everyone to enter for free and a winner from each year level will be chosen. So please remember to bring a gold coin donation and some extra cash if you would like to enter the Guessing Competition. We look forward to your support!

Will M and James W 6B

ST MONICA’S SPORT NEWS

Belconnen Boys Basketball 2013
Congratulations to Harrison W (6AS), Charlie M (6AS) and Kai K(6AS) who have been selected in the Belconnen Zone Basketball team which will compete in the ACT 12 Years and Under Basketball championships to be held on Tuesday 9 May 2013 at Belconnen Basketball Centre. There will be a team training session on Wednesday 10 April 2013 from 4-5pm.

Belconnen Swimming
We look forward to hearing the results of our squad who attended the carnival today.
**VALUES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friendship</th>
<th>Consideration towards others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>KRG</strong></td>
<td>Gabrielle C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KS</strong></td>
<td>Kate S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KM</strong></td>
<td>Brock T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1R</strong></td>
<td>Jennifer C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1K</strong></td>
<td>Katelyn F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1S</strong></td>
<td>Kai K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2F</strong></td>
<td>Grace F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2J</strong></td>
<td>Bailey R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2DH</strong></td>
<td>Rocio F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3H</strong></td>
<td>Tara K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3F</strong></td>
<td>Charlotte F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3/4F</strong></td>
<td>Phoebe O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4M</strong></td>
<td>Georgia M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4L</strong></td>
<td>Silvana C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5D</strong></td>
<td>Abbey J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5C</strong></td>
<td>Analiese M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5/6M</strong></td>
<td>Michael O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6B</strong></td>
<td>Rebekah W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6AS</strong></td>
<td>Thomas S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**M&M Star Medallion**
Felicity B (6AS)

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**EVENTS AT A GLANCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Apr</td>
<td>12.30-1pm</td>
<td>No Assembly or Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Apr</td>
<td>All Day</td>
<td>Cross Country Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Apr</td>
<td>12.30-1pm</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Prayer Time – 1S &amp; Value Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Apr</td>
<td></td>
<td>Learning Journeys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Apr</td>
<td>12.00-1pm</td>
<td>Assembly, Awards and Cross Country Ribbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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

- **Year 2**: Samantha H, Isaiah Z
- **Year 3**: Robert W
- **Year 5**: Max D
- **Year 6**: Nenah B

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**2014 ENROLMENT INFORMATION**

**St Monica’s Primary School**

**Official Enrolment Period**

**May 6 – 24 May**

**SCHOOL TOURS** – Wednesday 8 May, at 10.00 am, 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm.

Please encourage neighbours and friends with prospective enrolments to attend so they can see first-hand the school in operation.

**Enrolment forms for 2014 school year will be available from the Front Office during this period.**

**Enrolment Application Forms for Archdiocesan Secondary Schools are also available.**

It is expected that available spaces will fill quickly so please ensure that the Enrolment Application Forms are returned to the school of your first preference within the enrolment period. Spaces cannot be guaranteed, even for siblings if the applications are not returned within the enrolment period. Please pass this information on to anyone you know who may be considering enrolling their child in an ACT Catholic School.

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**St Francis Xavier College**

*Living with truth, Leading with courage, Learning for life*

**Enrolling Now**

Closed Day: Wednesday 8 May, 10am-2pm

**SFX Expo Day**: Friday 10 May

**YEAR 7-12 2014**

**Open Evening**: Monday 13 May, 5.30pm-7.00pm Tours, 7.00pm Information Session

**YEAR 11 2014**

**Information Evening**: Wednesday 15 May, 5.30pm Course Advice, 6.30pm Information Session

For more enrolment information go to our website [www.sfx.act.edu.au](http://www.sfx.act.edu.au) or call 6258 1055

**Daramalan College**

**Open Evening on Thursday 4 April 2013** from 5.00pm-6.30pm. Tours end at 6.15pm.

**YEAR 7 2014**

Information Session 7.00pm-8.00pm **Thursday 4 April 2013** in McCowage Hall. **Enrolments for 2014** open Monday 6 May to Friday 24 May 2013.

**YEAR 11 2014**

**Information Evening**: 7.30pm **Tuesday 20 May 2013** in McCowage Hall.

**Merici**

Visit from Principal – **Wednesday 3 April 2013** at 11.30am. Student Orientation – **Tuesday 7 May 2013** – 10.30am-1pm (students visit school)

**Open Day – Wednesday 8 May 2013** – 9.30am-7.00pm.
Cross Country Carnival Canteen Pricelist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></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 8.4.13</td>
<td>Cross Country Carnival</td>
<td>Cross Country Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 9.4.13</td>
<td>Jeanette Jobson</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 10.4.13</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 11.4.13</td>
<td>Emma Shea</td>
<td>Maxine Batho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 12.4.13</td>
<td>Natalie Larkins</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. 😊😊😊

Death Cap Mushrooms are deadly
The ACT Government Health Directorate is reminding people to steer clear of the world’s most deadly mushroom – the Death Cap. All parts of this mushroom are poisonous, and eating just one mushroom can be fatal.

Death Cap mushrooms often grow near established oak trees and are found when there is warm, wet weather. Given recent weather conditions it is likely that Death Cap mushrooms are already growing in Canberra.

People should not eat any mushroom picked in the wild. Anyone who suspects that they might have eaten Death Cap mushrooms should seek urgent medical help at from the emergency department at their local hospital.

If you believe you have spotted a Death Cap mushroom in a public park, contact Urban Parks in Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) on 13 22 81 to report it. TAMS will then inspect the location, and if the mushroom is a Death Cap, it will be removed and destroyed.

If it is in your own yard, the best option is to leave it be. It will die in a few days. Alternatively, you can step on it to destroy it. Do not kick the mushroom as this spreads the spores further. Never touch the mushroom with bare skin.

A Fact Sheet providing important information about the Death Cap mushroom is available from the ACT Health Directorate website: www.health.act.gov.au/publications.

Magpies Belconnen Football Club Holiday Program
The Belconnen Magpies football club is offering you the opportunity to come along and try some AFL, soccer and multi-sport skills during the school holidays! Catering for primary school children aged between 5-12 years old, boys and girls welcome. Dates are 15th, 16th and 17th April 2013. Flyer being sent home today.

Water Polo – Can your child swim 25 metres? If the answer is YES They can play water polo! The program is aimed at improving children’s swimming ability and water confidence in a fun team sport environment. Junior Dolphins program is a fun introduction to the sport of water polo and sessions will comprise of basic skills training and modified games. For session information check website for times, dates and locations www.canberrawaterpoloacademy.com. Contact Matthew Turnbull, Head Coach, Canberra Water Polo Academy 0401 134 844, matthew.turnbull@canberrawaterpoloacademy.com.

April School Holidays – Children’s Activities at National Library of Australia,Parkes Place Canberra Autumn Storytime (ages 4+) Listen to stories by children’s authors whose work is held in the Library’s collection. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring lunch and stay for a movie. Tuesday 16 April, 11.30am, Conference Room, $1.

Art of Glass (ages 6-10) Be inspired by windows and lights designed by Leonard French and Walter Burley Griffin and create your own stained glass designs. Friday 19 April, 10.30am-12pm, Brindabella Room, $15.

SimCity 2000 – Retro PC Gaming Days (ages 8+) Drop into the IT Lab and play. Realise your own Dream of a Century in the classic city-building game, SimCity 2000 (1994). Have fun and learn about elements of urban planning and landscape architecture at the same time. Friday 19 and 26 April, 12-4.30pm, Training Rooms, free.

Bookings can be made on 02 62621271 or nla.gov.au/bookings.

Earn & Learn 2013
It’s happening again!

From next Monday 8th April, you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points from the checkout operator and place them on Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheets sent home today. There’ll be 1 Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent*. Once completed, they can place their Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet in the Collection Box, either at your school or at your local Woolworths. *excludes liquor, cigarettes and gift cards. With our rewards we can purchase lots of additional resources.