Forgiveness by Jonathan Williams
Forgive me, Lord because today… I wasn’t kind, I wasn’t patient, I wasn’t gentle, I wasn’t thoughtful, I wasn’t friendly, I wasn’t generous, I wasn’t loving, Forgive me Lord.


The rule focus this week is about Being Responsible and being on task. I make choices about how I learn. I remain on task so I can complete my work. Being on task means completing my work without disturbing others.

Money collected to date is $12,500. Listed below are the school targets. All money to be returned by Friday 7 November.

**School Targets**
- $2000 – Games and Sports Afternoon - **tomorrow afternoon**
- $5000 – Pyjama Day - TBA
- $10000 – Heroes Day - TBA
- $15000- Whole School Movie – Getting close!

**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 – 6WS

Remembrance Day Tuesday 11 November
We will hold a short Remembrance Day Gathering in the Courtyard next Tuesday at 10:50am.

Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser
Brochure and Order Form for Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser has been sent home today. 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**.

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 who are struggling in many ways this Christmas season. This year our Giving Mass will be held on December 3. As St Monica’s School presents 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.
Comments about our new playground equipment from 2R

Montana: I like that there are so many things to do. My favourite is the spiderweb.
Daniel: I like the double slide. I can race my friends.
Katelyn: I love the double slide and the cobweb. I like the cobweb the most because you can climb really high and see the view.
Kai: I love the spiderweb and the slide.
Dante: I like going across the bridge because you need to use your balance.
Bridget: I like the mushrooms because it’s so much fun jumping from one to the next.

Kinder Orientation

Yesterday was a big day for the 64 new kindergarten children who spent a busy morning completing a range of activities, as part of our Kinder Orientation Program. A very big thank you to our current kindergarten teachers for their organisation – Mrs McCann, Mrs Sydney, Mrs Houghton and Mrs O’Rourke.

I would like to sincerely thank the members of our community who assisted with the presentation in the hall and the morning tea. An extra special thanks to Mrs Manning, our Canteen Manager, who always steps in to lend a hand on such occasions and Mrs Sandra Forrest for her coordination of our Uniform Shop. Sandra is very generous with her time, despite her busy work schedule. I very much appreciated the efforts of everyone who assisted with set up, serving, clean up and baking; our new and not so new parents all indicated they found the morning very informative.

I cannot forget to mention -
• the 5 amazing kinder children who presented their perspective of St Monica’s – Ella K, Charlotte P, Josephine H, Aiden O and Cooper W. Their comments were priceless and reflected just how closely they observe the techniques of effective public speaking from their buddies.
• Katie F (2R) for her very convincing argument of why we should wear a uniform.
• our fabulous School Support Leaders who helped with setting up the hall, greeting and directing our visitors, serving morning tea, and engaging with our new families. I was very proud of how the children conducted themselves so confidently – Caitlin R, Jade O, Erin C, Hannah K, Nathaniel Mc, Abbey J, Haydon S, Ethan W, Charli B, Patrick Mc, Joshua C, Charlotte M, Elena K, Heidi C, Eliza F.

Class Structure for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Structure</th>
<th>2015 = 19 class groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder x 3 groups</td>
<td>Year 1 x 3 groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 x 2 groups</td>
<td>Multiage 3/4 x 1 group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 x 2 groups</td>
<td>Multiage 5/6 x 1 group</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.

Year 5 Committee meeting for Year 6 Graduation

Preparations are well underway for the Year 6 graduation. It is a tradition at St Monica’s that the Year 5 parents organise and prepare the supper. If you are a Year 5 parent and you would like to help, the committee is meeting this Friday at 2:30pm in the staff room. We would love to see you there.

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.
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  $ 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.

Our School Veggie Garden is in need of some TLC
Can you help?
We are looking for some help with our veggie garden on Friday afternoons after lunch. We have some keen Environment Leaders who can assist with weeding and planting our summer veggies. Please contact Rachael Hind in the library if you can assist for an hour or two.

Nominations for Community Council Executive Membership
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.

We are having a Scholastic Book Fair!

Where? St Monica’s Library

When? Last Day 7 November 2014

Time? Before school from 8:30-9am
After school until 4pm

Please contact Mrs Hind if you are able to assist as a cashier.
NB: Students will enter the Lucky Door Raffle during library lessons.

KidsMatter a new St Monica’s Initiative

The importance of children’s mental health and wellbeing
Mental health and wellbeing is vital for learning and life. Children who are mentally healthy learn better, benefit from life experiences and have stronger relationships with family members, school staff and peers. They are better equipped to meet life’s challenges and to contribute productively to their families, friends and society in ways that are appropriate for their age.

Good mental health in childhood also provides a solid foundation for managing the transition to adolescence and adulthood, for engaging successfully in education, and for making a meaningful contribution to society. With adequate support, good coping skills and a manageable level of environmental stress, many children progress through to adolescence and adulthood without showing significant behavioural or academic difficulties.

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

Our kids matter. KidsMatter helps our school nurture happy, balanced kids.
5th Annual St Monica’s Writing Competition – Last Day
Entries are now being sought for our annual writing competition. Students are invited to enter poems or short stories of no more than 500 words. Please hand in your typed entries to Mrs Hind by Friday 7 November (Week 4).
We look forward to reading your fantastic stories and poems.
Mrs Hind & Miss Osten

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) must be returned by Friday 7th November 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 timetable for the Sacrament of Reconciliation was sent home today. Please contact me if you did not receive a copy.
Carmel Rheinberger – REC

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Nov</td>
<td>12.30pm-1pm</td>
<td>Assembly 5E &amp; Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7 Nov</td>
<td>8.30-9am</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.10pm-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-15 Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kinder, Yr 1 and Yr 2 - Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>12.30pm-1pm</td>
<td>Prayer Time 4LD &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>VALUE</td>
<td>CLASS AWARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORGIVENESS</td>
<td>FORGIVENESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOMAS G</td>
<td>AVA J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYLER S</td>
<td>AVA S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GISELLE S</td>
<td>LUKA W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHLOE W</td>
<td>CHARLIE S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HENA L</td>
<td>RILEY H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMILY P</td>
<td>WILLIAM C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACHLAN R</td>
<td>PHOEBA W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHAKIRA L</td>
<td>COOPER B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACKSON R</td>
<td>RILEY L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILLIE A-C</td>
<td>CHARLES O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARLEY J</td>
<td>BRYNN F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEON D</td>
<td>COOPER M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCHLAIN K</td>
<td>ALISON F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHTON C</td>
<td>BROOKE A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMERON W</td>
<td>MADELINE E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMERON H</td>
<td>LEAH F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL R</td>
<td>SOPHIE A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZOE E</td>
<td>OLIVIA A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROWNYN Q</td>
<td>RACHAEL P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M&M Star Medallions – Lexi R (KM), Sarah R (KM), Marin J (1D), Gabriel H (1D), Harry T (1D), Atya W (2J), Byron P (2D), Nicholas B (4LD), Cameron H (5E) – 3rd star, Alyssa M (6B) – 3rd star, Valentina S (6WS), Analiese M (6WS), Emily M (6WS)

Another great win for Jessica H
Well done. Her medal tally included 15 gold, 3 silver and 5 carnival records.

Chess Results
Congratulations to the students who represented our school at the School Chess Challenge at Westfield Belconnen on 2 November 2014. This was a very competitive tournament with participants from 20 schools. St Monica’s did very well and came 5th. Well done to the following students who played the entire 7 rounds of the School Chess Challenge: Aiden B (5E), Martin H (5/6C), Dylan R (4M), Hannah D-H (2J), Samuel B (2D) and Mary D-H (KS).
**Piano Results**

Congratulations to the following students, who all did very well in their recent AMEB Piano Exams: Abbey M (6WS), Sally B (5/C), Lauren O (5M) - all passing with Credit, and Gabrielle N (5/6C) - who received a High Distinction. Well done girls!!

**Primary Research Project 2014 – Awards to be presented on Friday**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindy</th>
<th>Cooper W</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>William C, Katie R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Emily J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Grace F, Leo D,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Ethan L, Jake T, Aiden B, Ellouise R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Martin H, Willow B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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

**COST:** $90 per child (8 lessons and bus travel)

**Parenting Ideas – Michael Grose**

This year we have taken out a subscription with *Parenting Ideas*. Our subscription gives us access to a range of Parent Tip Sheets and the *Parenting Ideas* Magazine. Please visit our Website under the Publications tab – Parenting Ideas [http://stmonicasci.act.edu.au/publications/parentingideas.html](http://stmonicasci.act.edu.au/publications/parentingideas.html) for access to material uploaded to date.

**CACTEEN CORNER**

**CANTEEN CAPERS** 6258 4687 (c)

Samantha Manning: 6259 7240 (h)

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. New Summer Menu has been sent home today and will begin from Week 2.

**The Roster for Term 4, Week 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early</th>
<th>Late</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MONDAY</strong></td>
<td>9:15am - 11:45am</td>
<td>11:30am - 2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11/14</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/11/14</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jeanette Jobson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11/14</td>
<td>Sonia Musolino, Maxine Batho</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/11/14</td>
<td>EvelynDavid-Hoole</td>
<td>Jo Clark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/11/14</td>
<td>Natalie Larkins, Pauline Ollman</td>
<td>Jan Lee, Marie Smith, 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*

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**GENERAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**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.

**THE JOURNEY THROUGH ADOLESENCE**

program for parents of Adolescents will be offered by CatholicCare commencing **WEDNESDAY 26TH 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.

**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.

[Email](mailto:CommunityCouncilStMonicas@cg.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](http://www.in2cricket.com.au) or contact [liz.mcperson@cricketact.com.au](mailto:liz.mcperson@cricketact.com.au).

**ACT Water Safety Week**

Royal Lifesaving Society ACT will be hosting an **Active Family Fun Day** as a part of **ACT Water Safety Week** on Sunday 9th November!

Come and enjoy the warming weather and sunshine on Sunday 9 November at the Dickson Aquatic Centre from 12:00pm to 3:00pm.

As a part of **ACT Water Safety Week**, running from the 3 November to the 9 November, Active Family Fun Day is the perfect way to end the week and helps us to highlight our messages around the importance of Water Safety. Enjoy a relaxing day full of many exciting activities including Face Painting, Live Music, Water Games, Sausage Sizzles and much more! **Entry for a Family** is only **$10 on the day**.

We look forward to your involvement during ACT Water Safety Week in 2014! If you have any questions or require further information, please call us on 6260 5800 or send us an email at [act@rlssa.org.au](mailto:act@rlssa.org.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.

Marymead Fete – Saturday 8 November
The Marymead Fete is on Saturday 8 November between 9am-1.30pm, 255 Goyder Street, Narrabundah.