**VALUE - Cooperation**

Cooperation
Cooperation exists when people work together toward a common goal.
One who cooperates creates good wishes and pure feelings for others and the task.
When cooperating, there is a need to know what is needed.
Sometimes an idea is needed, sometimes we need to let go of our idea.
Sometimes we need to lead and sometimes we need to follow.
Cooperation is governed by the principle of mutual respect.
By staying aware of my values, I can give cooperation.
Courage, consideration, caring and sharing provide a foundation for cooperation.

**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.

**A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

**COLLABORATION**

Dear Parents

The past few weeks have been so very busy and we are suddenly in the second half of the term. It was lovely to walk around the school and see so many parents drop in this morning from Kinder to Year 4 to see learning in action.

**Special Award**

Congratulations to Mrs Steph Flynn who is off to the Canberra Citizen of the Year and Gold Awards Ceremony today. Steph was nominated to receive a Gold Award.

**A Prayer for Catholic Schools Week**

God of all time - yesterday, today and tomorrow,
For nearly two hundred years, in this great Southern Land of the Holy Spirit,
you have inspired in generations of believers the vision for Catholic schools.
We give thanks to you, the Source of wisdom and Inspiration: for the passion of Principals, leaders and teachers who spark the curiosity of their students; for the passion and creativity of students in their search for what is right and good.
For the passion and service of administrative and support staff, who welcome all through the doors,
For the passion of our priests, the bearers of the Good News, For the passion, love and sacrifice of parents, carers and local communities to ensure our Catholic schools continue.
We pray that our Catholic schools, today and tomorrow, will continue their work in God’s mission, spreading the Joy of the Gospel so we may know and love the world as God’s creation, cherish justice, live life in response to God’s call, and serve to ensure the common good in society, now and into the future.

Amen

**Parent Teacher Interviews – Conversations on Goals (CoGs)**

It has been wonderful to view the development of a strong collaborative link as teachers, parents and students shared and developed learning goals. If you did not receive a letter, posted last week, with instructions of how to log into our PTO booking system please contact the office. This will enable us to check mailing addresses and book you in for an appointment. There is an expectation that all parents/carers will meet with their child’s teacher this term.

**Baby News – It’s a Girl**

Congratulations to the Lowe family on the arrival of Selina, sister to Ethan (6S), Ryan (4M) and Owen (2L).

**Fete Bottle Day Tomorrow**

Tomorrow is casual day at St Monica’s as it is Bottle Day. For our new families – for the opportunity to wear neat casual clothes we ask that each child donate a plastic container of goodies for the Tombola Stall coordinated by the staff. Containers can be filled with lollies, stationery items, hair accessories, a toy, juice, jam, hand cream, shampoo etc, be as creative as you like! For donating a jar of goodies the children receive a ticket in the draw for a Fete Value Ticket per grade. (Children remember to wear your joggers and bring your hat.)
Next week is Sabbath Week. This means that written homework is not issued so everyone can to catch up or do something special with the family – take a walk, play a card game, go for a bike ride, etc.

Coffee Hour with Carmel the Principal
Our next Q&A over coffee is set aside for Friday 13 March at 9am – 10am. Please feel free to drop into the staffroom for a chat or an answer to a burning question.

Kinder BBQ
On Monday afternoon 16 March from 5.00pm the Kinder families are gathering for their first gathering to meet and greet over a sausage sizzle, Thanks to the Kinder teachers and Mrs Manning for coordinating this event.

St Patrick’s Day – A touch of green
Next Tuesday 17 March is St Patrick’s Day – to enter into the spirit of the day the children are permitted to wear one item of green – a ribbon, socks.

Harmony Day – a touch of orange
Next Friday 21 March is Harmony – to enter into the spirit of the day the children are permitted to wear one item of orange. Harmony Day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. This year we are celebrating the 15th anniversary of Harmony Day in Australia – a day where we encourage the motto that “Everyone belongs”.

Our cultural diversity remains one of our greatest strengths. It’s at the heart of who we are. We live in one of the most socially cohesive nations on earth. We express a sense of belonging almost unanimously. This however hasn’t come about by chance. It has been built through our strong migrant history. Almost half of us were born overseas or have at least one parent who was born overseas. We all share values and commitment to Australia.

Facts and figures
There are some fascinating statistics about Australia’s diversity that can be good conversation-starters. Did you know:
- around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was
- 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia
- apart from English the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi
- more than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia
- 92 per cent of Australians feel a great sense of belonging to our country.


Bike Etiquette
This is a reminder to parents and children that bikes should be walked when on the school ground. It can be very dangerous particularly when there are lots of people around. Children should always lock their bike.

School Garden
The harvests from our school garden have been very delicious. The produce has been used in the canteen.
Chaplaincy Program
This year St Monica’s has once again been successful in receiving a $20,000 grant through the ACT National School Chaplaincy Program. The funds are used to employ Mr Bob Fletcher for 20 hours a fortnight to work in the school to promote and support the health and wellbeing of our children. Mr Fletcher is also employed for this semester, to provide release for classroom teachers by taking programmed Physical Education lessons.

As part of the Chaplaincy program Mr Fletcher will be
- coordinating our Seasons for Growth program in Term 2,
- delivering student resilience and wellbeing programs to class or small groups of students,
- assisting with the supervision of lunchtime games and providing adult guidance with playground rules and decisions,
- facilitating activities to connect students with friends,
- providing mentoring support and
- assisting with the implementation of Kids Matter.

Mr Fletcher does not take the place of our school Counsellor but provides a vital step in the support we offer children from day to day.

Reminder - Car Park Etiquette
While aware car parking can be a challenge at St Monica’s, it is no excuse for parents to park in areas that prove dangerous or affect the general flow of traffic. So please
- Be patient!
- Do not park in the nature strip along Montague Place – it is illegal to park in that area.
- Do not park under the trees near the Kinder playground. This is government land.
- Park between the lines when parking outside the hall
- Park carefully on the basketball courts considering the recent accident. Endeavour to create four lines when parking on the basketball courts; leave the entry/exit clear of traffic and leave a space near the ramp so that traffic can travel in a clockwise direction.
- As the courts are often used by the children until 2.45, avoid coming too early.

Kids’Lit Quiz

Elena, Thomas, Joven and Jack (5E students) represented St Monica’s at the Kids’Lit Quiz at Canberra Grammar School on Wednesday. As some of the youngest competitors, our team held their own against the fierce competition from 13 other teams. All agreed it was a wonderful experience to face the 100 literary-based questions and are already talking about their preparation for next year’s quiz. Well done team! Thank you to Mrs May for her time spent coaching the team and to our family members who provided support on the day.

Reading Eggs Workshop for Parents
On Thursday 19 March at 2.30pm, in our school library, Rebecca Rudd from 3p Learning will be running a parent information session on our new online program Reading Eggs and Reading Eggspress.

All students now have access to this online program at school and at home. Many students are now exploring this program during homework.

It is a fun and effective program that supports children with their reading development. The program is designed to get children motivated and excited about reading.

If you would like the opportunity to sit down and learn about Reading Eggs and Reading Eggspress to support your child at home when they are using this program, please come along to the information session.

All are most welcome to attend. Afternoon tea will be provided. Please let the front office know if you are attending.

Laurie Daley Shield & Meninga Cup
A quick message to our two teams competing on Wednesday 18 March. Permission notes must be returned by Friday. In my haste to get notes out there were errors on the note. The two teams involved are Yrs 5 & 6 – Coach – Andrew Mills (Laurie Daley Shield) Yrs 3 & 4 – Coach – Phil Carey (Meninga Cup)

Andrew Mills has arranged to hold a lunch time training session with his team tomorrow, Friday and then on Monday. Boys are to bring their boots and mouth guards.

School Banking
School banking will resume on Monday 23 March as our school banking coordinator is on leave.

NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that 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 coexisting conditions.

NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each. Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week.

**NAPLAN 2015 tests timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Language conventions 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Language conventions 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing 40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy test includes number, space, algebra, function and pattern, measurement, chance and data. Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5.

**School Fete**

Our annual fete is only just over 2 weeks away and is our major fundraising venture for the year. For the fete to be a success we need the support of all families in the community. I am aware that we can often be time poor but if the fete is to be successful we require the assistance of everyone.

We urgently need coordinators for the following stalls: Baby & Kids and Fruit Salad. If you can assist please contact Kath Stiller ASAP on 0428100797. These stalls will not be offered if we do not find coordinators.

**Raffle tickets MUST be returned.**

**Fete Grade Prize Baskets**

It is a longstanding tradition that each year group fills a washing basket with goodies to be raffled at the fete. Each child is asked to bring in an item to fill the 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 - Pets</td>
<td>Dry biscuits, balls, pet toys etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 - Easter</td>
<td>Easter eggs, stickers, toys, activity books, stories etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 - Stationery</td>
<td>Pencils, pads, stickers etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**White Elephant Drop Off Times**

This is a good time to clear out the cupboards: Saturday 14 March & Sunday 15 March – 1.30pm – 4.00pm  
Saturday 21 March & Sunday 22 March – 1.30pm – 4.00pm

**Volunteers Urgently Required**

**Uniform Coordinator** – Due to work commitments Sandra Forrest has advised that she will be standing down from her position at the end of the year. She would love to be able to train someone over the next few months in the operations of our Uniform Shop. This is a volunteer role that provides a wonderful service to our community. Please contact the school if this sounds like an area you could assist in.

**Fete Treasurer for 2016** - With the Batho family finishing up at St Monica’s at the end of the year we are looking for someone to take over this role in 2016 – Dave has done an amazing job for the last 3 years. Now is the time to volunteer so you can learn what happens in preparation for 2016.

**Canteen – Helpers Required**

If you are able to help out in the Canteen at lunchtime or any Friday at lunchtime please call Sam – Canteen Manager on 0417291926.

**Champions’ Reading Challenge**

To encourage our students to keep reading the St Monica’s staff will once again challenge all our students to read 12 books by the end of Term 1.

Students are required to record the books they have read on a sheet, distributed during their library session. An adult is required to sign off on each book read. Any type of book can be recorded, including readers, fiction, non-fiction, picture books and chapter books. Students will complete the recording of their sheets during library lessons and additional sheets can be picked up from the library. When each student completes the challenge they are required to place the sheet in the box in the Library. All students who enter will be in the draw for prizes which will be drawn at the final assembly in Term 1. Students can enter more than once. Good luck! Happy reading.

**Mrs Hind and Miss Brown**

God bless

Carmel Maguire
Principal
LENT:
We are now in our third week of Lent. Our Lenten Calendar encourages us to BUY LOCAL. Buying locally sustains local businesses and the livelihoods of those in your community. It is also better for the environment!

Sacramental of Eucharist
Home Groups will finish this week. Many thanks to all involved.
- Home Groups Week 2: 9 March - 13 March
- Preparation Day Wednesday 29 April
- First Holy Communion Saturday 2 May and Sunday 3 May 2015.

Don’t forget that your child needs to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation before he or she makes their First Holy Communion. The Sacrament is available every Saturday afternoon from 4:30-5:30pm in St Monica’s Church.

St Patrick’s Day 17 March
Who was St Patrick?
- He was born around 385 in Scotland
- His parents were Roman
- He was kidnapped at fourteen and taken as a slave to Ireland
- During his captivity he turned to God in prayer
- He escaped at twenty and returned home
- He studied to be a priest and was ordained.
- Later as Bishop he returned to Ireland and is credited with the conversion of Ireland to Christianity
- He died in 461.

BELCONNEN SWIMMING CARNIVAL EVENTS
Children to be selected for our Belconnen squad have received notification today via a permission note. Events include 50m in the 4 strokes for all age groups (8-12 years), as well as 100m events in all four strokes and 200m Individual Medley for 10-12 years. There are no 25m events.

In 2015 we have qualifying times that need to be met in order to proceed to the 12 years and under Regional Swimming Carnivals. These times have been sent to all schools and will be advertised on the School Sport ACT website.

BELCONNEN ZONE TRIALS – YRS 5 & 6
PSSA Forms to be collected from Mrs Figura for the following trials:
- Rugby League – Trials 19 March & 25 March
- Touch – Trials 30 March & 1 April
- Netball - Trials 28 March & 2 April

GIRLS CRICKET TEAM
Girls Cricket Team
Congratulations to Annabel W (6S) and Emma J (6F) who have been selected in the 2015 Belconnen Region 12 years and under Girls Cricket Team. The carnival is on Wednesday 18 March. Good luck girls!!

BELCONNEN SWIMMING CARNIVAL EVENTS
200 IM - Each school is permitted to nominate up to two (2) competitors in each age group (10, 11, 12 years) providing qualifying times are met.
100 Freestyle and Form Strokes: Each school is permitted to nominate the first 2 placegetters in each age group 10, 11, 12 years, i.e. a maximum of 6 swimmers from combined 10-12 years events providing qualifying times are met.
Two (2) swimmers can be nominated for all 50 metre events providing qualifying times are met.

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1OH Gabriella F Mikayla T
1R Ria M Isabella L
2L Yong A Olivia S
2D Matthew Mc Dita S
3K Emily J Ryan C
3D Annie W Lyndelle M
3/4RG Patrick E Alicia R
4M Holly W Cooper M
4Mc Ellen C Baxter S
5C Marissa C Adrian M
5E Jack M Rachel C
5/6ED Ashleigh D Robbie W
6F Indya S Ethan K
6S Rochelle W-K Gabrielle N

M&M STAR MEDALLIONS – Angelino S (1D), Ryan C (3K), Lara Mc (4M), Joven M (5E)

NO ASSEMBLY THIS FRIDAY
OR
PRAYER GATHERING NEXT WEDNESDAY
All class and values awards will be distributed on Friday 20 March

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Catholic Soccer Carnival - Sunday 15 March 2015
Best of luck to our seven teams playing in the carnival on Sunday. Mrs Lustica has distributed information packs to all student involved today so please check you child’s bag.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Jacob M, Samuel W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Lucia P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Emma B, Ryan K, Dion W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Holli N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Paige W, Ashlyn D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Chris M, Jade R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Lis O’Daly, Council Executive Secretary. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Canteen Corner**

**Canteen Capers**

Samantha Manning: 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. Real McCoy chips are no longer available at the Canteen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Roster for Term 1, Week 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY 16/3/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 17/3/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 18/3/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 19/3/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 20/3/15</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**

High School Enrolment Information

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE**

- Year 6 EXPO Day - Friday 8 May 2015
  9.30am-2.30pm (students visit school)
- Year 7 2016 Parent Information Evening
  Monday 11 May 2015
  Tours 5pm followed by Information Session 6.30pm
- Open Day - Friday 15 May 2015
  Tour the College between 9.00am - 2.30pm

**DARAMALAN COLLEGE**

- Open Evening 26th March
  5-6.30pm (open evening tours available)
- Year 7 2016 Information Session from 7.00 - 8.00pm
- Pre-Enrolment Day - 30th April 2015
  10.00am - 1.45pm (students visit school)

**MERICI COLLEGE**

- Year 6 Student Orientation
  Tuesday 5 May 2015
- Year 6 Open Day
  Wednesday 6 May 2015
  9.30am-7.00pm
- Year 7 2016 Information Evening
  Tuesday 12 May 2015 6pm

**Belconnen United Sharks Junior Rugby Leagues Football Club 2015**

The Belconnen United Sharks is a family friendly club with home playing fields located in Melba.

The Belconnen United Sharks will be holding their second registration day on **Sunday 15 March** at the Melba District Playing Fields on Verbruggen Street, affectionately known as ‘Shark Park’.

The Sharks have teams from under 6’s to under 16’s, and for those looking further into their Rugby League future, we are affiliated with the Senior Sharks with teams in under 18’s, reserves and first grade. Boys and girls are encouraged to come along and meet up with old team mates, if you are new to the game or coming from another club, no need to be shy, as friendly Sharks and Sharkette’s will be there to answer all your questions.
Shorts and socks are provided as part of the registration. In addition, each registration that is paid on the day will receive a Sharks football prior to the commencement of the season. For further information please contact club register – Peter McCook on 6595281 or 0403 310 084. (peterandsharon@iinet.com.au)

Catholic Schools Week 2015 Competition
What will your Catholic school of tomorrow look like? Tell us in a 30 second video. $5,000 in prizes to be won. Individual primary and secondary entries. Win an ipad plus a $250 JB Hi-Fi voucher. Runners up in each division with a $100 JB Hi-Fi Voucher. Open to all Catholic primary and secondary students in NSW & ACT. Competition closes 18 March 2015. To enter visit www.catholicschools.act.edu.au.

Positive Partnership Workshops

Qkr! Payment App
Have you downloaded our Qkr! payment app yet? It is such a simple way to pay for things at school, such as school fees, excursions, camp, Forward Together program and more! We have had a fantastic response with many families using the app already, but we would like to educate all our families that this is our preferred payment method. It will avoid the children carrying cash and/or credit card details on their person.
Each week we will feature a helpful tip on this page, so stay tuned! If you have any trouble using the app, or have any questions about it please contact Mrs Allison Walsh in the office.

Remove unwanted items from your shopping cart

It is easy to remove items from your shopping cart prior to checkout.

Simply:
1. Tap on the 'cart' icon at the bottom of your screen
2. Tap on the item you wish to remove from your cart
3. A pop-up box will appear. Tap the ‘Remove’ button

In this example, removing a Netbook Term Payment is as simple as tapping on "Netbook Term Payment" on the checkout screen and then selecting "Remove" from the pop-up that appears.