RESPECT
I can show respect to myself by:
- Always being on time
- Being prepared
- Being neat and clean
- Always doing my best

We can show respect to our parents by:
- Loving them
- Listening to them and their stories
- Being honest
- Remembering our manners

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOCUS
BEING SAFE
Being safe means being sunsmart. We wear our hats at all times when we are outside.

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL
Dear Parents

Inclusion

Wedding Congratulations
Special congratulations to Cerryanne and Zane who were married during the holiday. May your life together be filled with much happiness and joy.

School Assembly tomorrow at 1.00pm for the presentation of all awards for Weeks 1 and 2.
Parent Information Evenings
Thank you to all the parents who have been able to attend our parent session this week. The teachers have valued your support and interest in learning what our key initiatives are for 2016.

Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival is booked for Friday 19 February. Please include the date in your calendar as we need your assistance on the day. **Children from Year 3 – 6 attend and competent 8yr old Year 2 children who can swim 100 metres.** Swimming note and permission form went home with children yesterday and will be available on the website. Permission note is due back by **Monday 15 February.**

Special Lunch Order for Kindergarten-Year 2
A special lunch will be offered for Kindergarten, Year 1 and any Year 2 children not attending the Swimming Carnival next Friday 19 February. Orders must be received back at school by **Wednesday 17 February.**

Health Checks for Kindergarten Children in 2016
The Kindergarten Health questionnaire and an information letter to parents has been sent home today to all Kindergarten parents. All questionnaires are to be **returned to the school** in the envelope provided by **Friday 26 February 2016.** To ensure all parents are fully aware of the screening check we have organised to send home a copy of the information to both parents who have a shared care responsibility. The medical checks are scheduled to occur at St Monica’s during **Term 2.**

Mother’s Day Stall Co-ordinator
We are now looking for a Mum to co-ordinate the Mother’s Day Stall. Vicki Walsh has done a wonderful job running the stall for the past 9 years and would now like to pass the role on to someone new. If you are interested in taking this on please contact our Front Office.

Our Brain’s Post-it Note – Part 2
Working Memory
Students with poor working memory often struggle in classroom activities, simply because they are unable to hold in mind sufficient information to allow them to complete the task. Losing crucial information from working memory will cause them to forget many things: instructions they are attempting to follow, the details of what they are doing, where they have got to in a complicated task, and so on.

Activities that involve verbal working memory
1. Remembering sequences of three or more numbers or unrelated words, such as 5, 9, 2, 6, or cat, lion, kangaroo, or even unfamiliar letter combinations such as ‘sp’.
2. Remembering and successfully following lengthy instructions.
3. Identifying digits on the 100 square/number line that follows a specific number pattern, for example odd/even numbers; multiples of 6; factors of 10, and so on.
4. Identifying the missing numbers in a sequence: 0, 1, 2, __, 4, 5, __.

Activities that involve visual-spatial working memory
1. Keeping track of the place reached in the course of multi-level tasks such as writing a sentence down either from memory or from the white board.
2. Using pictures or images to recall a story. They may get confused about the order of events in the story or even omit key events despite having a visual reminder.
3. Retelling in chronological order a sequence of events from memory, using vocabulary words such as first, second, next, last.

Working memory measures our ability to learn, rather than what we have already learned. Working memory is the best predictor of academic attainment and is even more important than IQ. 1 in 10 students suffers from working memory problems. Working memory impacts learning in students who find it difficult to focus, or struggle with learning.

Starting up again - Q&A with the Principal or Assistant Principal– Monday 15 February between 2.20 – 3.10pm
To connect with families and promote improved communication I have set aside some times so that parents can drop in for a coffee and chat. The gatherings will be informal and held in the staffroom, little ones are welcome. To gauge interest please let the office staff know by morning tea on Monday 15 February if you plan to drop in. Q&A Coffee sessions will be advertised regularly in the newsletter.

School Fees
Fee Statements will be emailed next week. **Please ensure your email account details are up to date.** Due to pricing and delivery changes with Australia Post accounts will no longer be posted out.
**RESTORATIVE PRACTICES – PARENT EVENING**

Restorative Practices explores such questions as:
- What is Fair Process?
- Do I ask the best questions?
- How would I describe my Parenting Style?
- How can I better understand emotions?

**Date:** 16 February 2016  
**Time:** 6.00pm – 7.30pm  
**Venue:** School Library

Presenters:
Vic and Liz O’Callaghan are educators with many years experience in working with students, teachers and parents in teaching explicit ways in building healthy relationships.

We hope you can join them for an evening of humour and shared insights into how we can meet the challenges that face us as parents in today’s world.

‘Building and maintaining healthy relationships creates a community of learners’

A flier has been sent home today. Please complete the tear off slip on bottom of the form and return to your child’s class teacher if you are interested in attending the Restorative Practices Parent Evening Please RSVP by Monday 15 February 2016.

**Champions’ Reading Challenge**

To encourage our students to keep reading the St Monica’s staff will once again challenge all of our students to read 12 books by the end of Term 1. Students are required to record the books they have read on this sheet, with an adult signing off on each of the books they have 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

**Mini Vinnies @ St Monica’s**

Mini Vinnies @ St Monica’s has begun in earnest for 2016. This term our main focus will be:
- Learning about and spreading compassion
- Developing and sharing prayers
- Supporting and promoting Caritas’ Project Compassion

In Week 5, the Mini Vinnies team will lead Whole School Prayer on the theme of Compassion. During the prayer session, Amanda from Vinnies ACT will conduct a short Commissioning Service, in which participating students will receive their Mini Vinnies badges.

February is the month of fundraising for Vinnies. St Monica’s Parish is looking for volunteers to help with the Vinnies Doorknock Appeal. We remind all students that doorknocking activities must be undertaken with families, under the supervision of adults. We thank any families seeking to support Vinnies, either through donating or by helping to fundraising. Further details can be obtained by contacting——–Kelly at evattdoorknock@gmail.com. Your support is very much appreciated.

**Flexischools lunch orders only on Fridays**

Please note – With the limited number of parents now available to assist in our canteen on Fridays, we will only be accepting lunch orders processed via Flexischools. Friday is traditionally the big day when parents opt to order their child’s lunch and we need to find ways to streamline the process for our Canteen Manager. By opting for orders via flexischools this will eliminate the time given to collate manual orders that is very time consuming.

**Update on Stock of New Sports Shirts**

We have been advised that the next order for new sports shirts will not arrive until late March. Orders that have already been pre-paid will be filled as soon as the new shirts arrive. In the meantime, remember that you can still wear the old white sports shirts for the rest of the year. There is still stock of the old white sports shirts available for purchase in the Uniform Shop at the discounted rate of $14.

**All Volunteers**

Parents visiting the school to assist are to sign in/out at the Front Office and receive a Visitors badge. All volunteers must now hold a WWVP Card, displayed in a visitor’s lanyard.

Please check your expiry date as some cards are due for renewal.

**FETE NEWS**

The fete team has been working hard and has lots of exciting things coming up. A separate fete newsletter will be sent home with children tomorrow calling for donations to our various stalls.

**Fete Flyer Competition – Years 5 and 6**

If you have been busy over the holidays designing an entry for the 2016 fete flyer or if you would like to create a design – there is still time! Please return all entries to your teacher by Friday 19 February. Be sure to include the following information on your flyer:
- The name and location of our school – St Monica’s Primary School, Moynihan Street, Evatt
- The theme of our 2016 fete – Friendship
- The date and time of our fete – 2 April 2016 from 10am – 2pm
- Details of some of our fabulous stalls:
  - White Elephant Stall
  - Cake stall
  - Baby and Kids stall
  - Books stall
  - Chocolate Wheel
  - Food and Entertainment
The rest is up to you. Be as colourful and creative as you like. The winner will receive a prize (details to come) and their winning design will become our fete flyer. All entries will be displayed around the school on the day of the fete. All entries must be returned by Friday Week 3, Term 1, 2016 (19 February).

**Raffle tickets**
Raffle ticket books have now been sent home with students. Additional ticket books are available at the office if you are able to take extras to sell at work, day care or if you sell out.

**Sponsors**
We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to all our sponsors who have come on board to date. Please support these businesses who support our school!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Michael Bogaart Plumbing</th>
<th>Athletes Foot Belconnen</th>
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<tr>
<td>Merry Beach Caravan Resort</td>
<td>Hellenic Club</td>
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<td>Patrick Lawler Plumbing</td>
<td>Zone 3 Laser Centre</td>
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<td>Wallabies</td>
<td>Big Splash Water Park Jamison</td>
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<td>Telstra Tower</td>
<td>Westfield Belconnen</td>
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<td>Canberra Indoor Rockclimbing</td>
<td>The Club Group – CISAC</td>
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<td>Mighty Janes Bootcamp</td>
<td>Jamison Travel</td>
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<td>Tania Jadic - Tanning Booth</td>
<td>The Canberra Raiders</td>
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<td>Discount Hut Jamison</td>
<td>The Brumbies</td>
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<td>Skyzone Belconnen</td>
<td>ActewAGL</td>
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<td>Authentix Salon Dickson</td>
<td>Canberra Cake Boutique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heathers House of Cake</td>
<td>Le Beaute Lounge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football Federation Australia</td>
<td>Dimensions Hair Studio</td>
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**Reminder - Foods to Avoid**
As our community strives to provide a safe and healthy environment for all children I am writing to request your assistance.

As you are well aware St Monica’s, like many schools today, promotes a nut free environment due to the increasing number of children suffering a range of allergic reactions, some even life threatening, if they come in contact with foods or creams that contain a nut base. Please pay particular attention to the information printed on the wrappers of snack foods such as muesli bars etc because often they contain “traces of nuts”.

This year we have a student in Year 1 who has a severe allergy to eggs. For the safety of the child and to assist our school management we have asked that the Year 1 & 2 children, at this stage, do not bring eggs in any form to school for their lunch or snack time as the children sit in a common area for eating. This includes egg sandwiches, hard boiled eggs or egg salads and mayonnaise which has an egg base. Please note that - eggs when used in the cooking of cakes do not present a concern.

We all agree with the primary message of our Social Wellbeing Program that “Kids Matter.” Please remind your child/ren that they should never share food at school.

This is in line with our school rule - Be Safe!

**Year 5 & 6 Camp**
Our Years 5 & 6 students and teachers will be heading to Cooba, an outdoor Education Centre north of Cooma on Wednesday 9 March and return on Friday 11 March 2016. Having visited Cooba on several occasions I know the children will have a fabulous time. Final payment is due by Friday 26 February 2016.

**St Monica's School App**
Set the App alert to advise when new messages are pushed out. Use the special features in the App to advise when you change your contact details or to notify the school when your child is absent. School events and the newsletter are also available via the App.

As children are changing grades please ensure you change the grade levels on your phones for alerts.

Parents can receive the newsletters, notes and alerts currently uploaded to our School App via email. To activate this service please log into our school webpage and click the blue ‘subscribe for email’ button on the Skoolbag noticeboard. Select the messages you would like to receive via email and submit.

**School Banking**
School Banking has begun and will occur every Monday afternoon. Information packs are available for families interested in this program.

**In School Music Tuition**
In school tuition lessons between 8.30am – 3.00pm will only be offered to children in Year 2 and above. This decision has been made as the Year 1 teachers found it very disruptive to their programs with children coming in and out at various times during prime teaching time. I trust you will accept this educational decision. Enrolment forms for Musicorp are available at the Office.

**God bless**
Carmel Maguire
Principal
Ash Wednesday
The season of Lent commenced yesterday with our celebration of Mass. As Kindergarten were on their rest day yesterday, Fr Loi will be at school today to distribute the ashes to them.
Fr Loi spoke to us about the three things the church asks of us through Lent:
*Prayer - we need to pray for those around us - particularly our parents and those less privileged than us.
*Fasting - do something, it might be reducing the amount of screen time, instead of six chocolates, three chocolates
*Almsgiving - be aware of Project Compassion and the St Vincent De Paul Door Knock Appeal. You might even be able to volunteer as a collector.
The Project Compassion Website (see link) is an excellent resource for Lent. Prayer, reflections and links to the various projects which support people and communities in need build their independence. Project Compassion celebrates 50 years in 2016.
http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

Sacramental Dates 2016
Sacrament of Eucharist:
Parent Information Evening: Wednesday 24 February 7:00pm, School Library
Home Groups Week 1: 29 February - 4 March
Home Groups Week 2: 7 March - 11 March
Preparation Day Wednesday 27 April
First Holy Communion Saturday 30 April and Sunday 1 May 2016.

Sacrament of Confirmation:
Parent Information Evening: Wednesday 20 July 7:00pm. School Library
Parent and Child Evening Thursday 11 August 7:00pm School Library
Sacrament of Confirmation Wednesday 7 September (6:00pm)
Fr Tony Percy Vicar General will confer the sacrament.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: (First Confession)
Parent Information Evening: Wednesday 12 October, 7:00pm. School Library
Home groups Week 1: 17 October - 21 October 28
Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesday 16 November St Monica's Church.

AWARDS, PRIZES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUE AWARD VALUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Joel M</td>
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<tr>
<td>KMR</td>
<td>Lillian F</td>
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<td>KRG</td>
<td>Alex A</td>
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<td>1B</td>
<td>Finn D</td>
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<td>1V</td>
<td>Bella P</td>
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<td>1OH</td>
<td>Anthony M</td>
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<td>2S</td>
<td>Isabella C</td>
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<td>2L</td>
<td>Lachlan B</td>
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Happy Birthday to the following children who are celebrating birthdays this week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinder</th>
<th>Amelia B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Liam S, Daniel I, Anthony M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Luke W, William D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Marin J</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Hayley S, Natalie S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Ryan G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Mia S</td>
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SPORTING NEWS

It is that time of year when many families are making decisions regarding a sporting activity for their child/ren. To help families we will make this a regular feature each week.

At St Monica’s we encourage and support participation in a number of sports. If you are involved in a sporting club and would like to welcome new teams or individuals, please provide details to be published in future newsletters to help current and new families with sport selection.

Netball:
The registration process for the 2016 Winter season is about to commence. We usually have St Monica’s based teams from Year 2 to Year 6 which are affiliated with various local clubs. If you would like further information, please contact one of the following (depending on what grade your child is in).

Comets Netball Club is a local netball club in Canberra's northside. It caters for mostly students from St Monica's in the age group of 7 (turning 8) to 12 year olds. Registration for this coming season is on Friday 19/2 from 3 - 4pm outside the canteen (near the window) and on Saturday 20/2 from 9 - 11am on the blacktop. Registration fees are $170 for the season, plus a small fee each week for umpires for the season. The season starts with grading on Saturday 19/3 and finishes with Grand Finals in September. For any enquiries please email cometsnetballclub@yahoo.com.au.

Year 4 Netball – we currently have a number of girls interested in joining the Ginninderra Netball Club (GNC) and would welcome any new players. Please contact Antonella Lukic on 0433 873 707 or Marita Whitfield on 0447 517 557.
Melba Tennis Club
Free Family Fun Day – Sunday 14 February 3pm at Brownlee Place, Melba. Come and see how fast you can serve, try using the ball machine. Come and try the latest Head racquets (available for sale). Free BBQ and drinks. Membership deals for new members only. Come and have a try at your local tennis club and meet the coaches.

Rugby League: TBA
Oztag: TBA
Soccer: TBA
AFL: TBA

CANTEEN CORNER

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.

The Roster for Term 1, Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</th>
<th>Late 11:30am - 2:30pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>MONDAY 15/2/15</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 16/2/15</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 17/2/15</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 18/2/15</td>
<td>Anne Carew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 19/2/15</td>
<td>Emma Shea Samantha Cox</td>
</tr>
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Thank you - Samantha Manning- 62584687

GENERAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Merici College invites you to their 2016 International Women’s Day Dinner with guest keynote speaker Amy Coombe – Wednesday 9 March 6pm for 6.30pm. The event will be held in the Bridges Restaurant with a three course menu and welcome drink provided by Yr 12 Hospitality students. Cost $50 pp. BYOG. RSVP to Ros Parisi by Wed 2 March ros.parsi@merici.act.edu.au, 62434178. Payment by Fri 4 March, Finance 62434107.

Are you the voice of tomorrow?
If you love to sing, Woden Valley Youth Choir wants you. WVYC has three choirs of young people from age 8 - 21. Members come from all over Canberra, not just Woden Valley and the choir currently rehearses in Weston Creek. There are currently vacancies in all three choirs. The next round of auditions will be held on February 27th. If you think you have what it takes, are not afraid of commitment and hard work, go to http://www.wvyc.org.au and click on “Joining” to get more information and register to audition.

Sesquicentenary Celebrations in NSW for all who have a Josephite Heart
World-wide celebrations on 19 March 2016 will mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph in Penola SA. On St Joseph’s Day 1866 Mary MacKillop, with the direction and encouragement of Fr Julian Tenison Woods, began to live as a religious under the patronage of St Joseph. On that day Mary wore a simple black dress and bonnet, attended Mass, taught the children and waited for God to show her the next step. Many have followed in her footsteps since then – Sisters, Associates, Co-workers and all with a Josephite Heart. They currently live and minister in the Josephite spirit in many places throughout Australia, NZ, Ireland, Scotland, Peru, Brazil and East Timor, carrying on the Josephite legacy to the present day.

Throughout New South Wales Josephite Sisters, Associates, Partners in Ministry, Students and Ex-Students, Former Sisters, Family and Friends, Priests and Religious, are invited to gather together in various centres to celebrate the founding of the Sisters of St Joseph 150 years ago.

To mark the occasion in the Canberra/Goulburn Archdiocese there will be a Mass at 11.30am on Saturday 19 March at St Joseph’s Church, O’Connor with Archbishop Christopher Prowse presiding. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall following the Mass. Please RSVP by 4 March 2016 to Sr Julie Connolly – julie.connolly@sosj.org.au or 0447 772 659 or to Sr Colleen Howe – colleen.howe@sosj.org.au or 0439 483 426.

Marymead
Monster Garage Sale – Saturday 13 February
Our Monster Garage Sale will be held this coming Saturday at Marymead 255 Goyder, Street Narrabundah from 9.00am – 1.00pm. There will be plants, books, craft, toys, bric-a-brac and clothing for sale with all proceeds going to Marymead. Come along and grab a bargain and enjoy the sausage sizzle.

Canberra Outlet Centre Charity Race Day proudly supporting Marymead – Saturday 19 March
Marymead, together with our NEXGEN volunteers, will again be hosting the Canberra Outlet Centre Charity Race Day proudly supporting Marymead, 19 March at Thoroughbred Park in the Silks Room. It promises to be a great day as always! There will be private TAB facilities in the room, Punters Club, Glam Bar, Fashions on the Field, Fashions in the Room, prizes, raffles, auctions and much more.

Our Charity Race Day will be raising funds for our ‘KC Getaways’ program, a program which provides social support to children and families affected by disability. A program which is also a mentoring program. There are currently corporate and non corporate tables available. For more information head to our website marymead.org.au/events/canberraoutlet or email events@marymead.org.au or call me on 6162 5800.

Interested in playing netball this year?

The Cougars Netball Club is holding their registration day on Wednesday 10th of February from 4.30pm till 6.30pm or Monday 15th of February from 4.30pm till 6.30pm at the Belconnen Netball Association pavilion located at Lhotsky St, Charnwood.

The Cougars Netball Club, originally founder in 1985 is being re-established by original members to provide an opportunity for players of all levels to play netball from the age of 7 years and above.

All teams will participate in the North Canberra Netball Competition which commences on the 19th of March 2016 playing at both Belconnen and Lyneham netball courts.

For further information please contact club contact – Cass Stewart on 0418 628 334 or email cougarsnetballact@gmail.com.au