**VALUE - Responsibility**

Give me, O God,
A sense of responsibility
Give me…
A sense of responsibility to myself,
So that I may never waste the gifts
Which you have given to me;
A sense of responsibility to my parents,
So that I may do something to try to
Repay them for all the love and the care
They have given to me;
A sense of responsibility to my teachers,
So that all their patient teaching of me
May not go for nothing;
A sense of responsibility to my friends,
So that I may never disappoint them;
A sense of responsibility to those
Who have gone before me,
So that I may never forget what
My freedom and liberty cost, and that
I may hand on still finer the heritage
And the tradition into which I have entered;
A sense of responsibility to the world,
So that I may put into life
More than I take out;
A sense of responsibility to You,
So that I may always remember that
You loved me and gave yourself for me.
Help me remember what
I have received,
And to use what I have and so to make
What I ought to out of this life of mine,
Which cost so much.
This I ask for your love’s sake, Amen.

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOCUS**

**BEING RESPONSIBLE**

Being responsible means that we follow instructions. To follow instructions, we need to listen to our teachers and stay on task.

R – Responsibility means taking ownership of our actions
E – Everyone has a job to be responsible
S – Staying on task is being responsible
P – Picking up our rubbish is being responsible
O – Our words are our responsibility
N – Not being silly in class is being responsible
I – If we are responsible, other people will find it easy as well!
B – Being respectful to your peers is responsible
L – Listening to your teacher is being responsible
E – Each and every one of us at St Monica’s should be responsible!

Written by 5E

**A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents

Inclusion

**School Administration and Staff Facilities Opening**

Tomorrow commencing at 10.00am, our refurbished administration area will be officially opened by Senator Zed Seselja and blessed by Archbishop Christopher Prowse. Keep the date free as families are most welcome to join us to celebrate this special occasion. Please be seated by 9.50am

As this is an important day for the school the children will be treated with a special surprise and an ice cream at morning tea. Ice blocks will be available for children with an allergy to milk.

Please advise your child’s teacher if you have a concern.

Children are required to wear their winter uniform, not their sports uniform, tomorrow.

**Mary Help of Christians**

Tuesday 24 May marks the feast of Mary Help of Christians - Australia’s Patroness.

St Monica’s will celebrate this day next Wednesday with a whole school Mass at 9:30am. You are most welcome to join us.

Australia’s connection to Mary Help of Christians goes back to the earliest days of discovery and settlement. Life for Catholics was very difficult in the early days. Under Samuel Marsden Catholics were forced into other services, they weren’t allowed to practice their faith in any way. Children born to Catholic convicts were taken away, baptised and reared as Anglican. This practice was stopped in 1820 with the arrival of Fr John Joseph Therry – one of the first official Catholic Chaplains to arrive in the colony. The infant Church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. In those early and mostly priestless days, it was largely the Rosary that kept the faith alive. Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary and was the first nation to choose her, under the title of Help of Christians, as principle Patroness.

**Special Prayers**

Please keep the Hogan family in your prayers – Nicholas (5E), Madeline (2L) and Cameron (KMR) as their great grandmother passed away last week.
No Assembly Tomorrow 
due to 
Building Opening and Cross Country

Staffing
Next week a number of staff will be attending a professional development conference on Monday and Tuesday. The staff involved include Patrick Ellis, Carmel Rheinberger, Haley Stonham, Amanda Stewart, Cerryanne Kelly, Monika Richards and myself.

Belonging and connectedness improves mental health and learning
All children need to feel that their world is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out any problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging.

A sense of belonging has been found to help protect children against mental health problems and improve their learning. Children who feel that they belong are happier, more relaxed and have fewer behavioural problems than others. They are also more motivated and more successful learners.

Families and teachers can ensure the necessary ingredients are present to help children feel a sense of belonging at school. It is also important for parents to feel comfortable connecting at school and with the school community. Making the effort to take small, conscious steps to build a positive school community increases engagement and positive wellbeing outcomes for parents and children, positively impacting learning outcomes for students.

Taking opportunities to get to know other families, finding out how to support children’s learning and getting involved in activities can help you feel a sense of belonging and connectedness to your school which will help your child’s mental health and capacity to learn.

Click on the link for more information on this topic.
Information from www.kidsmatter.edu.au

WWVP Card
A reminder - all volunteers must wear their WWVP card when assisting around the school. This is a requirement and schools are being checked to ensure this is occurring.

School Banking
For families interested in setting up a Youthsaver account for their child/children you can do this by visiting any Commonwealth Bank branch to set up an account. If you are already an existing Commonwealth Bank customer you can apply online through Netbank. Your child will receive a yellow Dollarmite wallet and deposit book to bring their banking to school. Banking is every Monday.

Families Taking Leave For 10 Days Or More
Where children are accompanying family members for an extended holiday, for 10 or more school days, parents are now required to complete an Application for Extended Leave – Travel form. I will make this available on our school app and website or it can be collected from the office. Thank you for your assistance.

St Monica’s Primary School
Official Enrolment Period
Official enrolment period finishes tomorrow - 20 May

Please encourage neighbours and friends with prospective enrolments to attend so they can see first-hand the school in operation.
Enrolment forms for 2017 school year will be available from the Front Office during this period.

ELC Enrolments and Enrolment Application Forms for Archdiocesan Secondary Schools are also available.

Playground Equipment
A reminder to parents that children, including little ones are not permitted on the equipment before or after school. This is a safety issue. While I know everyone has good intentions to supervise their children it just take that short conversation to detract you from watching a child. Our SMOOSH carers have also expressed concern as they are very much aware of their duty of care when supervising children after school. They are concerned when other children are also using the equipment; it is a fine line.

I am open to suggestions of how to offer opportunities for families who like to have a chat after school to gather and make use of our wonderful equipment. An idea I experienced at my niece’s school in Perth earlier in the year – Friday afternoons are designated play afternoons where families interested in gathering after school bring along an afternoon tea snack and supervise their children on the equipment. If this idea appeals we would ask our SMOOSH staff not to use the equipment until 4.00pm. If interested please let me know. (I realise this may be more a summer suggestion.)

School Fees
Fees were issued on Tuesday and sent to families via email or home with the eldest child. Statements were emailed home today to families paying via direct debit, so that you can monitor the amount owing.

Automatic Deduction (Credit Card) for School Fees Payments
Currently families have the option of an automatic deduction from their nominated credit card as a way to pay school fees. We wish to advise that from April this option has ceased. Families currently using this arrangement may do so for the remainder of this year but new arrangements should be prepared for 2017. Families currently using this option are advised that deductions may not occur during school holiday periods. Other payment options are: Direct Debit (from bank account), BPAY, Credit Card (at office or by phone), QKR app, cash or cheque.
Year 1 Excursion
Notes have been sent home advising that the excursion has been rescheduled for next Wednesday 25 May for 1V & 1OR.

God bless

Carmel Maguire
Principal

RE NEWS

Grandparents and Special Friends Day
We extend a warm welcome to all our Grandparents and Special Friends
Date: Friday 3 June
Time Class visits from 9:00am -10:15am
Morning Tea for guests: 10:20 -11:00am in the Hall
Grandparents Day Liturgy: 11:00 -11:450am
We look forward to your presence with us.
Invitations were sent home today with your child/ren to send to their grandparents or special friends. Invitations are also up on our App and copies on our pamphlet stand in the Front Office.

SPORTING NEWS

Athletics Carnival – Thursday 26 May
The St Monica’s Athletics Carnival is fast approaching. This is a full school activity and all children are required to attend.
Place: Charnwood Oval, Lhotsky Street Charnwood
Time: 9:30am- 2:30pm.
Transport: Children will be transported to and from Charnwood Oval by bus. The cost of the bus will be covered by the Curriculum Levy. (Years K-6 will be participating in the carnival).
Permission notes have been sent home and are due back tomorrow.

Belconnen Cross Country
Tomorrow some students from St Monica’s will be competing at the Belconnen Cross Country Carnival. We have arranged a bus to transport the children to and from the carnival. We wish them all good luck.

AWARDS, PRIZES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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

Year 3  Lucia J, Sebby D,
Year 5  Lachlan S, Leo B
Year 6  Lochlain K, Hannah C

CANTENE 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 2, Week 5

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<tr>
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<th>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</th>
<th>Late 11:30am - 2:30pm</th>
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<td>MONDAY 23/5/16</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
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<td>TUESDAY 24/5/16</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 25/5/16</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
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<td>THURSDAY 26/5/16</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
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<td>Anne Carew</td>
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<td>FRIDAY 27/5/16</td>
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<td>Sam Cox</td>
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Thank you - Samantha Manning- 6258 4687
Friday Lunch Orders only available via Flexi Schools ordering due to availability of helpers.
Bedwetting Programme
Based on Sydney Children’s Hospital Programme. Suitable for children from 5 years of age. Margaret O’Donovan, Physiotherapist, Canberra City. Enquiries – 62485066.