Dear Parents,

What a great start to the term we had last week. Walking around the school and connecting with students from all year levels, I feel inspired by the learning that is occurring. Students are engaged and having fun. I would like to say thank you to all the teachers at St Monica’s. They spend a huge amount of hours planning and preparing lesson experiences for their students.

A note went out this week regarding our Year 5/6 Concert – Pirates of the CurryBean. This will be a performance by all students across Year 5 and 6 displaying their creative sides filled with humour. At present, families with students in Year 5 and 6 are invited and depending on ticket sales, we could open it to the whole school community. Will keep you posted.

This week, World Youth Day is occurring in Kraków, Poland. An amazing experience for young Catholics across the world to celebrate their faith, including Mr Chris Evans (5E) who is attending.

Just a quick reminder about the end of the day. We love that many of our parents pick up students from their classrooms and get to connect with the classroom teachers. We do however ask that noise is kept to a minimum and younger children are supervised and not running around. This can be very distracting for students in classes, many of whom are praying at that time or reflecting on the day’s learning.

Thank you for the feedback regarding last week’s newsletter. We value your ideas and thoughts on continuing to improve the ways we communicate with families.

Prayers

Please keep the Hogan family – Nicholas (5E), Madeline (2L) and Cameron (KMR) in your prayers as their great grandmother passed away last week.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Patrick Ellis
Acting Principal
Confirmation
Over the weekend our candidates attended mass to be presented to the community for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was great to see so many with their families proudly standing before their community. Thank you to the teachers who also came in support of the candidates and their families.

Thursday Week 4 will be their Parent and Child session run by the Year 6 Teachers at St Monica’s. The evening is a wonderful opportunity to come together with your child to learn and prepare as a family. Before the evening, share your Confirmation journey. How did you feel? Who was your Sponsor and why did you choose them? What was your Saints name? Did your family celebrate your confirmation in a special way? Information will come home next week about the evening.

We ask that you keep these children and their families in your prayers throughout this most special time in their faith journey.

“Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave!”
- Pope Francis

Haley Stonham
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

Sacrament of Confirmation Dates to Remember
Parent and Child Evening: Thursday 11 August 7:00pm
Preparation Day: Wednesday 31 August
Sacrament of Confirmation: Wednesday 7 September 6pm

Save the Date:
St Monica’s Parish will celebrate St Monica’s Feast Day Sunday 28 August at the 10am Mass followed by a multicultural morning tea in St Monica’s school hall.

World Youth Day
World Youth Day 2016 is well under way in Krakow, Poland. Mr Chris Evans from St Monica’s was selected by the CE to be part of the Pilgrim group from the ACT. They have been seeing the sights of Poland, including Pope John Paul II home town of Wadowice before the official start of World Youth Day on Tuesday 26 July. There will be an estimated 2 million pilgrims from around the world who will take part in this year’s World Youth Day. The theme chosen by Pope Francis this year is “Blessed are the merciful; for they shall receive mercy” (Mt 5:7).
On Thursday the pilgrims will have their first encounter with Pope Francis during the Papal welcome. On Saturday they will take part in the Pilgrimage walk to the site of the vigil and final mass Sunday 31 July will mark the conclusion of the World Youth Day pilgrimage. There will be a celebration and mass which will be celebrated by the Holy Father.

Maths at St Monica’s
This year our teachers are focusing on the area of Spatial Reasoning within Mathematics. Spatial reasoning involves the location and movement of objects and ourselves, either mentally or physically, in space. Spatial reasoning relies heavily on the ability to visualise and is of critical importance in geometry, measurement and problem solving both early in students’ mathematics experiences as well as later in high school and beyond. We are lucky to have Madonna Pianegonda, our Teaching and Learning Officer from Catholic Education, to work with the teachers to improve the Spatial Reasoning skills of the students.

Every class spends an hour each day engaging in Mathematics. We begin with a warm up, which is number based and designed to help get students into a Maths frame of mind, whilst also allowing them to use and revise number concepts they have already learnt. The bulk of the lesson is spent exploring concepts and teaching skills through hands on, visual and inquiry based activities, these may be done as a whole class or in flexible groups. The lesson concludes with cognitive closure, which can be a discussion (for the lower grades) or a written piece (for the upper grades) about the thinking that has occurred during the lesson. This helps students consolidate and retain the learning that occurred in the lesson.

We are also continuing our focus on mental computation and problem solving strategies. Teachers model these strategies within their lessons, students use them through problem solving and posters are displayed in each classroom to help students remember them. We encourage the use of mental strategies over the use of a written algorithm, as this helps students to solve problems using flexible and creative thought and assists them to build trust in their understanding of numbers.

I am happy to discuss alternatives to the algorithm if you are unsure of how to assist their child with mental calculations at home. Alternatively you could contact your child’s teacher who would also be happy to help.

Cerryanne Kelly – Numeracy Contact Teacher

BYODD Parent Night
Next Thursday 4 August St Monica’s will be hosting our first 5/6 Parent BYODD night. This night will be an opportunity for parents to learn, in more detail, how we are implementing the use of iPads in the classroom and how they can better support their child.

This night is also an excellent opportunity to showcase how the students have been using their ipads to present their learning. A letter is going home this week to outline how the evening will be running. There will be a slip to return with an RSVP on it and if those could be returned by Tuesday 2 August that would be appreciated.

Haley Stonham and Monika Richards
School Hats On Again – Monday 1 August
In keeping with our SunSmart policy it is now time for children to start wearing their hats again. Can you please ensure your child has their school hat each day commencing from Monday 1 August.

Book Week Parade

Dress up as your favourite book character on Wednesday 24 August.
The Book Parade will be in the School Hall at 9:15 am.
Look forward to seeing your creative costumes!
Mrs Hind & Miss Brown

Restorative Practices
You would have noticed that last week we have a new focus regarding our rules. In line with Restorative Practices, we have been reviewing our Behaviour Management and Pastoral Care Policies and Procedures.

Whilst our previous rule focus was effective, we would like to shift focus to include learning behaviours. Each 3 weeks we will have a new ‘social’ and ‘learning’ rule that classes will focus on, including unpacking what the rule means and discussing examples. These rules are based on data collected by the school through observations and feedback from staff and students on issues arising both on the playground and in classrooms.

We would ask that as a family, you also discuss these rules at home and reinforce positive behaviours including discussing strategies to display these behaviours.

Please feel free to discuss with your child’s teacher.

SRC Fundraiser – Jeans for Genes Day

Jeans for Genes is the iconic fundraising campaign of Children’s Medical Research Institute. The Children’s Medical Research Institute is dedicated to finding ways to treat or prevent childhood cancer, epilepsy, birth defects and genetic diseases in order to create brighter futures for all children.

Each year, Australians unite by wearing their favourite jeans or denim outfits, and donating money to support genetic research. On Friday the 5 August our school will become a sea of denim in a united stance against childhood disease. Every dollar raised on the day helps scientists at Children’s Medical Research Institute discover treatments and cures, to give every child the opportunity to live a long and healthy life.

So, on Friday 5 August (Week 3), students are encouraged to wear their jeans, denim outfits or casual clothes and bring in a gold coin donation to support this fundraiser.

K-4 Talent Quest
This Term we will be celebrating the achievements of our Kindergarten to Year 4 students by holding a talent quest - St Monica’s Kids Got Talent!
Students are encouraged to enter as individuals or in groups and show off their talents in the Arts by performing a short piece in areas such as, music, drama, poetry, magic or dance. Each grade level will select students to participate in the Grand Final in Week 6, where parents and friends will be welcome to come along.

See your class teacher for entry forms and show off your talent!

Ms Amanda Stewart – Coordinator

School Choir
Each Thursday lunchtime a group of talented singers in Grades 4, 5 and 6, get together to rehearse. We sing a wide range of songs from pop to ballads and songs for performing at Mass and special occasions.

We are looking forward to our upcoming performance at Floriade where we will be entertaining the crowds as they enjoy the beautiful flowers. This term we will be leading the singing at 2 special Mass celebrations, St Monica’s Day and The Assumption Mass.

We welcome new members and they are invited to come along to meet us in the Music room at lunchtime on Thursday or see Mrs Anderson or Ms Stewart.

Scientist for a Day
This year St Monica’s will be celebrating National Science Week on Friday 19 August. This year the National theme is Drones, Droids and Robots. On this day at St Monica’s we will be having a ‘Scientist for a Day’ day. This day will be full of fun Science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) investigations. To make it even more fun, we will all be dressing up as Scientists!

If you would like more information about National Science Week visit: http://www.scienceweek.net.au/
Watch this space for more information!

Mini Vinnies @ St Monica’s
The Mini Vinnies team are looking forward to leading Week 9 Assembly this term, as we were unfortunately unable to do so last term.

Please note, we will be inducting some new members to the Mini Vinnies team during the Whole School Prayer led by class 1OH on Wednesday 3 August (Week 3) at 2.30pm.
Parents and friends are welcome to join with us for both of these events.

Mini Vinnies @ St Monica’s
School Fees
The Canberra Catholic Schools Building Fund (applicable only to ACT schools) is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a deductible gift recipient (DGR) therefore is fully tax deductible.
Building Fund Statements for the 2015/2016 financial year were emailed or posted last week. Please contact Allison Walsh if you have not received your Building Fund Statement. A reminder to please check your junk box if you haven’t seen an email. Please ensure we have your most up to date details on file.

Qkr Payments
Qkr is our preferred payment method. Our app has been recently updated with a fresh new look. We now have the ability to attach permission and volunteer forms to items in Qkr, you may be asked to complete an attached form when processing your Qkr payment. If you submit permission forms with Qkr there is no need for you to submit a handwritten form.

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@catholic.edu.au
The email will be checked regularly by Evelyn David - Hoole, Council Executive Secretary.

Changes to School Bus Services – Monday 29 August 2016
On Monday 29 August ACTION will be introducing a revised timetable for some school services. This information is now available on the Transport Canberra Website – transport.act.gov.au
Affected routes include:
Route 410 – this service will finish at 4.01pm
Route 461 – this service will finish at 3.36pm
Route 691 – this service will finish at 3.40pm.

SPORTING NEWS

School AFL Clinics
Last week the whole school participated in AFL Clinics. This is a free program run by AFL Schools NSW/ACT. The program is a three week program and is running in Weeks 1, 3 and 4. The sessions incorporate ball skills – passing, catching and throwing, running and team work. The clinics are run on Thursday and will continue again in Week 3 and 4.

ACT Cross Country
Congratulations to Layla R (2D) who came 2nd in the 8 years Girls 1000m at ACT Cross Country. Well done Layla!!
Swimming
Congratulations to Madeline H (2L) who has been swimming at Kings for 6 years. Madeline has now graduated from swimming at Kings Macgregor. As a Graduate, Madeline can now swim 1000m of continuous Freestyle and is competent in all four strokes.
Rugby League
Congratulations to Noah and Jack Mills, Sam Penyu and Ben McFadden who were selected in the ACT School Boys team for Rugby League. Congratulations to Jack Mills who was named Captain of the side. We wish Noah M (6S), Jack M (6S), Sam P (6S) and Ben Mc (6S) the very best!

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value Award – Courage</th>
<th>Class Award – English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KS Zachary H</td>
<td>Jackson M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KMR Jakob K</td>
<td>Jack R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRG Oliver V</td>
<td>Luca S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1V Ainsleigh M</td>
<td>Isaac P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B Lily H</td>
<td>Giuseppe C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10H Maria K</td>
<td>Evan L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L Giorgia M</td>
<td>Ben B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2S Micaela M</td>
<td>Mary D-H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2D Skyla L</td>
<td>Amber M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3R Fletcher A</td>
<td>Caydence L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D Sam G</td>
<td>Yong A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4RG Lyndelle M</td>
<td>Annie R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C Anton DH</td>
<td>Blake O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4W Sophie H</td>
<td>Domenic S</td>
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<tr>
<td>5K Week 1 – Claire R</td>
<td>Week 1 – Grace P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5K Amy R</td>
<td>Holli N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5E Renee S</td>
<td>Alicia R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M Tyler M</td>
<td>Carys M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M Cohen E</td>
<td>Marko J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6S Nicholas B</td>
<td>Samuel V</td>
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</tbody>
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Whole School Prayer – 10H 2.30pm - Wednesday 3 August
Whole School Assembly – 3R 1pm - Friday 5 August
**Birthdays**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Brock S, Sophie B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jasper T, Liam K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Isabella C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Ruby S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Brooke M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Chad C, Lara Mc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Brooke M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Chad C, Lara Mc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Joven M, Imogen R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Canteen Corner**

The Roster for Term 3, Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</th>
<th>Late 11:30am - 2:30pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8/16</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/8/16</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
<td>Anne Carew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>Samantha Cox</td>
<td>Wendy Regan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8/16</td>
<td>Tracy D'Ambrosio</td>
<td>Alissa Kilpatrick</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4/8/16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/8/16</td>
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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.

**Community Information**

**Drama Classes for Kids** Classes at Evatt

**Creativity - Confidence - Communication**

**Speech Bubbles:** 4-6 years Thursday 4pm
Weekly themed classes developing communication and creative drama skills.

**Footlights:** 10-14 years Thursday 4.45 Children develop confidence and performance skills in a super-fun creative environment!

Canberra Academy of Dramatic Art
Enrol now: www.cada.net.au Phone: 1300 908 90

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**Junior 2016/17 Summer Season Trials**

All Players 6-18 years. Wests Magpies Basketball Club is calling all girls and boys turning 6-18 years in 2017 to register now for the upcoming junior summer season basketball competition. Trials will be held during the week of 1 - 5 August 2016. Contact the club for registration instructions and for full trial details including venues and times. All skill levels are more than welcome and encouraged to register. If you are interested in joining our fantastic club, email us at wests.basketball@gmail.com or check out our website for more information at www.westmagpies.basketball.net.au.

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Thank you
Samantha Manning - Canteen Manager - 6258 4687