Dear Parents,

I trust all the fathers and grandfathers were spoilt last weekend.

This week we were once again very fortunate to have Vic and Liz O’Callaghan visiting over two days to work with the staff and children to support our implementation of Restorative Practices. This initiative was supported by a Wellbeing Grant provided by the Catholic Education. Vic and Liz thoroughly enjoy working with our community and were very impressed with how welcoming and engaging the children were when they worked in the classroom.

A wonderful Confirmation celebration of was held last night. Congratulations to the forty-seven students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Confirmation Mass was concelebrated by Fr Tony Percy and Fr Loi. The students are to be commended on their preparation and participation in the Confirmation Mass. Many thanks to their teachers Haley Stonham, Elizabeth Mahoney, Michael McFadden, Kerryanne Kwong and Shirley Boag (Parish School of Religion) and Carmel Rheinberger for your support. Special thanks to Anne Kennedy and Helen Houghton, for sharing their music ministry with us each year and to you the parents and sponsors of these wonderful young people—thank you, you will always remain their first educators in faith.

This Saturday, St Monica’s staff will gather at the Arboretum for a Spirituality Day the theme of which is “Laudato Si” –On Care For Our Common Home. This is Pope Francis’ Encyclical written to inform and challenge our relationships with the world created for us by God and the relationships we form between ourselves. Our presenter for the day will be Anne Gowan, an RE and Curriculum Officer from Catholic Education. We are looking forward to this time to connect with our God, pray together, reflect and listen to one another.

Enjoy the week ahead.
God Bless
Carmel Maguire

At St Monica’s we are a vibrant Catholic community that works collaboratively to empower its members to be inclusive learners, custodians and citizens.
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Year 3)
Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confession) will commence in Term 4 for Year 3 students at St Monica's. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a Catholic Sacrament. All children who are baptised Catholic (Year 3 and above) are eligible to enrol in the program. If your child is not baptised or baptised in another Christian faith and you wish for them to make their first Reconciliation, you must contact Fr Loi to discuss the matter. The children will receive the Sacrament on 16 November. Children must receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before they can be eligible to make their First Holy Communion in Year 4.

All children enrolled in Year 3 will complete the Reconciliation program in class. Enrolment forms and Home group Information (a component of the program) will come home next Monday.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Due to the Canberra Raiders making it to the finals the children are permitted to wear an item of green clothing tomorrow to show their support – ie a green tee shirt, green socks, green ribbons, a raiders jacket etc.

A little bit if trivia – My brother played with the Raiders, over 20 years ago, before launching into his coaching career.

School Read-a-thon
Thank you to the children who put their passion for reading to work. From the money raised a small percentage will go towards covering the cost of the prizes. Tomorrow (Friday) is the last day to hand in your prize selection forms as Mrs Hind is placing orders tomorrow.

Great Book Swap
Yesterday we celebrated Indigenous Literacy Day by hosting a Great Book Swap. A big thank you to all the students and families who donated a book. This was a great event where students were able to swap for another book. Thank you also to everyone who donated. We raised $294 which will go to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Kinder - Year 2 Swimming
Children from Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 will participate in the Gungahlin Leisure Centre Swimming Program during Term 4. The program is for 8 days during Weeks 5 and 6 of Term 4. Dates are Week 5 Tues 8 Nov to Fri 11 Nov and Week 6 Tues 15 Nov to Fri 18 Nov. Children will be transported there and back to school by bus. Cost for 8 lessons and travel is $100 per child. Permission notes were sent home to families this week.

Key points for supporting children’s emotional development

Providing effective support for children’s emotional development starts with paying attention to their feelings and noticing how they manage them. By acknowledging children’s emotional responses and providing guidance, parents, carers and school staff can help children understand and accept feelings, and develop effective strategies for managing them.

Tune into children’s feelings and emotions - Some emotions are easily identified, while others are less obvious. Tuning into children’s emotions involves looking at their body language, listening to what they are saying and how they are saying it, and observing their behaviour. This allows you to respond more effectively to children’s needs and to offer more specific guidance to help children manage their emotions.

Help children recognise and understand emotions - Taking opportunities to talk with children and teach them about emotions helps children to become more aware of their own emotions as well as those of others. Encouraging children to feel comfortable with their emotions and providing them with practice in talking about their feelings helps children to further develop ways to manage their emotions.

Set limits on inappropriate expression of emotions - It is very important for children to understand that it is okay to have a range of emotions and feelings, but that there are limits to the ways these should be expressed. While acknowledging children’s emotions, it is therefore very important to set limits on aggressive, unsafe or inappropriate behaviours.

Be a role model - Children learn about emotions and how to express them appropriately by watching others – especially parents. Showing children the ways you understand and manage emotions helps children learn from your example. This includes examples of saying “Sorry, I lost my temper” (because no parent is perfect!) and then showing how you might make amends.

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Uniform Shop
As our wonderful volunteer Uniform Team will be changing over to our summer uniform stock at the end of next week they are very keen to offload as much of the second hand stock as possible due to our lack of storage. All second hand items will be sold for $1 until 8 September (our last Thursday opening time for winter stock).

Summer stock will be available from Monday 12 September
St Monica’s Chess Tournament - tomorrow
St Monica’s will be holding a chess tournament for all interested players tomorrow. The tournament will run for the entire day breaking for recess, lunch and Assembly.

Years 5 & 6 Showcase – Celebration of a Nation
On Tuesday 13 September students in Year 5 and Year 6 would like to share their learning with you. Classes will be open from 11.30am-1.30pm to visitors. Join the students as they complete their Term 3 History GRASPS Task, “Celebration of a Nation”. Each classroom will be converted into a Gallery covering a span of around 25 years of 20th century Australian history.

Active Kids Challenge 2016
We have been busy being active Kids during the last 8 weeks of the term. We have participated in daily fitness, Mini Olympics and Sport and Fitness sessions. I also know that many of the children have been active outside of school in various sporting, dance and activity teams like Scouts. Congratulations everyone!

Father’s Day Stall Thankyou
A huge thank you to Michelle Bowman for all her time and effort put in to making the Father’s Day Stall such a huge success. The children were very happy being able to make their purchases from a wonderful selection of gifts. Special thanks also to the wonderful helpers at the stall – Margaret Rule, Wendy Regan, Simone Hogan, Tracy D’Ambrosio, Angela Hose, Kaye Solari and Ros Emmerick.

Trivia Night – Friday 28 October 2016
Trivia is back in 2016! Block out the date in your diaries and book in the babysitter. The annual trivia night is back. We have new hosts on board for 2016-2017 so let’s harness last year’s awesomeness and show them how it’s done!!! More details to follow in the next few weeks....

In the interim, if you are able to donate any items for the silent auction please contact Emma Howlett on 0413 660 585.

Vacation Care - SMOOSH
Vacation Care bookings are filling up fast. To secure your booking please book and pay via the Qkr App or contact the Smoosh Office.

School Garden Working Bee – 17 September
St Monica’s families are invited to help us welcome Spring at the St Monica’s garden working bee on Saturday 17 September from 10am onwards. We will be mulching the garden around the hall carpark and planting an avenue of beautiful blossom trees. We would greatly appreciate help in moving and spreading soil and mulch, and planting the trees.

There will be a sausage sizzle for lunch and it should be a really fun, community event. If you are able to help on the day please bring along shovels, rakes, gloves and wheelbarrows if you can. If you are able to come along and help please RSVP to Lis O’Daly on edlisodaly@gmail.com or 0413 320 522.

We are also offering families the opportunity to “adopt” their own tree, help to plant it and watch it grow! We currently have 10 trees ready for adoption at $50 each. If your family is interested in this, please contact Lis at the above email address. Five trees have already been adopted!

Community Meeting to learn how the local political candidates will be supporting Catholic Education
St Monica’s is in the YERRABI ELECTORATE. Candidates from all three major parties in this electorate have confirmed their availability to attend a meeting to be held on MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER – GOOD SHEPHERD, AMAROO– 7pm-8pm.

Parents and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Catch a Reader Display
Step 1: Take a photo of yourself or someone else reading in the most unusual or inspiring place.
Step 2: Email your photo to Mrs Hind @ rachael.hind@cg.catholic.edu.au
Step 3: Check out the display!

Community 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@cg.catholic.edu.au

The email will be checked regularly by Evelyn David – Hoole, Council Executive Secretary.

Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Drew G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Ainsleigh M, Archie S, Thomas R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Pyper M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Clara A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Dominic W, Phoebe O, Thomas O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Whole School Prayer – Wednesday 14 September led by Kindergarten (Week 8 Value Awards presented)

School Assembly tomorrow – Friday 9 September led by 5E/5K (Week 8 Class Awards and Stars presented)

--------------------------------------------------

School Assembly tomorrow – Friday 9 September led by 5E/5K (Week 8 Class Awards and Stars presented)

Value Award – Service
KS Lorenzo S
KMR Zak D
KRG Christian M
IV Gabe J
1B Bastijan P
1OH Zac C
2L Aiden O
2S Jessamine A-C
2D Mikayla T
3R William C
3D Chiara W
3/4RG Riley L
4C Tom P
4W Dante C
5K Ryan L
5E Charlie B
5/6M Ashton C
6M Jaiken B
6S Abbi F

Class Award – Humanities or Science
Cooper N
Mia D
Annalise S
Elijah L
Jeremy R
Makenna M
William D
Tahlia B
Angelino S
Sienna H
Elyse S
Zoe O
Sam Mc
Cooper B
Rocio F
Eve M
Lachlan G
Joven M
Anthony R

M&M Star Medallions – Luke B (2D), Tomas G (2D), Gabriella F (2D), Imogen H (3D), Bailey A (3/4RG)

The Roster for Term 3, Week 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</th>
<th>Late 11:30am - 2:30pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY 12/9/16</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY 13/9/16</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
<td>Carol Lynch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 14/9/16</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
<td>Evelyn David-Hoole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY 15/9/16</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Carew</td>
<td>Anne Carew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 16/9/16</td>
<td>Tracy D’Ambrosio</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samantha Cox</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interested in Playing Softball?
Any children interested in playing Softball (and teeball) in the coming Summer competition – Saturday mornings during Term 4 (2016) and Term 1 (2017). For more information please contact Mr Fletcher at school or mobile 0438 303 460.

Questacon Holiday Workshops
Every school holidays we deliver a series of design and innovation workshops at the Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre in Deakin. These holidays, our workshops will cover topics like app design, creating wacky vehicles, Computer Aided Design, domino-effect machines and robotics. Workshops are suitable for students aged 10 to 15. For more information visit website – www.questacon.edu.au

Western District Junior Cricket Club
Register now to play Junior Cricket this summer with Wests. Register by 9 September to guarantee a place in one of our teams. To register visit the website http://www.westsjuniors.act.cricket.com.au.

MapMates - Twilight Series
Join the fun! Come along to the Blue Sparks’ October orienteering event - MapMates. Held Wednesday evenings for four weeks, MapMates teams will work together, learning new skills as they navigate around the safe, graded courses, set in various bush parks around Canberra. The emphasis is on fun and adventure! Come along to the welcome event on Wednesday 12 October 2016, from 5pm. The series starts on Wednesday 19 October 16. For more information, or to register for the series, see http://act.orienteering.asn.au - look for the MapMates symbol.