



NEWSLETTER

Term 4 – Week 3 – 27 October 2016

At St Monica's we are a vibrant Catholic community that works collaboratively to empower its members to be inclusive learners, custodians and citizens

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Inclusion



Dear Parents/Carers

Yesterday the school came together to celebrate Mass for Mission Week. This gathering enabled the staff and children to pray for those people who lost their lives in the terrible accident at Dreamworld, especially those who were well known to our school community.

It is with much sadness, I inform you Kate Goodchild, mother of an ex St Monica's Year 6 student of 2015, was killed in the accident on River Rapids Ride at Dreamworld on Tuesday. Kate's mother is Kim Dorsett who has worked in a number of Catholic primary schools including St John's, St Monica's and Rosary. As you would be aware from media reports it was Kate's brother Luke who was also killed in the accident. Both Kate and Luke attended SFX. Luke's partner, Roozbeh and another adult were also killed in the accident.

As many of the children had observed media footage of the accident and were aware of who was involved due to the release of names yesterday morning we took time during the day to continue to pray for the family and monitored the children very closely. The staff will continue to be available to provide the necessary care for our community.

We are reminded again that life is so very precious and as we draw together as a community to offer support at this difficult time, I ask you to keep all the families who have tragically lost loved ones in yesterday's accident, in your prayers.

Please let us know if your child needs particular support by contacting myself, Mr Patrick Ellis – Assistant Principal, Mr Bob Fletcher – Chaplaincy Program Worker, or your child's teacher.

We continue to keep the family in our prayers as they cope daily with their great loss.

God Bless

Carmel Maguire

SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

Learning Focus – Weeks 4-6

Be Respectful

Help each other with learning

We help our classmates. We can ask and answer questions, give them advice and we respect learning time.



Social Focus – Weeks 4-6

Be Safe

Play safe games

We play safely on the playground. This means we are considerate of others and play by the rules.



SCHOOL VALUE - Forgiveness

Forgiveness by Jonathan Williams

Forgive me, Lord because today...

I wasn't kind,
I wasn't patient,
I wasn't gentle,
I wasn't thoughtful,
I wasn't friendly,
I wasn't generous,
I wasn't loving,
Forgive me Lord.



365 Children's Prayers John Garratt Publishing 2011.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Home Groups will conclude this week. Many thanks for your participation in this component of the Program. Please return materials and sheep to school when completed. To assist your child over the next few weeks, you can talk to him/her about the choices they make and the consequences of these choices, including the need to say sorry. This will help with their examination of conscience prior to making their First Reconciliation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wednesday 16 November 6:30pm.



All Saints Day

Next Tuesday, as well as Melbourne Cup day, we celebrate All Saints Day. This is a significant day in our Church calendar as it is when the Church honours all saints, known and unknown. While we have information about many saints, and we honour them on specific days, there are many unknown or unsung saints, who may have been forgotten, or never been honoured specifically. On All Saints Day, we celebrate these holy men and women and ask for their prayers and intercessions.

For your information –the patron saints of horses/cattle/veterinarians are St Martin of Tours and St Eligius!

Mission Week

Yesterday we gathered at Mass for Mission Week, coincidentally yesterday was also International Children’s Day. Our celebration



centred upon the children of Cambodia living in disadvantage and poverty. Fr Loi spoke of his own childhood, growing up in the Philippines; his family didn’t have electricity until he was seventeen (when he also got **his** first pair of brand new shoes!). Fr Loi told the students that children living in Cambodia and the Philippines might have one meal a day –a bowl of rice and if you were lucky it might contain some meat. He reminded us that it is our responsibility to pray and contribute financially towards providing educational opportunities for these children.

Later in the day the school gathered outside to participate in our Mini Mission activities. The children were very engaged, finding many entertaining activities. Spin the Wheel (to land on the pink sock) was very popular, as were the three legged races and the Massage Centre! The colouring station was a hub of quiet activity. Senior students helped to run the activities with class teachers.

We have raised \$1142 to date. This will enable 91 students to attend school for twelve months.

Well Done...

I am happy to accept any more donations up til Monday when Mission Month concludes.



Carmel Rheinberger – Religious Education Coordinator

Healthy Snack Recipe Competition

Calling all budding chefs!!

How would you like to win a fabulous Cooking Masterclass with Kids Pantry for your whole class?

The Fresh Tastes team at St Monica’s is holding an exciting competition.

Entry is simple: **refer to the flier on the Alerts board on our App or the Website**

1. Competition closes on Friday 11 November 2016 (end of Week 5).
2. Winning class will be announced in Week 6.
3. Selected Entries may be included in our St Monica’s Cookbook, to be published in 2017 as part of our 40 Year anniversary celebrations.

Calming Spaces

Recommendation 8.1 of the recent ACT Schools for All Report specifies that all existing schools have a safe, calming space / sensory spaces that are appropriate to meet the needs of students with complex needs and challenging behaviours. These spaces are for all students to access. Each classroom at St Monica’s has now a ‘Calming Sensory Space’ that students can access throughout the day when required. Pop into your child’s classroom to have a look at the space. We would encourage you to talk to your child about accessing these spaces during the school day if they need.

Kinder Orientation Days

Our Kindergarten Orientation Morning will be held on Wednesday 2 November 2016. While the children will enjoy a morning of activities, their parents will attend a parent information session to be followed with a cuppa to meet current and new parents.

7th Annual St Monica’s Writing Competition



Entries are now sought for our annual writing competition. Students are invited to enter poems or short stories of no more than 500 words. Please hand in your typed entries to the Library **by Friday 4 November (Week 4)**.

We look forward to reading your fantastic stories and poems.

Mrs Hind & Miss Brown

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 have been sent home to families.

	Numbers attending	Number Not attending	Still waiting for a reply
Kinder	55	2	-
Year 1	51	4	-
Year 2	58	4	-

Correct School Uniform is to be worn at all times. **While we have relaxed the rule relating to sport shoes children are not permitted to wear the bright fluoro styles to school.** Clarification regarding girls socks – white socks with summer uniform. White or navy socks with navy shorts.

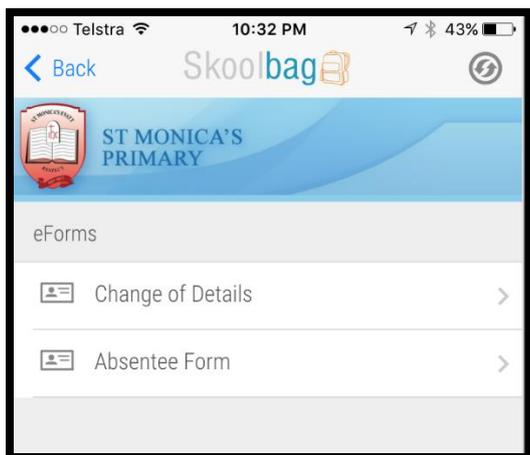


If a **student's hair** is longer than shoulder length, it must be tied back in an appropriate school coloured band. Hair should also be of natural colour and cut in an appropriate style for school.

No jewellery should be worn to school and only plain studs and watches are acceptable. No bracelets, bangles, sparkly earrings, nail polish, make up, etc is allowed.

A child's absence must be followed by a note indicating the date and reason for absence. I strongly recommend parents make use of the notification facility found on our school app. This is sent directly to the school office email address where we print it off for our school records. Emails are also acceptable. Class Rolls are checked each morning by 9.00am and again at 3.00pm. Rolls are a legal document and must accurately reflect a child's reason for non-attendance.

A reminder to parents to look for the Absentee Form on our Skoolbag under eForms. This is a quick way to notify the school as the forms come to the school's office email account and are printed daily.



SMOOSH Enrolment for 2017

This is a reminder to all families who access our SMOOSH Care program. **All SMOOSH accounts must be up to date by the end of October before an offer of a place in our 2017 program will be confirmed.** We have a high demand for places and must ensure our program is consistent when offering places. This is the policy in other School Age Care Centres. Enrolment forms for 2017 will be distributed early November.

Term 4 School Fees

Fees for Term 4 were invoiced last week. All families should receive a statement either by email or via the children's notes. **School fees are due by Friday 18 November.** Families leaving the school at the end of this year should ensure their fees are paid in full before the end of December. For any leaving families with a Direct Debit arrangement, the debit will continue until a zero balance is reached.

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 2016 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.

Swimming Carnival 2017 – Change in approach

Following an analysis of the number of children involved in our annual swimming carnival this year and the availability of family members to provide support on the day, the Council Executive have supported the following proposal.

- Only children aged 8-12 years competing in a 50m, 100m and 200m swimming event will be permitted to attend. All children in Years 5 and 6 to attend as part of their leadership role and those Year 5 and 6 students who pass the water safety test, will have the opportunity to compete in 25m events. This will streamline the carnival events and may encourage more of the older children to participate.
- All students remaining at school, including the junior school, will take part in a water fun day and activities at school.

Generally, at the carnival the non-swimmers or those who do not pass the swimming competency test, held on the day, spent most of the carnival time sitting in the stands and visiting the canteen. The school has also had to employ additional casual staff to assist with supervision.

Data used to inform decision
Swimming Carnival Statistics Response 2016

Grades	50m events	25m event	Only Novelties	Did not attend
3 & 4	30	39	27	19
5 & 6	50	20	37	19
Students	80	59	74	38
%	31%	24%	30%	15%

Supporting Children Competing at National Level

The Council Executive is interested to hear from families on the issue of providing financial support for children who are representing the ACT at a National event. Unfortunately, Catholic Schools are not provided with any formal funding to support children participating in such events. Any support would need to come from P&F funds. Each year School Sport ACT (SSACT) Levies a school, calculated on the census number of students in Years 3 - 6 for the SSACT Membership. The current membership cost is \$2:30 per student which is paid by the school. In 2017 this cost will increase to \$4.25. Children participating in regional events will pay \$8.00 per child participation fee in 2017; an increase of \$1.00. Evan Thomas, a member of Council, is happy to hear from families interested in discussing this issue. Please email your name and best contact to the school office by next Tuesday 1 November 2016, and I will advise Evan of your interest.

Year 4 Parent Information Night – BYODD

Due to the positive educational gains of the Bring Your Own Designated Device (BYODD) program introduced at the beginning of 2016, it will be continued for Year 5 and 6 students in 2017. To provide Year 4 parents with the opportunity to learn more about our program, expectations and what to purchase the staff are holding a workshop on **Monday 7 November at 6.30pm**.

How is Technology Transforming Education? Part 1

"Digital tools are now changing the planet. These new tools provide opportunities and a palette of possibilities for all students, not just a few."

A conversation with Sir Ken Robinson (Author, Educator & Creativity Expert, Dec 2012)

"To understand their world we must be willing to immerse ourselves in that world. We must embrace the new digital reality. If we can't relate, if we don't get it, we won't be able to make schools relevant to the current and future needs of the digital generation." Ian Jukes

What should a 21st Century classroom look like?

When you think about a 21st Century Classroom, you should see engaged students who, with teacher support, are taking responsibility for their own learning. There is an emphasis on discovering information, finding solutions, figuring out ways to create, and presenting what has been learned in a variety of ways. Students may be working in small groups, completing whole class activities, or working independently. Classrooms are no longer learning spaces where students and teachers are fixed to the one spot. They are flexible and interactive spaces where the furniture allows for greater freedom and choice of work spaces; designed to increase communication, creativity, innovation, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving.

The curriculum content determines what and how technology is used, not the other way around. Learning is differentiated and meets the individual needs of students. Students are supported to learn in a way that works best for them to achieve goals, whether those goals are teacher-directed or student-initiated.

Teachers in 21st Century Classrooms promote the use of technology through modelling and designing tasks. These tasks allow students to be exposed to and develop the information, media, and technology skills they will need to be successful participants in the technological world in which they live.

Curriculum and Pedagogy

The philosophy of our school aligns closely with both the Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians and the Australian Curriculum.

Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians

The Melbourne Declaration assists schools to develop a consistent approach when meeting the needs of students in the digital age. Through the use of technologies schools are able to provide interactive and multimodal learning opportunities.

The Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians (MCEETYA 2008) recognises that in a digital age, and with rapid and continuing changes in the ways that people share, use, develop and communicate with ICT, young people need to be highly skilled in its use. To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students need the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school, at home, at work and in their communities.

Australian Curriculum

Information and Communication Technology in the Australian Curriculum consists of two main areas, The ICT Capabilities and the Digital Technologies Curriculum. The ICT Capabilities are interwoven throughout all curriculum areas and focus on the use of technology.

The five interrelated organising elements are:

- Applying social and ethical protocols and practices when using ICT
- Investigating with ICT
- Creating with ICT
- Communicating with ICT
- Managing and operating ICT

The Digital Technologies Curriculum provides students with authentic learning challenges that foster curiosity, confidence, persistence, innovation, creativity, respect and cooperation. Digital Technologies help students to be regional and global citizens capable of actively and ethically communicating and collaborating.

Create Your Own Story Book Competition

Earlier this year a group of Year 1 Students entered the Children's Book Council of Australia's first "Create Your Own Story Book" competition. Antonia H (1V), Annabelle F (1V), Emma S (1V), Holly F (1V) and Bella P (1V) wrote, edited, illustrated and published their own story books. Holly F (1V) was awarded a Judge's Award, they described her story as "humorous and creative, with delightful illustrations supporting her cheeky crocodile's tale." Holly was invited to an awards ceremony at ALIA House, where children's author Jackie French presented her award. We congratulate all of the girls in their efforts and look forward to following our budding authors.



Boorowa Report

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers and parents who attended the Boorowa Touch and Netball Carnival on Friday 21 October. Thank you for your efforts in coaching, umpiring and supporting our students on the day as it made the experience enjoyable and a success for all. The students are to be commended on their behaviour and sportsmanship throughout the day representing St Monica's proudly. Thank you again for your support and commitment on the day – Catherine du Bois and Amanda Winne

St Monica's Trivia Night



28 October 2016
6.30pm for 7pm

School Hall

\$130 for table of 10 or \$15 per person.

Book your table ASAP.

Flip Out have offered to give a discount entry voucher to every person who attends Trivia Night.

Ticket enquiries to Felicity Magnussen on 0409 657 955.

Donations to Emma Howlett, via the St Monica's Front Office, would be gratefully accepted!

Thank you to Ray White Belconnen Real Estate for their generous donation of \$250 to our Trivia Night.

Canberra Nara Candle Festival

Saturday October 29 2016
4-9pm

This Festival is Fun and Free for the whole Family



The Canberra Nara Candle Festival is an annual celebration of the sister city relationship between Canberra and Nara, Japan. The centrepiece of the event is the lighting of more than 2000 candles, which form a river of light in a dry watercourse at Canberra Nara Park, located in Lennox Gardens behind the Hyatt Hotel. During the event, you are invited to enjoy a range of craft activities and entertainment, [including the fantastic Taiko drummers]. A selection of traditional Japanese and Australian food will be on sale.

The Japanese Choir will be joining some children from three other Primary Schools to sing at the Candle Festival from 5.40pm. We would love to see you there.

School Banking

School banking now occurs on **Tuesday** each week.

Working With Vulnerable People Cards (WWVP)

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

Advertising in our 2016 School Yearbook

We are seeking the support of local businesses to advertise in our Annual School Yearbook. Our Yearbook contains photos, events and stories from our students and staff and is a wonderful pictorial representation of the year. The St Monica's Yearbook is distributed to over 370 families within the school community, in the Belconnen Area, at the end of each school year.

To help subsidise printing costs we are seeking sponsorship from businesses in the form of advertising. If you would like to advertise in our 2016 Yearbook, please email your advertisement (PDF) or phone the school if you require more information.

Details are as follows (All prices are GST Inclusive):

Outside Back Cover	A4	\$	300.00	
Inside Front Cover	A4	\$	250.00	(Sold)
Inside Back Cover	A4	\$	250.00	(Sold)
Full Page	A4	\$	150.00	
Half Page		\$	90.00	
Quarter Page		\$	60.00	

The 2016 yearbook will be sent out the week beginning 12 December. **Deadline for inclusion is Friday 25 November 2016**. All advertisements need to be in electronic form - PDF please.

Another option is through financial sponsorship where your business name will be listed with other businesses that have provided financial support.

If you require further information, please contact Allison Walsh by email: allison.walsh@cg.catholic.edu.au.

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

Kindergarten	Lorenzo S
Year 1	Giuseppe C
Year 2	Luke B
Year 3	Isabella S
Year 5	Grace P, Ellen C
Year 6	Elena S, Angus C, Jack M, Noah M



AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Whole Assembly tomorrow (Friday 28 October) at 1pm led by Year 2. Class and Star Awards presented for Weeks 1-3. Pride Badges also to be presented

Prayer Assembly (Wednesday 2 November) at 2.30pm led by 5E. Value Awards for Weeks 2 & 3 presented.

	Value Award – Forgiveness	Class Award – Religious Education
KS	Lachlan B	Jack G
KMR	Mitchell B	Willem A-C
KRG	Marley B	Sarah D-H
1V	Diego C	Antonia H
1B	Jasmannat D	Jye L
1OH	Anthony M	Samantha S
2L	Xara G	Madeline H
2S	Nethan W	Lilli P
2D	Giselle S	Skyla L
3R	Emma B	Lillian B
3D	Chiara W	Jack A
3/4RG	Katie B	Isabella S
4C	Rowan D	Bridget A
4W	Ben B	Callie W
5K	Olivia R	Rose M
5E	Bailey M	Cassandra J
5/6M	Tara K	Paige W
6M	Noumi M	Michael M
6S	Anthony R	Alison F
M&M Star Medallions –		
Pride Badges – Joshua Mc (1B), Lauren F (1B), Dylan R (6S), Imogen R-G (6S), Franko S (6S), Alison F (6S), Shakai L (6S)		

Special Pride Badge Lunch with the Principal

On Monday 31 October the following children will enjoy Pizza with Ms Maguire in the Conference Room in acknowledgement that they have received their Pride Badge. The children will also have the opportunity to wear casual clothes.

Paul S (4C), Byron P (4C), Georgia M (4C), Ruby S (3D), Charlotte J (5E), Eve M (5E), Dylan R (6S), Imogen R-G (6S), Franko S (6S), Alison F (6S), Shakai L (6S), Caydence L (3R), Annabel L (4C), Luke B (2D), Rose M (5K), Emily C (5K), Halle F (5K), Sam A (5E), Michael M (6M), Lochlain K (6S)

SPORTING NEWS

Catholic Netball Carnival

The Catholic Schools Netball Carnival is on this Sunday, 30 October. The carnival begins at 9:00am, so students should arrive at 8:30am to ensure teams are organised before the first game begins. The draw for game times and court allocations has been sent home with the children. Students are to wear their school sports uniform for the carnival including school hats. A reminder no jewellery is to be worn and nails need to be cut short. The school has already arranged for the collection of the participation packs for each student and the coaches/managers will hand these out on the day. Each student will be issued with a food voucher as part of their registration which can be redeemed throughout the day.



All umpires need to wear a white T-Shirt to be easily identified through the day and provide their own whistle. For parking and our school allocated area please refer to the map provided to the children. Please note teams are required to sit in the school's allocated area as all other sitting areas are allocated to other schools.

As the Catholic Schools Netball Carnival is being held on a Sunday an extra Mass will be held at St Francis of Assisi Calwell in either the Church or School Hall depending on numbers, commencing at 8am. This allows all Catholic community members to make Mass a priority while still being able to attend the carnival. Participants attending Mass will be finished and back at the netball courts in plenty of time for the commencement of the first game.

Calisthenics Competition

Congratulations to Lucia J (3D) and Sophie H (4W) who competed at the Royal South Street Society Calisthenics competition on the weekend. Their team, Evatt Calisthenics, won the Sub-junior Division 4 competition. Congratulations also goes to Alicia McD (3D) whose team, Action Calisthenics, came runners up in the Sub-junior Division 7 competition.

Ballet

In early October Josephine H (2L) auditioned for a child extra role in Qld Ballet's upcoming Canberra performances of The Nutcracker. She was successful and will be in three of the six performances running between 23 and 27 November at Canberra Theatre.

Oz Tag

Congratulations to Olivia R (5E), Katie H (5K), Holly W (5E), Taeya H (5E), Montana M (4W) and Annie R (3/4RG) who competed in the Oz Tag Competition held in Coffs Harbour.

CANTEEN CORNER

Canteen Online Ordering

Flexi Schools online ordering system is available for placing lunch orders. **Friday Lunch Orders only available via FlexiSchools ordering due to availability of helpers.**

BIG NEWS! During Term 4 the Canteen will initiate the move from FlexiSchools to Qkr. This means that ALL school payments may be made within a single payment platform. Whilst the transition is in place, orders will be accepted from either platform. Families currently using FlexiSchools will be able to close their account and will have their account balances refunded by FlexiSchools.

Roster for Term 4, Week 4

	Early 9:15am - 11:45am	Late 11:30am - 2:30pm
MONDAY 31/10/16	Vacancy	Vacancy
TUESDAY 1/11/16	Carol Lynch	Carol Lynch
WEDNESDAY 2/11/16	Evelyn David-Hoole	Evelyn David-Hoole
THURSDAY 3/11/16	June Manning Anne Carew	June Manning Anne Carew
FRIDAY 4/11/16	Wilma Hird Jenny Fulivai	June Manning Wendy Regan

Thank you - *Samantha Manning* - Canteen Manager - 6258 4687

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Interested in Playing Softball?

Any children interested in playing Softball (and tee-ball) 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.

The Bite-sized Circus

The Bite-sized Circus (Littlest Show on Earth) is being held at Watson on Friday 4 November at 7pm, Saturday 5 November at 11am, 2pm and 7pm and Sunday 6 November at 11am and 2pm. Book online early www.bite-sized-circus.com.



Karate

**Footy is over Summer is coming
now is the time to join**

**No contracts: pay as you go
Family specials**

Children who train in karate
are less likely to be bullied and
school work and class behaviour can improve
classes continue during school holidays

- Build confidence
- Improve fitness
- Gain self discipline
- Learn self defence



North side classes in:

Evatt
Floreys
Fraser
Harrison
Kaleen

other classes: all around Canberra, Queanbeyan, Cooma Yass

contact Wendy 0406 375 091
wendy.gkr@gmail.com

Learn self defence karate for all ages