



NEWSLETTER

Term 4 – Week 7 – 24 November 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

Carols on the St Monica's Oval



Christmas is only four weeks away. This year we are inviting the school community to gather on the oval for a picnic tea and to share Christmas Carols to be led by the children in each grade.

Thursday 1 December

Children and families to gather on the oval by 5.30pm

Christmas Carols commence 5.45pm

All grades will be involved

Bring a picnic tea and something to sit on

BBQ sausage in bread available from 5.15pm for \$2.50

Canteen drinks and snacks available to purchase.

The children are encouraged to add flair to their singing by dressing up for their nominated song.

Year	Christmas Character	Suggested costume
1	Angels	White clothes with tinsel
2	Shepherds	Scarf or towel with a headband
5	Kings	Royal colours, crowns, jewels

All children in Kindergarten, Years 3, 4 and 6 are to wear a Christmas t-shirt/colours on the night.

Out Reach – community appeal for next week.

We currently have several families in need of our prayers and support. If anyone would like to drop off a meal for a family of 3 and 4 next week I would be very grateful.

- Meals should be packaged in containers that do not need to be returned and can be stacked in the freezer.
- Please label the lid carefully with all ingredients and date prepared as well as any reheating instructions. Meals are to be clearly labelled.

- As these meals are donated you DO NOT need to write your name on them.
- If your meal has two components – eg rice in a separate tray, can you please put an elastic band around them They often end up accidentally getting separated in the freezer.
- Drop meals off next week to Steph or Allison at the front office. They will arrange for them to go into the freezer. We will arrange delivery during the week to our families in need.

Thank you for your help and support in advance.

End of Year Giving Mass

On Wednesday 7 December at 9.30 am the school community will come together to give thanks for the year and present our baskets of food for those in need in the Parish.

God Bless

Carmel Maguire
 Principal

SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

Learning Focus – Weeks 7-10

Be Respectful

Use our Manners

We say please and thank you, apologise when things go wrong and wait our turn.



Social Focus – Weeks 4-6

Be Responsible

Report things that don't make us feel safe

We all have the right to feel safe all the time. Nothing is so bad that we cannot tell someone about it.



SCHOOL VALUE - Thanksgiving

THANKSGIVING

Thankfulness is being grateful for what you have. It is an attitude of gratitude for learning, loving and being. It is appreciating the little things which happen around you and within your everyday life. It is having a sense of wonder about the beauty of this world. It is being aware of the gifts in your life. We always talk about counting our blessings—let's do it! Write a list of 100 things you are thankful for. Some might think that is too many. If that is the case, try this: Write down



- 10 living people you are thankful for
- 10 people who have died you are thankful for
- 10 physical abilities you are thankful for
- 10 material possessions you are thankful for
- 10 things about nature you are thankful for
- 10 things about today you are thankful for
- 10 places on earth you are thankful for
- 10 modern-day inventions you are thankful for
- 10 foods you are grateful for
- 10 things about the gospel you are grateful for.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

IT'S ADVENT!

The Church year begins again this weekend with the commencement of the season of Advent- four weeks leading up to Christmas. This is, as you all know, a period of preparation, not just for Christmas gifts, luncheons, parties and holidays but for the great feast of God's revelation through the birth of Jesus Christ. For centuries before Jesus' birth, the Jewish people waited for the coming of the promised Messiah, as foretold by the Scriptures. Advent today reminds us that we again wait for the second coming of Christ.



THE STORY OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Advent wreaths were originally part of folk traditions of Northern Europe. Wreaths of evergreens were decorated with candles to symbolize life and light during the dark months of winter. Legend has it that Saint Boniface first gave the wreath its Christian meaning in the eighth century, and we have been using these wreaths as part of our Advent preparation ever since. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God. The evergreens signify continuous life. Each of the four candles represents one of the Sundays of Advent. The purple candles represent the prayer, penance, preparation, and good works we are called to do during Advent. The colour purple signifies the "royalty" of Jesus Christ. The pink candle is lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, which is the Sunday of rejoicing. The light of the candles reminds us that Jesus comes into the darkness of our lives to bring newness, life, and hope. We gradually add more light each Sunday until Christ, our Light, comes at Christmas.



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

Thank you for your generosity- already baskets are starting to fill! We will accept donations up until the end of Week 9, Friday 9 December. The following items have been requested by the St Monica's St Vincent de Paul Conference.

Mince pies, Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings, Tinned Hams, tinned fruit and vegetables, jellies, long life /boxed custard, biscuits and crackers, lollies, Christmas Stockings, Chips, Chocolate, soft drinks, tea, instant coffee, hot chocolate mix, jams, spreads, chutneys, gluten free items. The Conference is grateful for all donations but does request that items are not past their use by date.

Carmel Rheinberger – REC

GENERAL INFORMATION

Music Assembly

On Monday 28 November, commencing at 12.45pm several of our music students and the school choir will perform for the school.



Candy Canes

Christmas is just around the corner and while the custom of giving Candy Canes with Christmas Cards is a lovely gesture, a reminder to parents that the giving and sharing of lollies at school is not permitted.

Semester Two Reports

With the end of the year fast approaching the teachers are busy finalising your child's school reports. The reports will be issued on Tuesday 6 December 2016. Should you be leaving prior to this date please let your child's teacher know, as soon as possible, so that Carmel Maguire can ensure it is signed off in time. While formal interviews will not be arranged the teachers will be available once the reports are issued to discuss any concerns you may have. We are currently finalising the best afternoon to make available for parents to request an interview if required.

St Monica's Connect Network

Being part of the **St Monica's Connect Network** is a great way to meet other families and be involved in the school community. It really would not require immense amounts of your time. A suggested idea could be families in a grade meet by the lake for a BBQ one evening. I'm sure you have lots of ideas to share.

We are looking for representatives from each grade to help connect our community. If this sounds like something you would like to be part of please let me know by emailing office.stmonicas@cq.catholic.edu.au. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Let every
heart
prepare
HIM room

40 Year Celebration

Next year St Monica's celebrates 40 years. We would like to convene a committee to help coordinate possible events to mark this occasion. If you would like to get involved, please let the front office know. We would look at convening the committee early in the year. Thank you to Evelyn David Hoole and Ellia Marando who have joined this committee.

Disco Coordinator/s for 2017

Great news! Angalea Turnbull has offered to take on the coordination of our disco for 2017. Angalea would love a helper or two so please let her know. Thanks Angalea for your generosity.



Kinder Playground - Tanbark

Thank you to the Regan family for moving the tanbark this afternoon to the Kindergarten playground. Very much appreciated.



Year 5 & 6 Camp 2017

Next year all Year 5 and 6 students will attend camp at the same time. This camp will be taking place in Week 8 of Term 1, from Wednesday 22 March to Friday 24 March 2017 at Cooba Sport and Education Camp in Berridale, NSW. Participation in this school camp will provide the children with many wonderful experiences that focus on interpersonal skills including co-operation, team building, initiative and leadership.

Reminder - To secure a place for your child we require a deposit of \$100.00 due by **Friday 9 December 2016** and full payment by **Friday 3 March 2017**.

If you have any questions please contact Patrick Ellis, Assistant Principal.

SMOOSH Care 2017 Bookings

A reminder to any current SMOOSH families who have not yet enrolled for 2017 please contact the SMOOSH office ASAP to enrol as places are limited. Current payments must be up to date before an offer of a place will be made for 2017.

Vacation Care

Vacation Care bookings for both our December 2016 and January 2017 programs are now open. A reminder to families that you can book & pay via the Qkr! App.

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.

Canteen – Qkr!

We have now commenced using Qkr for Canteen Recess & Lunch orders as of last Monday. Orders for Special Lunch Days will also be available through Qkr.

Preferred Payment Method



For families currently using FlexiSchools, whilst the transition is in place orders will be accepted from either platform. You will be able to close your account and will have the account balance refunded by FlexiSchools.

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	(Sold)
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 tomorrow.** 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@cq.catholic.edu.au

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

Birthdays

Year 1	Siena D, Finn D, Emily R
Year 3	Harry P
Year 4	Holly V, Claudia G, Cooper B
Year 5	Lachlan G



AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Whole School Assembly, tomorrow (Friday 25 November) at 1pm led by Year 1. Class and Star Awards for Week 7 presented along with Pride badges.

No Whole School Prayer gathering next Wednesday 30 November.

	Value Award – Thanksgiving	Class Award – Creativity – Visual Arts
KS	Sophie C	Evie K
KMR	Logan F	Zavier T
KRG	Drew G	William J
1V	Levi T	Bella P
1B	Lauren F	Jeremy R
1OH	Austin C	Maria K
2L	Lucija P	Josephine H
2S	Isla B	Isabella C
2D	Tomas G	Pyper M
3R	Yaroslava K	Sean R
3D	Maddie N	Lucia J
3/4RG	Thomas B	Riley H
4C	Lillian C	Jennifer C
4W	Hannah D-H	Hayley S
5K	Brynn F	Joe M
5E	Anjeli R-G	Anabelle H
5/6M	Connor S	Cooper M
6M	Phoebe O	Lachlan K
6S	Noah M	Rachel C
M&M Star Medallions – Ador D (1OH), Aiden S (1OH), Bella P (1V), Michael H (1V), Tyler N (2S), Yaroslava K (3R), Milana K (3/4RG), Ryan S (3/4RG), Melanie R (4C) – 5 th star		
Pride Badges – Zara D (4C), Rowan D (4C)		

Piano News - AMEB Piano Exam Results

Congratulations to Hannah D-H (4W) who did very well in her piano exam scoring a High Distinction.

SPORTING NEWS

Golf News

Ryan U (5/6M) competed in Adelaide for Nationals in golf. The competition was a 3 day comp. Ryan had a PB of 88. The ACT team all played very well and improved from last year.

CANTEEN CORNER

Friday Lunch Orders only available via Qkr or FlexiSchools due to availability of helpers.

Roster for Term 4, Week 8

	Early 9:15am - 11:45am	Late 11:30am - 2:30pm
MONDAY 28/11/16	Vacancy	Vacancy
TUESDAY 29/11/16	Vacancy	Vacancy
WEDNESDAY 30/11/16	Evelyn David-Hoole	Evelyn David-Hoole
THURSDAY 1/12/16	June Manning Anne Carew	June Manning Anne Carew
FRIDAY 2/12/16	Jenny Fulivai June Manning	June Manning Wendy Regan

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

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

2017 ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme

The ACT Government's Secondary Bursary Scheme provides financial assistance to low-income families with student (s) in Years 7 to 10 attending an ACT public, Independent or Catholic system school or are home schooled. To be eligible applicants must have a current Centrelink card or Healthcare card with means tested payment codes. The ACT Secondary Bursary Scheme is an annual payment of \$750 per eligible student. To ensure eligible applicants receive payment by February 2017, applications must be lodged by **30 November 2016**. Applications received after this date will be processed as soon as possible, and paid February 2017 onwards. Applications received by 30 June 2017 may be eligible for a full year's payment. Applications received from 1 July 2017 to 27 October 2017 will be eligible for a half-year payment of \$375. If you require further information please call the Bursary Administrator on 62058262 or via email at: ACTSecondaryBursary@act.gov.au.

Christmas Community Event

A free family fun afternoon will be held on **FRIDAY 16 DECEMBER** at the Anglican parish of St Barnabas. Friends and family are invited to celebrate the start of the festive season and enjoy a free BBQ with free face painting; a free jumping castle and live music. There will be wonderful free craft activities for the children and a live nativity to get the family into the spirit of Christmas. Please come and join our Christmas Community Event at St Barnabas Church, 10 Charnwood Place, Charnwood, 3pm – 6pm.



Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.

- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.

- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.

- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Parentline ACT - Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm. Phone: 6287 3833

Qkr! | masterpass TIP OF THE WEEK

Q. How do I complete my payment after submitting a form?

A. Some activities have electronic forms attached that need to be completed prior to making the payment for the item. It is important to ensure that after you complete the form, you also complete the payment step.

To complete a form and the payment:

1. Open Qkr!
2. Select the activity that you are purchasing and 'Add to cart'.
3. Tap 'OK' when prompted for additional information.
4. Enter your Qkr password to sign in to the form then complete the information as required. Fields with a red asterisk (*) are mandatory to be completed.
5. Sign the form if required and tap Next or Submit when complete to add the activity and form to the cart.
6. Tap Checkout at the bottom of the screen to display your order summary showing that there is a form attached.
7. Tap 'Confirm & Pay' and submit the payment.

Qkr! | masterpass TIP OF THE WEEK

Q. How can I be sure my child's food order has been received by the school?

A. Qkr! is the safe, secure, reliable way to pay for school food orders. Your eReceipt is confirmation that the order has been received by the school.

On canteen days the staff print stickers for each Qkr! order containing the child's name, class and order details. Orders are prepared and placed in individual bags labelled with the stickers for ease of identification.

Qkr! orders are much more efficient to prepare than cash orders. Ordering with Qkr!:

1. Speeds up preparation so canteen staff have more time to prepare and serve food;
2. Reduces the time spent on cash handling tasks;
3. Reduces the need for your child to carry cash to school, so no more worrying about lost lunch money.

Check your school's nominated cut-off time for Qkr! Orders. Food orders cannot be placed after the cut-off time, giving the canteen staff sufficient time to prepare the orders.

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
Florey
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