



St Monica's News

Term 2 – Week 6 – 1 June 2017

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

Dear Parents & Carers

I would like to thank everyone for your prayers and support during my recovery. I had a lovely day on Monday reconnecting with the children and staff, and catching up on all the exciting happenings that occurred while I was away, the list was endless. It has been a busy but very exciting place for learning.

Special thanks to Patrick Ellis, Haley Stonham and Monika Richards who took on additional executive responsibilities that ensured the school continued to function smoothly. As Patrick has indicated in previous correspondence I will be working part time over the coming weeks with a focus on preparations for Semester Two. Patrick will continue to hold the role of Acting Principal as we continue to share the position until the end of term.

The teachers are currently in the process of finalising the Semester One student reports that are due to go home in the final week of term. Proofreading the reports, in the coming weeks, will provide me with a great opportunity to get in touch with how the children are progressing. Formal parent interviews will occur in the first week of Term 3. Please, if you have an issue contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

At St Monica's Primary we value the partnership that exists between parents/carers and staff. This partnership aims to foster academic progress, nurture student wellbeing and promote a positive school environment. It is therefore in the interest of the whole school community that communication between parents/carers and staff is open and respectful, appropriate, constructive and timely. Our St Monica's Communication Agreed Practice document, circulated recently on the school app, is designed to ensure the most effective and productive communication between staff and parents/carers. Please refer to our school app or website:

<http://stmonicas.act.edu.au/publications/policies.html>

Next week is SABBATH Week. During my recovery I stayed with family in Sydney for two weeks. The nights we sat around and enjoyed family time were really very special. I learnt new card and board games, but most importantly I connected with my primary aged nieces and nephew which was very special. Please use SABBATH week to reconnect with family in the busyness of our lives by scheduling in a family activity or two.

The school funding issue for Catholic Schools continues to be a concern across Australia. I encourage families to write to our local members expressing concerns. Please refer to last week's newsletter for more information and who you should write to

With winter starting to take hold, stay warm.

God bless
Carmel Maguire
Principal

Believe in Yourself



TERM 2 FOCUS AREA
BELIEVE IN YOUR
FAMILY

**SAFE, RESPONSIBLE
AND RESPECTFUL
LEARNERS**

LEARNING FOCUS

Be Responsible

Growth Mindset

Think positive about your learning. You might not know.....yet, but you will if you stick at it.



SOCIAL FOCUS

Be Respectful

We are considerate

We are considerate of others, their feelings and what is happening for them. We are friendly and helpful.



VALUE FOCUS - RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility means I can do things on my own
When I turn it on I turn it off
When I unlock something, I lock it
When I drop something, I pick it up
When I break something I repair it
When I open something I close it
When I make a mess, I clean it up
When I make a promise, I keep it
When I find something, I return it
When I borrow something, I return it
When I am assigned to do a task, I complete it on time
When I earn money, I spend and use it wisely



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST

Oh my! First Communion is nearly upon us. A few reminders:



RECONCILIATION: All children making their First Holy Communion are required to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation before they make their First Holy Communion. That leaves this Saturday 3 June, next Saturday 10 and the following Saturday 17 June (although that is probably a little late!). Reconciliation is offered in St Monica's Church 4:30-5:30pm.

PAYMENT: \$30:00. If you are not sure if you have paid or not, it is easy for us to check our records. Payment covers, certificates, lapel pin, sash, lunch on the preparation day and printing costs. If this is a problem, please let us know.

PREPARATION DAY: 14 June St Monica's School 9:30am-3:00pm.

DATES AND TIMES: I am compiling a list of the dates and Mass times for First Communion. I seem to be missing a few lists. Home Leaders if you still have your list at home could you please send it in. Many thanks!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Many thanks to all those who attended last week's Parent and child night. Please continue to send in your White Card Information as it is ready. There are still some registration forms outstanding as well.



Confirmation Preparation Day: Wednesday 19 July at St Monica's school and church.

Reconciliation: it would be great for you to take your child to the Sacrament of Reconciliation between now and Confirmation. Please refer above for times in St Monica's Parish.

Grandparents' Day

Friday 9 June 2017

Timetable: Please note changes

9:15-10:00am Liturgy in St Monica's School Hall

10:00-10:30 Morning Tea for guests in the School Hall

10:30-11:30 Class visits

11:30 -Farewell to our special guests.

Please send in RSVP by tomorrow. We look forward to seeing everyone.

If anyone wishes to include digital photos of students with their grandparents in the Liturgy please email them through to

office.stmonicas@cq.catholic.edu.au



Parent Helpers are still required for Grandparents' Day.

SACRAMENTS – 2017

SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST:

First Holy Communion:

Saturday 17 June Sunday 18 June



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

Sacrament of Confirmation:

Wednesday 26 July 6:00pm, St Monica's Church



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Parent Information Evening:

Wednesday 11 October

Reconciliation Commitment Masses:

Saturday 14 October 6:00pm, Sunday

15 October 10:00am

Sacrament of First Reconciliation:

Wednesday 22 November



St Monica's Primary School 2018 Enrolments

Spread the word about how great St Monica's is!
Enrolment forms for 2018 school year are available from Front Office

Morning Drop Off

A reminder that school starts at 8.55am. Teachers are once again commenting on the number of children arriving after the bell. This makes it very difficult not only for the child arriving late, who misses the critical start to the day, but is also very disruptive for the other students and the teachers. We would ask all students to be at school ready for an 8.55am start. On the random occasion that you are late, it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to sign in their child/ren at the front office and obtain a late slip to present to their class teacher. Like absentee notes a late slip is maintained on file should the school be asked about a child's attendance.



Play Equipment

Another reminder about use of play equipment before and after school. We would ask that all students stay off the play equipment before and after school. We understand some children may be with their parents in the afternoon, however it makes it very difficult for us to determine who is with their parent and who is not. So if all students can refrain from using the play equipment (especially straight after the bell), that would be greatly appreciated and help us to maintain the safety and welfare of all children.

School Fees Due Tomorrow

A friendly reminder to families that Term Two school fees are due in full by tomorrow, Friday 2 June. If you currently have a CDF Direct Debit arrangement in place, you do not need to make this payment. Please contact our School Finance Officer, Mrs Allison Walsh if you are experiencing payment difficulty.

Mary Millar Library Fund Donation

With the end of financial year rapidly approaching, we invite families to make a special donation to our Mary Millar Library Fund. Donations are fully tax deductible. A letter with further information was issued to families last week. Please check Skoolbag for details.



Canberra Raiders Schools Day Out 2017

It was great to see so many St Monica's families at the game on Sunday. Thankfully, we had a win. It was so cold but it was a fun afternoon. We will keep you posted on how we went with ticket sales to see if the school receives some sport vouchers to purchase new sporting equipment. Thanks to Haley Stonham for signing up St Monica's to participate – Pat Ellis

Strategies to help struggling readers - Associate Professor (Adjunct) Kaye Lowe

Book Orientation

Before you start reading with your child, take two to three minutes to discuss the book. It is important that the child holds the book. Flip through the pages and talk about the title, illustrations and any unusual words that you notice. You could also read the blurb together. By having this initial conversation, you are setting your child up for success. You are putting into place the necessary support for your child to read with confidence.



It is not necessary to spend a long time doing a book orientation. Two to three minutes is enough. Spending too much time could become boring and discussing every page takes away from the enjoyment of discovering the plot or discovering something new. Enjoy sharing the book and use it as an enticement to discover what happens in the story.

Cookbook – time is running out and we need you recipes!

Do you have a recipe that your family loves? To celebrate St Monica's 40th anniversary we are developing a cookbook of family favourites. Recipes can be submitted at <http://www.createacookbook.com.au/submitrecipe.html> until **Friday 9 June**. Full instructions are provided, and more detailed information is available through the skoolbag app. Please email any questions to Council.StMonicas@cq.catholic.edu.au.



Design A Brick Project – 40th Anniversary

Information and order forms have been sent home and are on our Skoolbag app. Order forms will also be available from the note stand in the hallway. **Orders and payment are due by the end of Term 2.** Payment options will be set up via Qkr! and order forms will need to be returned to the school office which will then be passed onto Emma Howlett who is our Fundraising Coordinator for the P&F. We are aiming for all pavers to be ordered, delivered and laid by August, in time for St Monica's Feast Day celebrations.

Community Council Email Address

As a Community Council we can only represent you if we know what is on your mind, 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.

Cyber Safety

What is CYBERBULLYING?

According to ThinkUKnow.org.au, cyberbully is the repeated use of the internet, mobile phones and other technologies to bully, intimidate and humiliate others. It differs from other bullying because it often continues outside of school and school hours. It can be 24/7 and sometimes you may not know who is behind it.



What does cyberbullying look like?

Cyberbullying might occur over the internet, in instant messaging (IM), social networking sites, blogs or through online gaming. It can also occur over the phone, by SMS or MMS, or voice and video calls.

What can you do about cyberbullying?

- ✓ Don't start it! Cyberbullying is never acceptable. Think before you post something mean, or send someone a hurtful message.
- ✓ Don't be a part of it! As a bystander, you can do something to stop cyberbullying. If someone tries to get you involved in cyberbullying, say NO!
- ✓ Stand Up! Be an active bystander and tell a trusted adult if you see cyberbullying occurring.



Instagram

Did you know?

Does your child use Instagram? Instagram is a photo-sharing app which allows users to take photos and videos, apply filters and share these with either followers or the general public.

Users are able to 'like' and comment on photos as well as send messages directly to individuals through private messaging. Private messaging is accessed by the inbox symbol at the top right corner of the home page.

Did you know that all apps have an age classification? Instagram users must be 13 years or older. This service is owned by Facebook and usually links to a Facebook account where a user's age can also be verified. There may be content on Instagram, which is confronting, graphic or not appropriate for children and younger teens.

At St Monica's we work really hard to get the message across to children that a picture can tell a thousand stories. If they are posting pictures of themselves on social media apps like Instagram, what is that image saying about you? Inadvertently, a picture may give information about where you live, where you go to school and your daily routine. Parents should be closely monitoring what your child is posting on any social media app.

The next Parent Fact Sheet will be for Instagram, check it out - Haley Stonham, Primary Coordinator



2017 Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Catholic schools along with government and Independent schools across Australia will again be participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). Our involvement in this process is crucial as it will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students in our schools. The NCCD will enable National and State governments to better target support and resources in schools. This in turn will help Catholic Schools access the support for all students with additional needs.

The NCCD is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which includes a range of health issues and learning difficulties where schools implement strategies to support students in participating effectively in their learning.

The Data Collection will take place in August. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included, however, if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the NCCD, you are asked to contact your child's principal to discuss your concerns.

More information about the NCCD is available at: <http://www.schooldisabilitydatapl.edu.au/>

Patrick Kelly

Senior Officer Wellbeing & Diversity, Catholic Education ACT

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Next School Assembly – tomorrow - Friday 2 June at 1pm

Class, Star Awards and Pride Badges for Week 5 and 6 will be presented. Kindergarten will lead this assembly.

Next School Prayer – Wednesday 7 June at 2.30pm led by 3W

Value Awards for Week 6 to be presented



	Value Award – Responsibility	Class Award – Teacher's Choice
KR	Sophia R	Charlie D
KMR	Emma N	Ellie H
KRG	Marianna R	Gus O
1VH	Alex A	Oliver V
1S	Jessica Mc	Marley B
2L	Zoe O	Lily H
2S	Archie S	Rohan G
2D	Keir F	Anica P
3M	Lachlan B	Micaela M
3W	Geordie T	Sophie S
3/4R	Arabelle S	Max W
4B	Matthew Mc	Gabriel H
4C	Emily S	Dita S
5D	Callie W	Jorja J
5E	Sophie H	Adonai Y
5/6M	Harley J	Ryan G
6M	Anabelle H	Hunter M
6S	Holli N	Lachlan F
St Monica's Stars – Sophia M (4C) - 2 nd star, Shakira L (5D) – 3 rd star, Preston T (6S), Renee S (6S) – 3 rd star, Paddy D (6S) – 3 rd star		
Pride Badges – Shakira L (5D), Renee S (6S), Paddy D (6S)		

Happy Birthday to the following students

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kindy	Ante P, Sian S, Mitchell R
Year 2	Shaye S, Joshua Mc
Year 3	Arabelle S, Max W
Year 5	Sam B



Due to Mrs Sydney being away Class Awards for 1S for Week 5 and Week 6 will be given out at the next assembly.

EXTRA CURRICULAR NEWS

Athletics' Carnival

Today we had our Athletics Carnival. Thanks to all our families for coming along and joining in the fun. Thank you to the many parents, carers and friends who helped volunteering to ensure all ran smoothly. A big thanks to the Year 3/4 teachers for the hard work they put in behind the scenes and on the day to make it such a huge success. Ribbons will be presented at the school assembly on Friday 16 June.



Belconnen Cross Country

Congratulations to all the children who represented St Monica's at the Belconnen Cross Country this week! Everybody tried their hardest and put a lot of effort into the event. Extra congratulations go to those people who made it into the ACT Cross Country: Aiden S, Olivia S, Riley L, Lucija P, Layla R and Ryan C. Good luck for your next race!!

Chess News

Well done to Sarah D-H (1S) for finishing equal best under 6 player in the 2017 ACT Junior Chess League Under 8 Championships on 28 May.

CANTEEN CORNER

Roster for Term 2, Week 7

	Early 9:15 - 11:45am	Late 11:30 - 2:30pm
MONDAY 5/6/17	Michelle Gaffey	Michelle Gaffey
TUESDAY 6/6/17	Evelyn David-Hoole	Evelyn David-Hoole
WEDNESDAY 7/6/17	Angela Herbert	Michelle Gaffey
THURSDAY 8/6/17	June Manning Anne Carew	June Manning Anne Carew
FRIDAY 9/6/17	Tracy D'Ambrosio Samantha Cox	June Manning Wendy Regan



Samantha Manning - Canteen Manager - 6258 4687

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Action bus Information – Route 410

Commencing: Monday 5 June 2017

Change to Route: The route has been amended to accommodate for the re-opening of Manning Clarke Crescent, Gungahlin and changes on Hibberson Street, Gungahlin.

The map will be available on the Transport Canberra website and our school website from Monday 5 June 2017.

Parents and students are able to use our [NXTBUS](#) system to view live bus information for selected stops or stations.