VALUE - Tolerance

Tolerance
To be tolerant is to accept differences. You don’t expect others to think, look, speak or act just like you. Tolerance is being free of prejudice, knowing that all people have feelings, needs, hopes and dreams. To be tolerant also means to accept things you wish were different with flexibility and patience.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOCUS BEING RESPONSIBLE

The rule focus this week is about Being Responsible-Be On Task at all times. I make choices about how I learn. I remain on task so I can complete my work. Being on task means completing my work without disturbing others.

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Belonging

Dear Parents

Students Leaving St Monica’s
As we have families wishing to enrol for 2015 I am keen to hear from families who are aware that they will be leaving St Monica’s at the end of the year. Please advise, in writing, as soon as possible. Our school staffing level is based on the overall enrolment numbers with the first round of figures being submitted to the Catholic Education Office next Monday.

Staffing News
Staffing arrangements
Yesterday the children in 2F had the opportunity to meet their new teacher, Miss Monika Richards. Monika thoroughly enjoyed her day visit and is looking forward to taking up her position on the 28 July. Monika’s delayed start is due to an overseas trip planned, prior to applying for the position. For the next three week Mrs Helen Houghton and Mrs Louise Dykes will share the class, with Louise taking the class for the first week in Term 3. We all wish Gemma Francis a quiet few weeks as she waits for the arrival of a new Francis junior.

Hats Off
It is now time for hats off until 1 August. The end of May is the time of year when Cancer Council ACT reminds all Canberra primary schools that they can once again safely shed their hats and sunscreen without worrying about increasing long term risks of skin cancer.

Grandparents’ Day
What a very special day was held last Friday! It was wonderful to witness the special relationship between the students and their Grandparents and special visitors. The classes were humming, people wandering and lots of excited chatter could be heard all around. Thank you to all who attended- Grandparents, Special friends, neighbours, parents. Your presence at St Monica’s made the children’s day.

To all our helpers: Thank you, thank you, thank you! Your help was invaluable and contributed greatly to the success of the day. To anyone who provided transport, organised timetables, travelled long distances – THANK YOU.

First Aid Skills in Schools
Over the next fortnight, each class will participate in the St. John Ambulance First Aid Skills in School program. St John Ambulance believes in empowering our children and youth to be capable in first aid situations.

First Aid Skills in Schools is an initiative aimed at training ACT school children in basic first aid skills. The program consists of a free 60 minute basic first aid course for Years 3-6 and a free 45-60 minute first aid awareness presentation for Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2. The program includes age appropriate content on how to be a good first aider, how to call for help, managing bleeding and managing burns. Years 3-6 also cover an introduction to the DRSABCD action plan and how to manage an unconscious breathing patient. Several classes have already participated in this program and the remaining classes will do so next week.

I encourage you to talk further with your children about what they have learnt during this program. This is an important initiative that St. Monica’s is proud to offer to all of our students. Many thanks to Mr Patrick Ellis for coordinating this wonderful opportunity for the children.
Public Speaking - Rostrum
Next Monday 16 June, two students from each of the Year 5 and 6 classes will participate in our St Monica’s Rostrum final. This final will be held in the hall at 11.50am and parents are welcome to attend. One winner will be selected to represent St Monica’s at the Quarter Finals at Latham Primary School on the 23 June. A runner up will also be selected in the event our winner cannot participate. Students have been presenting their speeches in class this week and final decisions will be made by Friday. We wish all our students the very best of luck.

This year’s topics included……
1. Why being happy is important.
2. All the world needs is...
3. If you knew what I knew
4. This is living.
5. My hero

School Reports
School reports will be issued on Monday 30 June. Should you require your child’s report prior to the 30 June please let your child’s teacher know and I will endeavour to accommodate your request.

Our reporting format and criteria are in line with guidelines presented by the Australian Government funding requirements and legislative regulations in 2005. The descriptors on the Common Grade Scale guide teachers as they reach a decision about the grade your child should receive. In order to achieve consistency and ensure fairness, teachers in each grade meet to decide the learning and skill requirements which students in each year level must demonstrate in order to receive certain grades.

It is important that you are aware of your child’s strengths and weaknesses in each curriculum area. These are indicated on the report by a grade or by a comment box in the Social Development and Work Habits section. Teachers base their decisions on a variety of assessment methods including observation, work samples, class work, assignments, and formal and diagnostic assessment tasks. Please refer to the Parenting Ideas article accompanying this newsletter relating to school reports.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent teacher interviews will be held in the final week of this term. This year we have opted for an online booking system to enable parents to select an appropriate time and coordinate appointments when there is more than one teacher to meet. In the coming weeks we will be posting home a unique password and instruction on how to book an appointment. All parents are expected to follow up on their child’s report. If you do not have internet access please contact the office and we can assist you. If you require any further information please contact Allison Walsh.

Hall Carpark
I am pleased to advise that the hall carpark is to be sealed in the July holidays. This will cause some disruption to parking for the first two weeks next term as well. I am sure for a little pain we will reap the rewards.

Mary Millar Library Fund
An invitation for families to contribute to our special library fund was sent home and put up on our App last week. Any donations over $20.00 are tax deductible. Funds raised this year will go towards display boards and additional furniture for the library. Should you wish to contribute please do so by 30 June so that you can claim on your 2013/2014 tax return.

Outstanding Fees
A reminder to all families, that fees are now overdue. As we must finalise all our accounts prior to the end of term I ask that parents settle their account. Should you be experiencing difficulty please make an appointment to discuss a payment plan.

School Disco – Save the Date
This year our school disco is planned for Friday 1 August. As we are only hosting one disco this year our organisers are planning something very special – it will be a Christmas in July Disco. Value tickets will be coming out at a later date.

WAKAKIRRI - Our performance date is 20 August
As preparations for Wakakiri gets underway, we would love some help gathering second hand clothing and accessories for our costumes. If you have any of the following items and are willing to donate them, please send them into school with your child.
Costume jewellery, fedora hats, dark coloured Bajer boy caps, flat caps, suspenders (dark), black/white ties, male vests, long gloves(female), coloured feathers, ‘Depression’ era clothing, white hankies, short white gloves. Thank you - Kelly Boyton

Visitors and Volunteers
All parents and grandparents wishing to access the school between 9.00am and 3.10pm MUST go via the Front Office and sign in.

All parents arriving to volunteer will be required to obtain a visitors lanyard with a pouch so that their WWVP card can be clearly displayed.

Like your licence, please carry your card at all times.

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@cq.catholic.edu.au

The email will be checked regularly by Louise Dykes, Council Executive Secretary. We look forward to hearing from you.

God Bless

Carmel Maguire
Principal
Happy Birthday to the following children who are celebrating birthdays this week.

| Year 2  | Georgia M |
| Year 3  | Kai G     |
| Year 5  | Mitchell R |

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**ST MONICA’S SPORT NEWS**

**Sporting Achievements**

**SHARKS U10 WHITE**

Valley Braeons Carnival Champions 2014

Saturday morning saw the Mighty Whites head down south to Gowrie for a big day of footy. With the sun shining on a beautiful winter’s day we could not have asked for better playing (and watching) conditions. The Mighty Whites played several rounds making it through to the grand final to meet once again the old enemy, the Tuggeranong Knights. The Mighty Whites who really found their rhythm for the Big Game of the day achieved a great Grand Final Victory 24-0. Well done Team, on your attitude and awesome gamesmanship on the day.

Andrew Mills, proud coach and dad.

Sinead H (4LD) competed in the National Judo Championships held in Wollongong over the long weekend. She placed 4th in the u/40kg division....Well done Sinead!

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**AWARDS, PRIZES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUES</th>
<th>CLASS AWARDS</th>
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<td>Tolerance</td>
<td>History - Science</td>
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<td>KOR</td>
<td>Josephine H</td>
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<td>KS</td>
<td>Tyler N</td>
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<td>KM</td>
<td>Sarah R</td>
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<td>1S</td>
<td>Mackenzie B</td>
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<td>2J</td>
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<td>Ebony T</td>
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<td>5M</td>
<td>Kayleigh K</td>
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<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Talia B</td>
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<td>6B</td>
<td>Olivia A</td>
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<td>6WS</td>
<td>Lee K</td>
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M&M Star Medallions – Jessamine A-C (KOR), Natalia M (3F), Zoe R (3F), Lauren H (4LD), Cameron H (5E), Liam S (6B)
Canteen has become extremely busy on Fridays. It would be wonderful to get some extra help from 12pm until 1.15pm. 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. New Price List for Term 2 is available on the website under Publications - Other School Notes.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Roster for Next Week</th>
<th>Early 9:15am - 11:45am</th>
<th>Late 11:30am - 2:30pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY 16.6.14</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
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<td>TUESDAY 17.6.14</td>
<td>Vacancy</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 18.6.14</td>
<td>June Manning</td>
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<td>THURSDAY 19.6.14</td>
<td>Emma Shea</td>
<td>Assunta Tammaro</td>
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<td>FRIDAY 20.6.14</td>
<td>Natalie Larkins</td>
<td>Jo Clarke</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kate Simpson</td>
<td>Tanya Bridges</td>
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<td>Marie Smith</td>
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Please Keep In Mind:
* Help needed with the above VACANCIES.
* Swap your shift if you can’t make your rostered day.
* New faces greatly appreciated at any time.
Thank you - Samantha Manning

Parenting Ideas – Michael Grose
This year we have taken out a subscription with Parentingideas.

Parenting Courses offered by Catholic Care – Term 2
BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS
Parents and Carers of children aged 2-10 years are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation which will be presented by CatholicCare commencing THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 2014 at their Red Hill office. The course is 3 hours per week over a 4 week period and the fee of $60 includes course materials and supper. Bookings are essential. Please contact Gayle 61626122.

THE JOURNEY THROUGH ADOLESCENCE program for parents of Adolescents will be offered by CatholicCare commencing WEDNESDAY 4TH JUNE, 2014 from 6-9pm at 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill. The course is run over 3 weeks and the fee of $50 includes course materials and supper. This course is suitable for parents of children in Primary Years 5 & 6 and Secondary School Years 7-12. Bookings are essential please contact Gayle on 61626122.

U Can Sing
The University of Canberra’s very own children’s choir is welcoming new students. Choir is on Mondays from 3.45pm-5.00pm for 8-12 year olds. For those who love to sing and want to learn vocal techniques, musicianship, performance skills, and make new friends. More info at http://www.canberra.edu.au/music/choir/u-can-sing.

CEO Sleepout
Maryanne Gore is sleeping out in the cold on Thursday 19 June as part of St Vincent de Paul’s CEO Sleepout. She is hoping to raise at least $2000 for Vinnies homelessness works like the hostels, night patrol, education programs, information and referral services. To donate online go to www.ceosleepout.org.au and search for Maryanne Gore. If you would prefer to donate offline, please call Maryanne on 0414 226 912, and a receipt can be arranged for tax deductibility purposes.

Kids and Parents Capoeira Classes
Sunday 6 July – Sunday 7 September, 10am-11am
Elements Fitness & Martial Arts – 10 Moore St Civic Cost $100 per person for 10 weeks
Classes are designed to cater for students aged 5+
REGISTRATION – Email canberra.capoeira@gmail.com to secure your place. For more info visit www.elementsfitnessact.com.au.
Reading your child’s report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?
   Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

Focus on strengths Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

Take note of student self-assessment
   Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.