



St Monica's News

Term 1 – Week 2 – 15 February 2018

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

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

School Theme



And Jesus said to them,
"Follow me, and I will send you out to
fish for people"
And immediately they left their nets
and followed him. Mark 1:17-18

Dear Parents

It was great to see so many Kinder families on Tuesday evening at the BBQ. I am sure everyone would agree it was a wonderful social gathering that allowed parents to network and meet other families. Thanks to the teachers for their preparation and the chefs!

Next Wednesday the teachers will be hosting a Parent Information Night. The sessions will be an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teacher and select a workshop of interest. Please refer to the detailed outline later in this newsletter.

Over the next two weeks the children will have the opportunity to work with our Aboriginal Artist who we have also engaged to create murals for our Vision of Believe, Discover and Achieve and a St Monica's Aboriginal Cross to be placed in the foyer. We welcome Wendy Wix into our community.

Susan McLean presented an engaging Cyber Safety workshops with the children from Year 3 to 6 today. I encourage parents to take the time to discuss the sheet completed by the children.



Tomorrow we have a number of teachers attending the course - Sounds-Write. Sounds-Write is an evidence-based and highly successful synthetic phonics approach to teaching reading, spelling and writing. This program offers teachers an instructional method that is structured, cumulative, sequential and explicit, covering the skills and concepts about sounds and spellings that students need to learn. Refer to www.soundswrite.co.uk OR <https://youtube/AOjQzSnToiA> for more information. The teachers attending the course tomorrow are Carmel Rheinberger, Clare Battye, Claire Egan-Richards, Helen Houghton, Mira Lustica, Katarina Markovic, Susan Carswell, Val Ciuffetelli. I will be joining the team on Saturday for the final day of the four-day course, which the teachers commenced during the school holidays. We will have a number of relief staff in to covering the teachers attending.

Baby News

Congratulations to the Rosenfeld family – (Cooper – KR) on the arrival of Matilda born on 19 January and the Jakobasic family – (Isabelle – 1E) on the arrival of Zoe.

Carmel Maguire
Principal

Term One Discover the Word

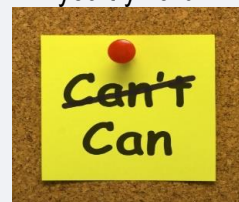
SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

LEARNING FOCUS

Be Responsible

Self-Concept

Believe in your own ability.
Know that you can do it if
you try hard.



SOCIAL FOCUS

Be Safe

Sun Safety

When we are outside, we
need to wear our hats.



VALUE FOCUS – RESPECT

RESPECT

Matthew 7:12

"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets"

Jesus showed us how to love and respect each other, our value of respect reflects that love for each other and ourselves. Belonging and relationships are essential to being human. It is in trying to follow our God, in whose image we are made, that we are free to truly belong in a way that respects human freedom and difference.



*Respect is feeling good about myself.
Respect is knowing I am unique and valuable.
Respect is knowing I am lovable and capable.
Respect is listening to others.
Respect is knowing others are valuable, too.
Respect is treating others nicely.*

SACRAMENTAL DATES

2018

Please save the following dates- further information (re times and meetings will be published early in the school year).



Sacrament of Eucharist

Saturday 2 June

Sunday 3 June

St Monica's Church



Sacrament of Confirmation

Wednesday 12 September



Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 21 November

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Project Compassion



The Ash Wednesday readings reminded us of our Christian service promised at Baptism. The prophet Joel in the first reading says: "call the people together, summon the community, assemble the elders, gather the children". Today this sounds like a call to live in solidarity and to work together as a community for the common good. We can feel overwhelmed by the grief, sadness and heartbreaking events that we see in the daily news cycle. Caritas works with our help to make a real difference in the lives of people all around the world. Throughout Lent I will share the stories of the amazing transformations that have taken place due to the work of Caritas.

A Just Future Starts with Empowerment – Janaki, Nepal - Short Story

Janaki is a young entrepreneur from Nepal, who has turned her life around. Growing up in a world of poverty and disadvantage, coupled with a forced marriage at the age of twelve, she was in a very vulnerable position. Even more so when her husband died just two years into their marriage. She's now running her own successful sewing business and has become an inspirational community leader.

PROJECT COMPASSION
FOR A JUST FUTURE

In 2015, Janaki joined a youth club formed by Caritas Australia partners, Caritas Nepal and the Ekata Foundation Surkhet, as part of the Children and Youth Empowerment Program (CYEP) which provides youth with job skills and income-generating projects. She took a loan from the youth club to purchase her first sewing machine. Nine years on, Janaki has 11 sewing machines and is running her own business, teaching others and is considered a community role model.

"My confidence level has raised," Janaki says. "I appreciate all those respected peoples of Australia who are supporting this wise cause. Through their help, women who experience domestic violence and who are financially vulnerable are getting new hope in their life. I thank them from bottom of my heart."



Each year during Lent we think of others less fortunate than ourselves. This Term each classroom will receive a Project Compassion box to support Caritas Australia. Children are invited to give generously to their class box throughout the Term- they may even be able to earn some extra money by doing jobs at home.

As Pope Francis said, "Cultivate with love the seeds of goodness, beauty and truth that God sows in every new generation."

Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

The class that donates the most money will get a uniform free day on the last day of Term 1!

A Just Future starts with your support!

PARISH NEWS

Inauguration of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish 18 Feb 2018

The inauguration of our combined parish will be held at St Francis Xavier College, Florey, at 2.30pm on Sunday 18 February. Please come and join in this significant event. Please bring a plate to share with others.

SVDP Doorknock February 2018

The doorknock will run throughout the month of February. SVDP are seeking volunteers to assist in this important fundraising venture. Evatt contact is Kelly - 0411 132 576 or email to evattdoorknock@gmail.com. Kaleen contact is Tim – 0437 013 328. The Annual Doorknock Appeal is Vinnies' major fundraiser to enable the Society to continue its core work of responding to 26,000 calls for assistance in the ACT each year. In St Monica's parish (Spence, Melba, Evatt and McKellar) our St Monica's Vinnies group sent \$20,264 in 2017 mainly for emergency food assistance, second hand washing machines and fridges, beds and mattresses, and transport costs for clients to attend medical and other essential appointments.

People are often in dire circumstances through ill health, both physical and mental, redundancy, accident or family breakup – mostly things that are not controllable and can happen to any of us.

You can help in 2 ways – **Become a doorknocker** – primary school students accompanied by a parent can collect in one of 130 areas in the parish during February. Each area has about 40 houses and takes approximately 1.5 hours. You can obtain a Collection Kit from Kelly – 0411 132 576. **Make a Donation** – Go to <https://www.vinnies.org.au/donate> Select ACT, complete the required details – select the Door Knock Appeal 2018 – ACT, choose your Donation Amount, Select type of donation, Select Payment Method, Enter Donor Details, In the Comment Section enter St Monica's Primary School Evatt – enter payment details, click continue and review donation details and click process donation.

Both doorknocking and donations are practical ways of helping those in need. Vinnies work is done overwhelmingly by volunteers and funds raised are spent locally.

Lent & Holy Week Ceremonies

	St Michael's Kaleen	St Monica's Evatt
Stations of the Cross (every Friday during Lent)	7pm	7pm
Holy Thursday 29 March	7.30pm	7.30pm
Good Friday 30 March	10am Stations of the Cross 3pm Adoration of the Cross	10am Stations of the Cross 3pm Adoration of the Cross
Holy Saturday 31 March	10am-12pm Reconciliation 7.30pm Easter Vigil	10am-12pm Reconciliation 7.30pm Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday 1 April	8am Mass No 5.30pm Mass	10am Mass

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Meet Your Child's Teacher – Wednesday 21 February

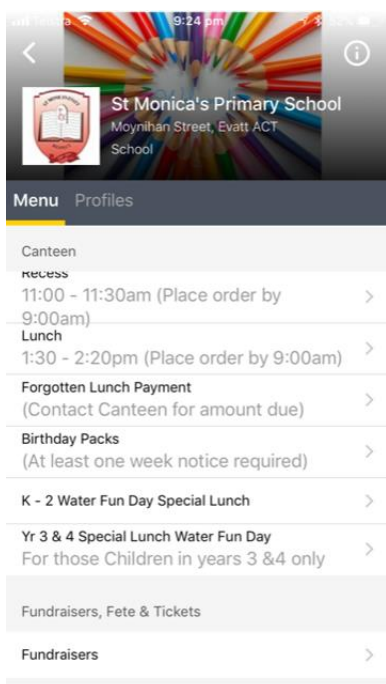
This year we are trying something a little different to help parents connect with their child's teacher/s. Next Wednesday we are hosting an evening of mini workshop with time for parents to drop in to meet their child's teacher and learn about the classroom routines. The teachers will run two meet and greet sessions to provide parents with the opportunity to select the most suitable session. Children are welcome to accompany their parents and should bring along a book to read during the presentations.

Overview of the evening

Time	Grade Level	K	1-2	3-4	5-6
5.30pm	Meet & Greet with Class Teachers in Home Room				
5.50pm	Workshop 1	General Information Room: (KGO)	SeeSaw K-2 Room: (1B)	NAPLAN Yr 3 Room: (4A)	iPads Yr 5/6 Room: (6E)
6.10	Repeat - Meet & Greet with Class Teachers in Home Room				
6.30	Workshop 2	Sounds Write K-4 Room: (4SB)	Reading Yr 1-2 Room: (2MR)	IPads YR 3/4 Room: (3/4C)	Camp Yr 5/6 Room: (5W)
6.50	Evening concludes				

Touch Typing Program

This year we will be trialling a touch typing program the children will be able to access from home. Mr Christopher Evans is coordinating the rollout over the next few weeks.



Swimming Carnival and Water Activity Day Thursday 22 February

Our water activity and swimming carnival day will follow a similar format to last year. Notes have been sent home with the children to nominate for events. Only competitive swimmers in Years 2, 3 and 4, along with all Years 5 and 6 students attend the carnival. All other children will stay at school and take part in a variety of water based activities. All notes must be returned by Monday for children wishing to compete.

Year 3 & 4 children not attending will be provided a special lunch on the day that has been covered by the Curriculum Levy. To help with catering please access our Qkr app, locate canteen and then the heading Yr 3 & 4 *Special Lunch Water Fun Day*. Select the items

Kinder to Year 2 can order a special lunch for the cost of \$5.00 via our Qkr app. Look for the heading K – 2 *Water Fun Day Special Lunch*. If ordering a lunch for your child don't forget to tell them so they know if they should expect one on the day.

Year 6 to receive their leadership badges at prayer on Monday morning, 19 February, in the St Monica's Church commencing at 9.10am



NAPLAN will be online from **15-25 May 2018.**

NAPLAN Online:

- is more engaging and adjusts questions to meet your child's achievement level.
- delivers more precise literacy and numeracy achievement results to schools and parents more quickly.
- supports school improvement by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

Our school encourages all eligible students to participate in NAPLAN. Visit www.nap.edu.au to see how the test works and for more information.



COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Volunteering

Thank you to all those who have already returned forms. There is a copy on the skoolbag app if the hardcopy hasn't made it home. We hope you will mindfully consider how you can share your skills and time to benefit our community. We understand that families are hard pressed for time but please know that your contributes is greatly appreciated. We also welcome younger siblings to come and help too - there are plenty of bub/toddler friendly tasks.

Cybersafety workshop TONIGHT!!

We note many families are apprehensive about their kids being online - this cybersafety workshop is for you. Many of us have had to negotiate the unknown of the World Wide Web. We have had to try and develop rules for IT use and consistent messages around safety for our kids whilst trying to understand the cyberworld for ourselves. And let's be honest – it is overwhelming. Whilst our children are first generation 'digital locals' with IT running through their veins, most of us are constantly playing 'catch-up'. Please take this opportunity to find out what's out there and what strategies you can put in place to protect your kids online.

2018 Fete News

The 2018 fete will be held on **Saturday 24 March from 10am - 2pm**. We are also looking for a team of dedicated parents or parents and friends to co-ordinate our White Elephant stall. The White Elephant stall is our biggest stall and last year raised almost a third of the total fete profit so it is essential that we have the continued addition of this highly valuable stall. The White Elephant requires its own small committee to facilitate 2-3 weekends of drops offs at the school hall leading up to the fete, set-up on the day before the fete and facilitate sales and service on fete day. If you are able to help or form a small committee or for further information please contact the fete team by email: stmfete@gmail.com or Alicia Prest, Fete Convenor on 0437 693 818 or Sarah O'Connor, Stall Co-ordinator on 0422 782 596. We take this opportunity to extend our sincerest thanks to Jo Stephens and her dedicated team of volunteers who have co-ordinated the very successful White Elephant stall over the past few years. Finally, a reminder that all volunteers do require a Working with Vulnerable People card which can be applied for online via the Access Canberra website. Please consider how you can help with our fete (Week 7). Our fete is the highlight of our community calendar and helps raise funds for the school. If you have an hour to spare, please consider helping out at one of the many stalls – the stallholders will appreciate as much help as they can get. You can keep tabs on fete happenings via facebook - 'St Monica's Primary School Fete'.

Welcome back to all our existing families and a warm welcome to all our new families. We hope you all enjoyed the break and have come back recharged and ready for a new school year!

Book Stall

If you have any books you would like to donate, our wonderful Fete Bookstall Co-ordinator Andrea Bolitho is collecting books for the 2018 fete. Please contact Andrea directly on 0407 397 233 to arrange drop off or collection, or alternatively you are welcome to drop books to Andrea's home at 10 Edmunds Place, Spence.

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.

GENERAL INFORMATION

School Photos - Monday 26 February 2018

All children to wear their full Summer Uniform. Envelopes with money are due back to school on Friday 23 February.

Family Photos – As a fundraising opportunity, families can request a group photo with siblings to be taken on photo day. This is completely separate from individual student photos. The cost is \$15 per photo. Please enclose this money in a separate envelope marked **Family Photo with your family name clearly displayed**. Alternatively, payment may be made using our Qkr! App. If using Qkr just send in a note to confirm your request and method of payment.

Kinder Medical Checks

The Kindergarten Health questionnaire has been sent home today to all Kindergarten parents. All questionnaires are to be returned to the school in the envelope provided by **Wednesday 7 March 2018**. Information has been sent home to both parents who have a shared care responsibility. The medical checks are to occur at St Monica's during **Term 3**.

Medical Updates

A Medical Alert Form for 2018 has been sent home today with each student. Please update for your child. If your child/ren have no medical issues, there is no need to complete the form.

Skoolbag update

Unfortunately, the rollout for the update did not occur. I am waiting to hear when it is to occur.

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. **Please note – blue skorts are not an approved part of the girls' summer school uniform.** I have noticed a trend occurring, particularly occurring within the senior students. Approval was only given for gabardine maroon skorts to be worn as part of the sports uniform.



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.

Contact Details - Urgent

The school must be provided with updated phone details to ensure staff can contact parents in an emergency. This can be done via our school app, via email or telephone the office.

School Fees

Families who have not settled their 2017 accounts are required to do so immediately. Should this be an issue please contact the Principal to discuss payment options. Representatives from the Catholic Education will be conducting an audit of our fee payments in the next three weeks. The 2018 accounts will be emailed out in Week 3. **Please ensure your email account details are up to date.**

Signing a child into and out of school

A child arriving to school after the morning bell must be signed in at the office by an adult. Children should never sign themselves in. During the day children are to be signed in and out via the office as this is now an official school record. Children leaving prior to 3.10 must also be signed out unless a prior arrangement has been made ie catching an early bus. Where a child is catching an early bus parents are to advise, in writing, of the arrangements which are maintained in the office and classroom.



Parents and carers 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. This includes parents who help out at the fete and other school events.

Please check your expiry date as some cards are due for renewal

Reminder - Foods to Avoid

As our community strives to provide a safe and healthy environment for all children I am writing to request your assistance.



As you are well aware St Monica's, like many schools today, promotes a nut free environment due to the increasing number of children suffering a range of allergic reactions, some even life threatening, if they come in contact with foods or creams that contain a nut base. Please pay particular attention to the information printed on the wrappers of snack foods such as muesli bars etc because often they contain "traces of nuts".

This year we have students at St Monica's who have an **severe allergy to eggs**. For the safety of the children and to assist our school management we have asked that children, at this stage, **do not bring eggs in any form** to school for their lunch or snack time as the children sit in a common area for eating. This includes egg sandwiches, hard boiled eggs or egg salads and mayonnaise which has an egg base. Please note that - eggs when used in the cooking of cakes do not present a concern.



We all agree with the primary message of our Social Wellbeing Program that "Kids Matter." Please remind your child/ren that they should **never share food at school**.

This is in line with our school rule - Be Safe!



World's Greatest Shave

2018 is the 20th Anniversary of The World's Greatest Shave, which is a pretty impressive milestone. What is even more inspiring is that 2 students from St Monica's are taking part in this year's event. Ava P (4SB) and Jack H (6M) – otherwise known as "The GorJase Kids" – are following their mumma's footsteps and are shaving their hair off to raise money and awareness of the horrible blood cancers that have not only touched their families, but many Canberran and Australian families. The GorJase Kids will be holding the shave at school in March (more details to follow). However, until then, if you would like to donate to their cause, or just give them a message of support, you can head to their Team Fundraising Page and send them the love. <http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/gorjasekids>



SMOOSH NEWS

Medical Updates - All medication updates need to be returns urgently

Signing in and out - By law all children must be signed in and out by an authorised adult.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

**Next School Prayer – Monday
19 February – 9.10am - Church**
Value Awards for Week 1 & 2 will be presented.

**Next Sport Assembly –
Swimming Ribbons – Friday 2
March – 1pm in School Hall**
Class Awards for Weeks 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be presented.



	Value Award <i>Respect</i>	Class Award <i>English</i>
KGO	Chloe W	Ciresa K
KR	Marissa den H	Adeline B
1B	Ivana Peric	Billy Stevenson
1E	Nicola B	Laura R
1HV	Lane D	Sian S
2D	Willem A-C	Zachary H
2MR	Maddison C	Luca C
3L	Levi T	Bella P
3M	Bastijan P	Shaye S
3/4C	Luke W	Emma T
4A	Xara G	Sarah R
4SB	Giorgia M	Josephine H
5W	Jasper M	Olivia S
5WD	Mya A	Emma B
5/6M	Sam C	Annabel L
6E Week 1	Hayley S	Bridget A
6E Week 2	Bailey A	Jackson G
6M	Georgia M	Phoebe W
St Monica's Stars –		
Pride Badges –		

Happy Birthday to the following students...



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Year 1	Esther L
Year 3	Mitchell D, Lachlan B, Mason N
Year 3	Anthony M
Year 5	Chiara W, Madeline N
Year 6	Hayley S, Sibel C

Congratulation to all the children who competed in the Weetbix Tryathlon on the weekend. We had a great squad participate again this year

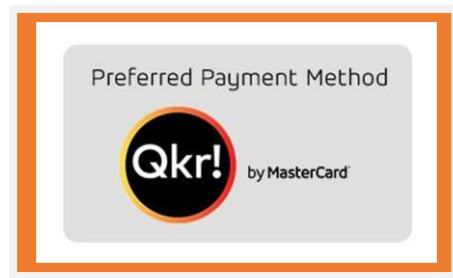


CANTEEN CORNER

Roster for Term 1, Week 3

	Early 9:15 - 11:45am	Late 11:30 - 2:30pm
MONDAY 19/2/18	Vacancy	Vacancy
TUESDAY 20/2/18	Vacancy	Vacancy
WEDNESDAY 21/2/18	Katrina Ciampa	Katrina Ciampa
THURSDAY 22/2/18	June Manning	June Manning
FRIDAY 23/2/18	Samantha Cox Tracy D'Ambrosio	Wendy Regan June Manning

Samantha Manning - Canteen Manager - 6258 4687



COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Coles Sports for Schools 2018

The Coles Sports for Schools program began yesterday and will run until 15 June 2018. For every \$10 spent at Coles you will receive one Sports for Schools voucher. Please bring your vouchers into school and place in collection bin provided in front foyer of school. There will be lots of exciting sports gear for our school to choose from.



Girls' Brigade

gb is for girls in Primary and High School. gb (Girls' Brigade), is an organisation for girls giving them the opportunity to have fun, learn skills and make friends while empowering them to become future leaders in Girls' Brigade, their local community and the world. gb Companies meet weekly during school terms, and are each supported by a local church.

Local gb companies meet at St Andrew's Presbyterian, Forrest on Tuesday nights, Tuggeranong Uniting Church, Wanniasa on Tuesday nights, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Belconnen on Tuesdays nights, Northside Salvos, Gungahlin on Wednesday nights

Tuggeranong Baptist Church, Kambah on Thursday nights, Hughes Baptist Church, Hughes on Friday nights.

For more information see <http://girlsbrigadeaustralia.org.au/> or contact Elizabeth on 0457 517 524.

Bringing Up Great Kids

Parents and Carers are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids – a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation for Parents and Carers of children aged 2-13 years. The course is offered 3 hours per week for a 3 week period. Dates – Mondays, 19 February – 5 March, Time - 6pm-9pm, Venue – 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill, Fee - \$100 (Concessions available) Fee includes light supper and course materials.



Action Bus Information

Due to road closures to allow for the National Multicultural Festival, stops 3356 (London Circuit Legislative Assembly), 3003 (London Circuit Commonwealth Bank) and stop 3004 (London Circuit after Akuna Street) will be temporarily closed from 10am on Friday 16 February until the first service on Monday 19 February.

Transport Canberra will be implementing diversions during this time, which may affect some afternoon bus routes on Friday 16 February. We encourage you to view this information now available on the [Transport Canberra Website](http://transportcanberra.com.au/).

Rhee Tae Kwon Do – Evatt

Rhee Tae Kwon Do is an effective affordable martial art for all ages to learn how to manage confrontation, bullying and assault situations. All students of Rhee Tae Kwon Do improve personal confidence, fitness, discipline, self-control, co-ordination and respect. Classes held at **ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**, Monday and Wednesday nights.

All new beginners receive 2 **FREE TRIAL LESSONS**. Telephone Instructor Jade on 0420 336 638 for all enquiries.