

St Monica's News

Term 1 – Week 1 – 8 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 been a busy and very successful first week of school for 2018!



Are you cyber safety aware? Do you know how to help your child to be safe when accessing various social media sites. Next week Susan Mclean, Australia's foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people, is coming to lead a workshop at St Monica's. Have you booked your ticket?

A PRESENTATION NOT TO BE MISSED!

St Monica's Primary School, Evatt
invites you to a
CYBER SAFETY Workshop
Thursday 15 February 2018
commencing at 7pm
St Monica's School Hall, Evatt
\$5.00 per ticket

Book your ticket to this special workshop through Trybooking.com.

Follow this link <https://www.trybooking.com/351545>

or visit the St Monica's website. www.stmonicas.act.edu.au

Our Year 6 students will receive their leadership badges at a special prayer ceremony on Monday morning commencing at 9.10am in the St Monica's Church on 19 February. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Welcome to our new families who have joined our community this year. We look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks.

Carmel Maguire
Principal

2018 THEME Discover the Word

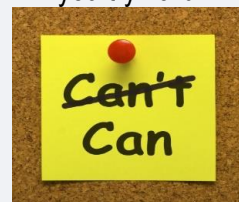
SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

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.



Opening School Mass: Friday 9 February, 9.30am

Tomorrow we will join with the Parish for our Opening School Mass. We will be praying for a wonderful year ahead and celebrating all the exciting opportunities a new school year brings. Please feel welcome to come along and join us at Mass.

VALUE FOCUS - RESPECT



Our first value focus for the year is respect as it forms the basis of all our relationships with others and builds a child's understanding of themselves. One of the most important things you can teach your child is respect. The best way to teach respect is to show respect. When a child experiences respect, they know what it feels like and begin to understand how important it is. Keep in mind the saying "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Respect is an attitude. Being respectful helps a child succeed in life. If children don't have respect for peers, authority, or themselves, it's almost impossible for them to succeed. A respectful child takes care of belongings and responsibilities, and a respectful child gets along with peers. Schools teach children about respect, but parents have the most influence on how respectful children become.

A collage of the word "respect" in various languages and scripts. The word appears in English, Arabic (احترام), Hebrew (חשבון), Chinese (尊重), and other languages. The text is arranged in a dense, overlapping manner, with some words in larger fonts than others, creating a visual representation of the concept's universality.

God our Father,
I know that I have much to learn
from other people
who reflect your image and likeness
in different ways.
Inspire me to respect others fully
as my equals,
seeing and loving in them
what you see and love in them.

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

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further information (re times and
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Sacrament of Eucharist

Saturday 2 June

Sunday 3 June

St Monica's Church



Sacrament of Confirmation

Wednesday 12 September



Sacrament of Reconciliation

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Ash Wednesday Mass: Wednesday 14 February, 9.30am.

The school will be participating in Ash Wednesday Mass next week to mark the beginning of Lent. Parents and families are welcome to join the school to celebrate this Mass.

Other Ash Wednesday services will be held in our Parish at St Michaels's Church Kaleen, 6pm.



Inauguration of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish 2018

As you know St Michael's and St Monica's combines this year to for the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. We will be having a special celebration of this amalgamation at **St Francis Xavier College, Florey, Sunday 18 February at 2.30pm**. Please come along and join our community for this event- bring a plate of food to share!



PARISH NEWS

Lenten Gatherings 2018

Ash Wednesday, 14 February, is fast approaching. Thank you to those who have already signed up to join Lenten reflection groups.

Ash Wednesday Masses

9.30am – St Monica's Church with the school, 11.45am – St Michael's Church with the school, 6.00pm – St Michael's Church.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent at St Michael's and St Monica's churches at 7pm.

Seeking the Mind of Christ 9-11 February

Parishioners are invited to a living encounter and a life transforming experience with the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit from 9-11 February 2018. **9 February** - St Monica's Church, Evatt from 7pm-9pm, **10 February** - St Brigid's Church, Dickson from 10am-5pm, **11 February** - St Brigid's Church, Dickson from 10.30am-5.30pm. Conducted by Brother Lalith Perera, Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Father Ken Barker with support from Fr Bernie Patterson and Fr Loi.

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.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Cyber Safety

On the Friday 16 February Susan Mclean will be work with our Year 3 to 6 children conducting Cyber Safety workshops. The cost of the workshops will be covered by the Curriculum Levy costed to families though the school fee statement.



Our MakerSpace Cart

We had a lot of success with our MakerSpace cart last year. It gave students the opportunity to design, build and solve a variety of STEM challenges which were lots of fun! We are asking for more donations to restock our cart this year. If you have any of the following items that are lying around at home we would love to have them, Items needed are straws, paddle pop sticks, rubber bands, string, balloons, sticky tape and other craft materials. We will accept other useful materials, providing they are safe, clean and small. There will be a MakerSpace donations box in the corridor outside the Library. Thank you for your support – Mrs Richards

Reading Eggs and Reading Express Online Subscriptions

This week I have activated the renewal of your child's subscription to Reading Eggs. The children should be able to re access the program early next week. All children enrolled this year will be provided with their login details once the teachers have completed the process. Happy reading. Any questions please speak to your child's teachers.

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.



Aboriginal Artist

For the next three weeks an Aboriginal Artist, Wendy Rix, will be working with the children to create a range of art works depicting Aboriginal culture. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community. Wendy travels from Queensland and has worked with several school in the Canberra area.

Swimming Carnival and Water Activity Day

Our water activity and swimming carnival day for Years 5 & 6 and competitive swimmers from Year 2 will follow a similar format to last year. The teachers are currently finalising the arrangements and notes for nominations will go home tomorrow. Our Fun Water Day and Carnival is booked for Thursday 22 February.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

2018 Fete News

The 2018 fete will be held on **Saturday 24 March from 11am - 3pm**. We hope the later start will enable more of our Saturday morning sporting families to join the fun!

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!

Volunteering

The Community Council have a lot planned for 2018 but we will need your help to make it happen. Please keep an eye out for our 'Volunteer Request' form. We hope you will mindfully consider how you can share your skills and time to benefit our community and help provide invaluable experiences for our students. We understand that families are hard pressed for time but please know that your help contributes greatly! Please return completed forms to the office.

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.

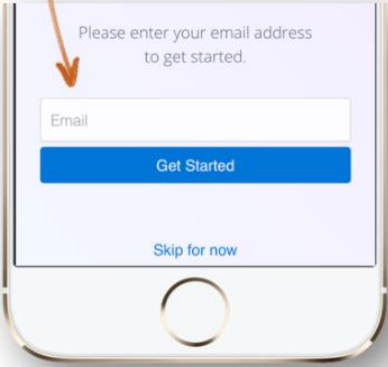
GENERAL INFORMATION

Skoolbag update

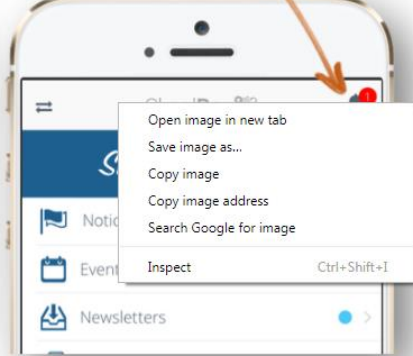
I sincerely apologise for the string of app alerts that occurred on Wednesday evening. Skoolbag is going through an update which I will continue to sort out over the weekend. Don't forget to check your grade preferences.

Important update to the way you use our SkoolBag Communication App

When you next open your SkoolBag app, you will be prompted to create a SkoolBag login with your email address.



Once logged in, you will be able to personalise and save your notification preferences. All of your recent, unseen notifications are now accessible by clicking on the bell icon in the upper toolbar of your app.



Notices sent to the whole school will still be shown on the 'Home' screen, however information that relates to specific groups of users only (e.g. year groups and sports teams) will now be shown in the 'Groups' section. You can modify your subscription group preferences at any time.



Reminders & important information

Starting time is 8.55am sharp. Avoid arriving late as it is very disruptive to the classroom routine. Students arriving after this time must be signed in at the Front Office by an adult. **Supervision commences at 8.25am** and **NO STUDENT** should be at school before 8.25am. Students arriving before 8.25am are unsupervised unless they are enrolled into SMOOSH. Teacher supervision concluded at 3.30 pm. All supervising teachers wear a bright orange vest to be easily identified while on duty.

Outside school hours (8.25am – 3.30pm), the school grounds are not formally supervised and no responsibility will be taken by the school for any consequences of the activities of pupils outside these hours. Special arrangements will be made in relation to authorised school activities which require attendance of pupils at the school outside these hours.

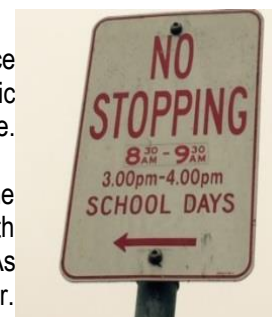
We have several access points for our **afternoon dismissal**.

- Children going to SMOOSH walk up to the hall and are supervised by staff as they use the school crossing
- Children catching a designated school bus are to assemble near the external door to 1B.
- Parents who park on the basketball court or hall car park are to walk down to meet their child/ren in the assembly point at the end of the school building near 2MR. Please supervise your child/ren carefully when walking between cars.
- Children who are picked up from Chomley Street (at the back of the oval) are to assemble near the Year 1 & 2 play equipment. Parents can either walk across to the school to meet their child/ren or wait for the supervising teacher to walk the children along the path to the carpark.
- Children who are picked up in the car park at Copland, catch the route bus near the high school or walk via the underpass are to wait for the supervising teacher near the Yr 3 – 6 play equipment. Copland College are happy for our parents/carers to use their school carpark so please observe their parking signs.
- **No child should be picked up under the trees near the entry to the staff car park.**
- Parents, please refrain from waiting in the building at the end of the day, it gets to congested at bell time. Parents should wait in the designated pick up points.
- Kindergarten children are to be picked up from their classroom by an adult, older sibling or a SMOOSH staff member

No child should be on the school equipment before or after school during staff supervision time. In the interest of safety **this includes all non-school aged children as well.**

No Drop Off or Parking Zone in Montagu Place

We have been advised by ACT Traffic Police that due to the existing 'No Stopping' signage in Montagu Place it should not be used as a 'Stop, Drop & Go' Zone between 8.30am-9.30am and 3.00pm-4.00pm. ACT Traffic Police will be monitoring this area. Also Deffell Place is not to be used as a 'Stop, Drop & Go' Zone.



We remind parents & carers that the Chomley St car park is a great option for dropping off and collecting the children. There are plenty of parking spaces and we have a teacher accompany the children and wait with them until they are collected. Access to the Chomley St car park is via Keenan Street, off Copland Drive. As this is a popular area to park parents are reminded to supervise your children as you walk to the car. Teachers have already raised serious concerns about parental supervision in the pickup area as the children are walked to the car. Please watch you children very closely.

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.



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.



Students with **Mobile Phones or ipods** are asked to send their phone to the Office via the classroom message bag each day. Phones will be confiscated if seen during the day and returned at the end of the day.

A child's absence must be followed by a note indicating the date, 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 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.

Contact Details

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.

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!

Chess Lessons

Chess lessons will begin at St Monica's on Monday 12 February between 1.30pm to 2.15pm.

School Banking

School Banking will commence on Tuesday of Week 2.

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 – 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>Thoughtfulness and Manners</i>
KGO	April A-C	Hamish Mc
KR	Charlie C	Nicholas K
1B	Charlie D	Joshua D
1E	Natalie R	Massimo S
1HV	Isabella H	Emmett J
2D	Anneliese L	Annalise S
2MR	Nathan M	Joel M
3L	Joshua Mc	Emma S
3M	Shaye S	Aiden S
3/4C	Maria K	Rohan G
4A	Isabella C	Madeline H
4SB	Ella K	Lachlan B
5W	Sophia M	Angelo F
5WD	Adrian S	Torren F
5/6M	Alicia Mc	Tom P
6E	TBA	TBA
6M	Anton den H	Anthony F
St Monica's Stars –		
Pride Badges –		

Happy Birthday to the following students...

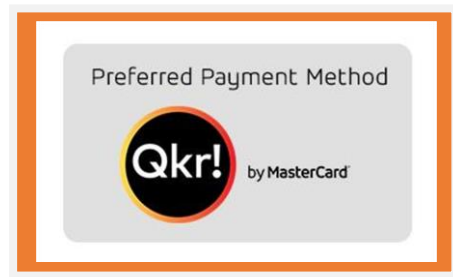
HAPPY BIRTHDAY	
Year 2	Luca C, Blake M, Amelia B
Year 3	Samantha S, Daniel I,
Year 4	Luke W,
Year 5	Coco B, Lillian B, Marin J, Mya A
Year 6	Ryan G

CANTEEN CORNER

Roster for Term 1, Week 2

	Early 9:15 - 11:45am	Late 11:30 - 2:30pm
MONDAY 12/2/18	Vacancy	Vacancy
TUESDAY 13/2/18	Evelyn David-Hoole	Evelyn David-Hoole
WEDNESDAY 14/2/18	Angela Herbert	Vacancy
THURSDAY 15/2/18	Daniela Agnello	Daniela Agnello
FRIDAY 16/2/18	Wilma Hird Jenny Fulivai June Manning	Wendy Regan Katrina Ciampa

Samantha Manning - Canteen Manager - 6258 4687



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The ACT Weetbix Tryathlon is on this Sunday, 11 February



Once again we have a large number of children entering the Weetbix Tryathlon. To encourage school spirit the large school shade structure will be there for all of the St Monica's families to use. A large eskie with cold water will be available. Please bring some fruit or nibbles to share with other members of the St Monica's team. Good luck to all of our students who have entered. Swim, ride and run your hardest. Most of all have fun! Go St Monica's!!



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.



Play Rugby - Southwell Park, Lyneham, U7s to U18s - Boys / Girls. Registrations online. Join us and come and try at Southwell Park, Lyneham, 10 Feb 9.30am – 11.30am. Purchase uniforms, meet the committee, get assistance with registration & give some drills a go, finishing up with a free Sausage sizzle. For more information and to register www.owlsrugbyjuniors.com.au or Uni-Norths Juniors Rugby Union Club. Any queries please email info@owlsrugbyjuniors.com.au