



NEWSLETTER

ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL: MRS MELISSA BEGGS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MRS JACQUI VAN DER BURG
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FR GAYAN THAMAL

Week 10 Term 4 Tuesday 15th December 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As the year draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of our staff, students and parents to St Monica's during 2020. As a community we began the year concerned with the bushfires, those still affecting people around the country and the aftermath of its impact in the Hawkesbury. Next we experienced floods across the district that we had not seen for many a year followed by COVID-19 and its impact which was felt across the globe.

To the staff at St Monica's, thank you so much for the care you demonstrate to the students in our school. I am so very proud of how you adapted to a new way of teaching and learning, connecting with the students and parents and finding new and creative ways of doing our work. Preparing for remote teaching and learning; supporting students well-being while adhering to all the mandated protocols and health guidelines to ensure the safety of our staff, students and families was a mammoth task at times. Thank you for your energy, creativity and enthusiasm. What a privilege to witness the joy that comes with the understanding or satisfaction of solving problems together as they arose. To our parent community, thank you for your generosity, your cooperation, your feedback and particularly your partnership in the education of your children. Whilst this year we were not able to always see you at school your support and time has been very much appreciated by all.

To our students, thank you for your enthusiasm for learning, your courtesy and friendliness and your spirit of hospitality when coming into your classrooms. Thank you for trying hard and accepting feedback. Thank you for your cooperation and loyalty to our school and respect for your teachers. I hope you have a restful and fun Christmas break.

Farewells and Welcome

This year we say farewell to Mrs Tricia Holt, Mrs Lisa Kay and Mrs Marisa Grubisic. We thank them for their many contributions to St Monica's over the years and the dedication, care and expertise they have shown to the students during their time in our community. We wish them well in their new endeavours in 2021. We also say farewell to Rhys Sandstrom, our IT trainee and thank him for keeping us all connected. We welcome to our school community Mrs Annemarie Bond who will be our Acting Assistant Principal for Terms 1 and 2. Annemarie comes to us from Mary Immaculate at Quakers Hill and brings with her a passion for helping students be the best that they can be and many years experience in leading her school community. We also welcome Mrs Sally Shadlow who will be joining the Stage 3 team in 2021 and Marko Siric our new IT trainee.

We look towards 2021 with renewed hope and vigour as we move into staged learning and continue to listen, innovate, respond and teach.

Wishing you every blessing of the season

Mrs Melissa Beggs

Principal

"Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return."

Pope Francis@Pontifex



Happy Birthday to the children celebrating their birthday December - January

<i>Lincoln A - 5W</i>	<i>Maximo L P - 5B</i>
<i>Maeve C - 1B</i>	<i>Sascha B - 6B</i>
<i>Halle S - 2W</i>	<i>Lucas R - 5B</i>
<i>Hayley C - 3B</i>	<i>Braxton M - 2B</i>
<i>Ava H - KB</i>	<i>Nate P - 6W</i>
<i>Lucas O - 3B</i>	<i>Joshua K - 3B</i>
<i>Evie R - 5B</i>	<i>Braxton H- KB</i>
<i>Charles S - 6W</i>	<i>Nicholas S - 3B</i>
<i>Jordan R - 3B</i>	<i>Heath B - 2B</i>
<i>Nikolai J - KB</i>	<i>Ariana B - KB</i>
<i>Michael C - 1W</i>	<i>Chayse M- 6B</i>
<i>Levi H-T - KB</i>	<i>Aria B - KB</i>
<i>Cameron F - 5W</i>	<i>Emma M - 6B</i>
<i>Lidia H - 6B</i>	<i>Cameron F - 5W</i>
<i>Monique S -2W</i>	<i>Lincoln D - 6B</i>
<i>Mackenzie R - 2B</i>	<i>Kruze C - 2W</i>
<i>Maddison C - 1B</i>	<i>Isobel C - 1W</i>

CANTEEN

I would like to send a very big thank you to all the parents and carers who have volunteered their time to assist me in the canteen over the past year. Without your help and commitment our children wouldn't have the benefit of our school canteen. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and I look forward to another great year in 2021.

Michelle



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL



I would like to take the opportunity to send a huge "Thank You" to all the generous families in our school community who have supported our Vinnies Christmas appeal. Your

donations were collected on Monday morning and are currently being distributed to those who really need help this Christmas. Without your kindness and generosity, many people would have nothing. Thank you for showing your children that Christmas is a time of giving. Have a very happy and holy Christmas.

Leanne Ryan
Religious Education Co-Ordinator.



FEES REMINDER

School Fees are due by December 18 unless you have an agreement in place. Please promptly make payment by any of the means showing on your statement.

Congratulations to the children who received a Blue Awards Morning Tea last Wednesday

Kindy – Jaiman G, Tenielle R, Valentina X, Zoe N, Oliver G, Duncan J

Year 1 – William C, Emma M, Amelia O

Year 6 - Ryan L, Lawson D, Thomas L, Zoe H, Luciana M, Georgia Z, Bryton M, Charlotte R

K6G – Hamish J



Thank You

Thank you to Mrs Linda Lea for all of your hard work and dedication to our second-hand uniform shop over the past 4 years. Linda has given up her time each Thursday morning to run the uniform shop and has made many friends along the way. We hope you enjoy your free time thank you again for all you have done.

New times of the uniform shop will be advertised at the beginning of the year.



STAGE TEACHERS 2021

Early Stage 1

Leanne Duval
Lauren Sultana
Ainsley McNichol
Vanessa Muscat Teachers Aid

Stage 1

Teresa Valenti
Carmen Brugman
Danielle Egan
Sue Pols

Reading Recovery and Leader of Diversity Learning
– Ainsley McNichol

Stage 2

Allyson Reimer
Pauline Kojic
Helen Harper (Mon-Thurs)
Reg Bryan

Stage 3

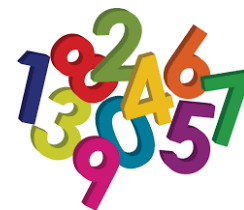
Mark Feneley (Mon-Thurs)
Judy Gray
Josie Malvagna
Leanne Ryan
Sally Shadlow (Tues-Fri)

EMU – Carmen Brugman (Stage 1)

MAI- MATHEMATICAL ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW 2021

At the beginning of 2021 teachers will once again conduct the Mathematical Assessment Interviews with all students in Years K-6.

This interview is an opportunity for teachers to get to know your child and their mathematical understanding. The interview will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.



The MAI interviews will take place on:

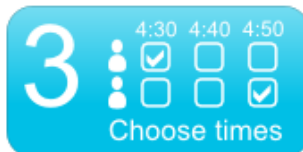
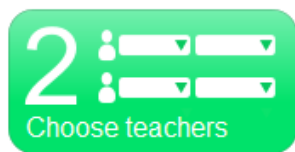
- Wednesday 27th January
- Thursday 28th January
- Friday 29th January - Kindergarten children only

Please note that all interviews will be held in the 2021 classrooms and bookings can be made with any of the teachers in your child's stage.

If your child is unable to be tested at a suitable time for you with their stage teacher Mrs Maria Famularo, Mrs Karen Buccini or the Assistant Principal Mrs Annemarie Bond will be available for interview bookings during the times.

Any child who is not assessed at one of these opportunities will be assessed as soon as possible in the first weeks of school.

You can access School Interviews by logging onto <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/> and entering the event code to make your booking. **EVENT CODE: cghbc**



WOW - What a wonderful thing to do!!

I have made the decision to make a difference by cutting and donating my hair to be made into a wig for someone who has lost their hair due to a medical condition.

I'll be chopping off 36cm (🤩) **before Christmas this year!**

Wigs cost families up to \$6,000, lasting 1-2 years, meaning families can spend tens of thousands of dollars on the purchase of wigs throughout a child's youth.

By making a donation to Variety - the Children's Charity, you can help provide a wig or other vital equipment to a child in need.



Matilda B 5B

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR END OF YEAR AWARDS RECIPIENTS 2020

ST MONICAS AWARD 2020	
KB	Skyla Seymour
1B	Noah Semaan
1W	Matilda Nolan
2B	Pippa Hodder
2W	Jacinta Zahra
3B	Tomas Nott
4B	Archer Buchert
4W	Alexandra Duncan
5B	Isabella Bugeja
5W	Olivia Saliba
6B	Audrey Waddell
6W	Georgiana Zahra
K6G	Travis Leslie

EMU – UNDERSTANDING MATHEMATICAL THINKING
Maddison Finch
Nate Jennison
Christian Bugeja
Reagan Gatt
John Micallef
Izabella Pace

LEARNING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD		
KB	Brayden Young	Sybella Xerri
	Nikolai Josevski	Samuel Cahill
1B	Hannah Cahill	Isla Lindop
1W	Emma Mulford	Amelia Ornatowski
2B	Sophia Bilbija	Jack Laws
2W	Luke Wilkinson	Aurora Anderson
3B	Ayla Hermens	Harrison Moulton
	Lily Rose Brown	Jake Young
4B	Aaliyah Borg	Michaela Laws
4W	Anthony Apostolatos	Anika Chadevski
5B	Lucas Reimer	Oliver Balmforth
5W	Nicholas Nott	Cameron Farrugia
6B	Thomas Lewis	Charlotte Cauchi
6W	Charlotte Rodziewicz	Imogen Fleming
K6G	Tyrone Latu	

WORK HABITS AWARD		
KB	Valentina Xerri	Zoe Nott
	Rose Houchin	Ava Hughes
1B	Natalia Malek	John Micallef
1W	Gatleen Kaur	Indee Blessing
2B	Lachlan Young	Bianca Tischler
2W	Emily McMurray	Richie Diego
3B	Lily Collins	Tom Brown
	Valentina Diego	Joel Scicluna
4B	Bridget McKinley-Corben	Charlotte Hodgson-Harvey
4W	Evie Sullivan	Felicity Scott
5B	Maddison Bonadio	Maximo Larrea Punzo
5W	Caitlin Hopper	Alayna Vella
6B	Lidia Hoffmann	Jesse Harvey
6W	Luciana Malek	Zoe Hodder
K6G	Connor Worsman	

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD		
KB	Tenielle Refalo	James Micallef
	Jaiman Grima	Maddison Estreich
1B	Izabella Pace	Jake Moulton
1W	Nate Jennison	Michael Chadevski
2B	Michael Lewis	Hope Carroll
2W	Chelsea Fitton	Jack Jojart
3B	Hayley Chadevski	Joshua Kershaw
	Mikeila Adams	Addison Munro
4B	Jazz Sciberras	Rowan Hargrave
4W	Sydney Barglik	Alara Pedersen
5B	Brayden Josevski	Evie Ross
5W	Seanna Sheffield	Marcus Gelevski
6B	Madeline Scott	Reegan Melverton
6W	Grace Fitton	Charlotte Ballard
K6G	Ezekiel Huxley	

ST MARY OF THE CROSS Mackillop Award	
KB	Ariana Briffa
1B	Jayden Vella
1W	Jessica Pisani
2B	Summah Borg
2W	Monique Saliba
3B	Abigail Cruz Tabua
	Flynn Farrugia
4B	Zac Wilkinson
4W	Eli Larnach
5B	Harry Duval
5W	Nickson Mann
6B	Therese Park
6W	Aidan Esposito
K6G	Marcus Garland

Premiers Reading Challenge
Mekeila Adams
Young Scientist Award
Charlotte Cauchi
Emily Houchin
Thomas Lewis
Maths Olympiad
Layla Donnelly
Jesse Harvey
Thomas Lewis
Therese Park
Massimo Rulli
Cailin Wright
Oliver Balmforth
Micah Kemble
Nickson Mann
Nicholas Nott
Luca Reimer
Alayna Vella
Charlotte Rodziewicz

R3
Sienna Sheffield
Levi Rosa
Maddison Bonadio
Lincoln Abela
Leo Blefari
Jenna Carr
Ben McMurray
Olivia Saliba
Oliver Munro
Joel Lawrence
Brayden Josevski
Aiden Borg
Nate Pedersen
Ryan Ludwig
Jackson Tutty
Corbyn Fechner
Cooper Sansom
Caitlin Hopper
Isabella Bugeja
Nicholas Andary
Madeline Scott
Gabrielle Lane
Jacinta Anderson

READING RECOVERY
Jessica Pisani
Christian Bugeja
Noah Semaan
Jake Moulton
Amelie Duval
Maddison Finch
Nate Jennison
Reuben Smith

Last Day Term 4 is Wednesday 16th December

School Resumes for 2021

Week 1, Term 1, 2021

Tuesday, January 26

Australia Day Public Holiday



Staff Only: Wednesday, January 27

K-6 Mathematics Assessment Interviews (MAI's) 11am – 3:30pm

Staff Only: Thursday, January 28

K-6 Mathematics Assessment Interviews (MAI's) 8:30am – 3:30pm

Friday, January 29

Years 1-6 8:50am – 3:10pm

WELCOME
BACK!

Week 2

Monday, February 1

All Children Kinder to Yr 6 8:50am to 3:10pm

We're Going Back To School





THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS SUMMER READING CHALLENGE IS BACK! WIN A CHROMEBOOK.....

We all know the importance of reading and how a great book can spark the imagination and creativity too. These summer holidays, we are encouraging all students to take the reading challenge and read, read, read!

ENTRIES OPEN ON 23 NOV 2020 AND CLOSE AT 5PM ON 1 FEBRUARY 2021.

Click on the link to find out more about this great summer competition!

[Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge](#)

Operation Backpack School Grant Programme



The annual Richmond Marketplace Operation Backpack community initiative is just around the corner for 2021. Every year, we partner with St Vincent de Paul Society to donate new school supplies to children in need before they start the new school year. Last year we received over 3,500 donated items.

Operation Backpack will run from Monday 4 January 2021 to Monday 18 January 2021.

As 2020 has been a tough year for so many families, we want to encourage even more donations.

To encourage donations and to give back to our local community, we are amplifying Operation Backpack by introducing [Richmond Marketplace's](#) Operation Backpack School Grant Programme.

Customers, friends and family will be able to scan a QR code on the Operation Backpack donation box to vote for a school in the Hawkesbury to receive a grant to go towards a project at their school.

Please help St Monica's win a grant to help support our band programme for 2021. There will be signage (with a QR code) at our Operation Backpack donation box (located outside Big W) from Monday 4 January 2021. Customers, parents etc. can vote as follows;

Scan the QR code and vote for a local primary school to receive a share in \$3,500

At the end of the voting period, all votes will be tallied and grants will be awarded as follows;

Highest votes - \$2,000
Second highest votes - \$1,000
Third highest votes - \$500

Feast Day

MARY MACKILLOP
today

Thank you for the impact you've made!

In August, Australian schools celebrated Mary MacKillop's Feast Day by raising funds for the Mobile Kindy in Fiji, run by Mary MacKillop Today's local partner, Child Benefit.

Thanks to the generosity and commitment of St Monica's Richmond, vulnerable children in Fiji have been able to access life changing Early Childhood Education.



Together nearly \$30,000 was raised by schools in 2020!

Last year, the Mobile Kindy achieved the following:

3



remote settlements in
Fiji accessed the Mobile
Kindy services

70



young children
received vital
pre-primary education

27



parents and volunteers
were engaged through
community awareness
and training activities

With your continued support, the Mobile Kindy aims to run ongoing Child Safeguarding Training. We are also working to ensure sustainability of Early Childhood Education in these remote settlements.

Thank you for embodying in the spirit of Saint Mary MacKillop to ensure all children have access to education.

Madeleine Gough
Community Partnerships Coordinator

Our Rainbow Day Fundraising helped those in need!



Bede Polding College

Year 7 2022

Key Enrolment Dates

- Enrolment Applications for Year 7 2022 will be available from the College Office or online from Monday 30th November, 2020
- Completed Enrolment Applications are to be submitted to the College no later than Friday 5th March 2021
- Year 7 2022 Enrolment Interviews will be held on Wednesday 17th March 2021 and Wednesday 24th March 2021 in the College Library
- Letters of acceptance will be emailed to families by Thursday 1 April 2021



Families are reminded that every new student to the College is required to follow our enrolment procedures, even if siblings have previously attended the College.



TERM 1 AFTER SCHOOL SUPER SPORTS CLINIC

ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

8 WEEKS OF AMAZING

JOIN US AT ST. MONICA'S EVERY TUESDAY FOR 8 CONSECUTIVE WEEKS FOR AWESOME CLINIC
FROM THE CONCLUSION OF SCHOOL UNTIL 4:45PM EACH WEEK
STARTS 2ND FEB 2021
BOOK NOW!

ACTIVE KIDS
 APPROVED PROVIDER
 CLAIM YOUR \$100 VOUCHER TODAY.
 SPORT.NSW.GOV.AU/ACTIVEKIDS

RISK ASSESMENTS:



Vortex Gridiron is one of the coolest Hybrid Sports on the planet. We invented Vortex Gridiron in 2001 and have taken it to even gr8ter levels with our custom inflatable vortex boards. Two teams battle it out in a non stop up/down fast paced take on American Football without the boring stop / start TV timeouts.

RISK / HAZARDS:

Collisions with players moving within the field of play in mixed directions.

Rough playing surface / twisting ankles or landing hardly.

Players getting hit by the Vortex.

CURRENT CONTROLS:

Rules demonstration and Coach must have viewed the instructional video for this sport. SIN BIN for players who do not follow the rules.

Play is cancelled if the surface is dangerous.

ADDED CONTROLS:

Coach will stop game as part of the learning process and give RULE REMINDERS.

All hazards e.g goal posts are padded or removed.

Each team is given a high school leader as their on-field PLAYER/COACH to help enforce rules.