



NEWSLETTER

ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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WEBSITE: WWW.STMONICASRICHMOND.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

PRINCIPAL:

MRS MELISSA BEGGS

(ACTING) ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:

MRS ANEEMARIE BOND

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

FR GAYAN THAMAL

Week 6 Term 1

Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 6.

This week parents have the opportunity to see the learning spaces and hear from the stage teams about what is happening in the learning journey for their children in 2021. The teachers are looking forward to sharing this important information with you. We thank you for giving up your time and your understanding of the current COVID restrictions we still as a community must abide by.

Next week is **Catholic Schools Week**.

This year we are focusing on the theme "200 years of Catholic Schooling"

Whilst it has not been quite 200 years for St Monica's our history and tradition is long. Over the coming week you may like to discuss your schooling with your children and discover the things you have in common and what has changed over the years. You may also like to include grandparents in the conversations as well. This oral family history is important to share and keep alive. The students will be involved in looking back at our school's history, its present day life and then will be asked to imagine what school will be like when we celebrate in another 200 years time? I wonder where their imagination will lead?

Catholic Education
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS

Faith in the future

Congratulations

This week we congratulate Sydney Barglik who participated in the Executive Director's Summer reading Challenge. Sydney was a runner up in the competition and will receive a \$30 gift voucher to spend. There were over 400 entries received this year which is the highest ever number of entrants. I am sure Sydney will now go on to join in the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2021. More details on this can be found later in this newsletter.

Lenten Prayer

During this season of Lent we are called to pray, fast and give to others.

[Click to Pray](#) is part of the Pope's worldwide prayer network with prayers of the day which you can share with your family and friends. Let us join in the power of prayer together.



Pope's Worldwide
Prayer Network

Wishing you a wonderful fortnight ahead

Mrs Melissa Beggs

Principal

"Lent is precisely the season of hope when we turn our gaze back to the God who is patient. Saint Paul passionately urges us to place our hope in reconciliation: "Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20)."

Pope Francis@Pontifex



Happy Birthday to the children who celebrated their birthday over the next 2 weeks.

Anthony A – S3W	Oliver G S1G
Kane C – S3W	Jade O – S2B
Richie D – S2B	Charlee R – S3B
Rowdy G – S2W	Gracie B – S1G
Isabella B – S3B	Felicity S – S3G
Tyrone L	K6G

CANTEEN

Wednesday March 3	Janina Zahra & Natasha Josevski <i>Hot Dog Day</i> <i>Early Stage 1 & Stage 1</i>
Friday March 5	Jeanette Rogers & Melissa Panich
Monday March 8	Angela Gauchi
Wednesday March 10	Jenny Hopper & Mariana Gelevski <i>Hot Dog Day Stage 2 & 3</i>
Friday March 12	Martine Kershaw & Alex Brown
Monday March 15	Sam Owens
Thank you 😊	

Thank you to the following parents who will be working in the canteen this week. We appreciate the time and effort you give to our students. If you are unable to attend your rostered day, please contact Michelle via the school office on 4570 3700.

During lent **NO** meat or chicken products will be available on Fridays.

(Friday 19th February – Friday 1st April)



HOT DOG DAY

Wednesday 3rd March
Early stage 1 & stage 1



Wednesday 10th March
Stage 2 & Stage 3

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to all our Zone swimmers on the 19th March and a big Congratulations to Indie Sieders. She was awarded the Junior Zone Champion and will represent St Monica's at the Diocesan carnival next Tuesday. We wish you all the very best of Luck!!!

Good Luck Indie!



SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISION

Our school crossing supervisor has been away since the beginning of term. Unfortunately this has been extended until Friday 5th March. The RMS were unable to access a crossing supervisor for this period and therefore to avoid the risk of an accident we strongly urge you to park and walk your child safely across the road or park and let your child out on the school gate side of the road.

We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



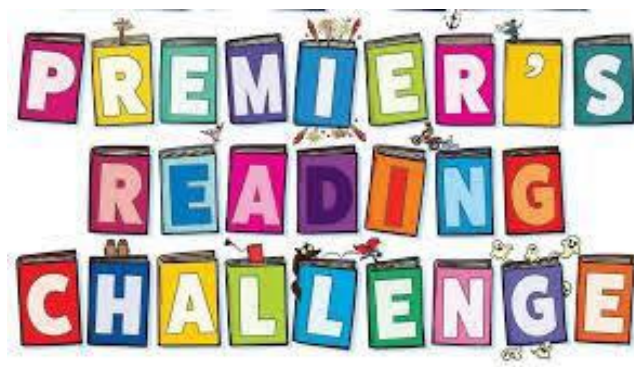
Term 1 Awards

Week 6	Class	Catholic Values	St Monica's Award 1	St Monica's Award 2	St Monica's Award 3
	Kindergarten	Alicia Vella	Henry Matthias		
		Lucy Jojart	Ethan Morgan	Sophia Moellmer	
	Stage 1	Maddi Finch	Beau Henderson	Eliana Grima	Mason Hurst
		Levi-Heine Thompson	Maeve Collins	Rose Houchin	Jaiman Grima
	Stage 2	Michael Lewis	Lachlan Young	Chloe Condon	Savannah Refalo
		Mackenzie Refalo	Abigael Galea	Hayley Chadevski	Annalise Apostolatos
	Stage 3	Zac Wilkinson	Dylan Refalo	Patrick Curl	
		Matilda Berry	Seanna Sheffield	Evie Sullivan	
	K-6 Gold	Tyrone Latu	Connor Worsman	Anthony Attard	



Dear parents,

In 2021 the students of St Monica's will once again have the opportunity to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.



The 2021 Challenge dates are as follows:

Challenge opens: Monday March 1, 2021

Challenge closes for students: Friday August 20, 2021

In the next few weeks the students will be issued with their usernames and passwords to access the online site to complete their reading logs. The number of books to be read and the book lists you can choose from are listed below.

NB: Children in Kinder and Stage 1 can independently read their books, be read to or jointly read their books to count for the challenge. Children in Stage 2 and 3 must independently read their own books.

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC book lists you can read from
Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 Years K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
Stage 2 Years 3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
Stage 3 Years 5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

More information will follow in upcoming newsletters.

Happy Reading
Melissa Beggs

FROM THE REC

Lent 2021.

As many would be aware, Lent commenced on Wednesday 17th March 2021 with the children receiving ashes for Ash Wednesday. This year, due to Covid our regular practice of placing a cross using the ashes on the recipient's forehead could not be followed (a directive from the Vatican). Instead, the students of Year 6 celebrated with parishoners in the Church, and the rest of the school live streamed the Mass in the Hall. Teachers used an individual cotton bud to make the cross on their forehead, but the parishoners followed the Vatican's instruction to have the ashes sprinkled on top of the head.

Lent is meant to be a time of repentance. That's not a feeling of shame, but an awareness that sin separates us from God and of what it cost Him to be reunited with us. The children are learning that during Lent we are called to action in 3 ways. To pray, to fast and to give to charity. Of course, children under the age of 14 are not obliged to abstain from eating meat on Fridays, but we have tried to show the students that this is a special season in the Liturgical calendar, where we are called to stop, take a check of who we

are and how we act and treat others and so we encourage the children not to eat meat on Fridays and the canteen does not supply meat on Fridays during Lent.

So what can you do at home to help your children better understand the meaning of this season? Choose a Bible story to read (or better still, tell) and have a family discussion about why that particular passage was included in the Bible. After the telling/reading, ask your child, what do you know now about Jesus/God that you didn't know before? **(HEAD)**. What are the feelings/emotions that are associated with the passage? **(HEART)** What am I asked to do, what action could I put in place to help others? **(HANDS)**.

Head, Heart and Hands are the 3 Dispositions we work with in class with all Scripture and new learning in working with the New Draft Curriculum. I have certainly noticed a difference in the depth of the student's response to Scripture. If you would like to know more please make contact with me through the School Office.

Leanne Ryan
Religious Education Co-Ordinator



P & F News

We are delighted to have a dedicated and engaged group of parents and friends interested in shaping and contributing to our P&F.

Our 2021 Committee Members are:

President:	Jenny Hopper
Vice President:	Mariana Gelevski / Elissa Esposito
Secretary:	Ilonka Tischler
Treasurer:	Anna Seymour
Fundraising:	Nibya Ross / Liz Jojart

The P & F will meet again this term at 7pm on Tuesday 23rd March to discuss upcoming events for the school and Parish. Please mark this date in your calendar now!

Our meetings are most enjoyable, covering important issues / questions, whilst also being a social forum and a real opportunity to connect with other parents / friends of our school.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Last Day of Term 1 is Wednesday 31st March

Thursday 1st April is a PUPIL FREE DAY

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK - Week 7

We begin the week with an open day on **Monday 8th March** starting at 9:30am for prospective new families. Please pass on the word to any families you know considering which school to send their children. If you are attending please register on the School website.

The week will start with a **Book Fair** in the Library on Monday and Tuesday. All purchases will be made online. Please read the Book Fair note. We will end the week with a School Liturgy. Our theme will be 200 years of Catholic schooling.

To celebrate Catholic Schools Week Monday 1st March – Friday 5th March St Monica's is holding a



Book Fair. The children will be given the opportunity to view the Fair in class time this Friday. They will receive a wish list and a brief overview of the book for them to take home to discuss with parents.

Students will be able to purchase and collect their books on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th March.

CROSS COUNTRY

On **Thursday March 18th** all of the Primary children will be doing the Cross country at Benson's Lane. K-2 will be having a fun run at school. More information will be sent home prior to the event. Children will wear their sports uniform on this day.

HARMONY DAY

On **Friday March 19th** we will celebrate **Harmony Day/ Say no to Bullying**. The message of the day is *"everyone belongs". The message of spreading kindness and accepting others will be discussed by classes leading up to the day.*

On this day everyone is asked to wear mufti clothes with as much orange as possible (this could be a shirt, ribbon in hair, socks, shoes. It is not necessary to purchase any new clothing)

We will be holding an **Art/Craft exhibition**. Artworks/crafts/models should be completed with the theme of 'Say no to Bullying' and 'Everyone Belongs'. Children can use any form of media. Exhibits should be returned to school by **Thursday March 18th**.

LOTS OF SOCKS – WORLD SYNDROME DAY 2021



Sunday 21 March is World Down Syndrome Day. It is a day that can promote discussion about the acceptance of all our differences, and what makes us fantastic as an individual. Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs randomly in individuals. Down syndrome means someone has a third copy of their 21st chromosome. This is why World Down Syndrome Day takes place on the 21st of March each year.

Why Lots of Socks? The idea behind the Lots of Socks initiative is that socks come in all shapes, sizes and designs, just like each of us. This is a comparison that all children and adults alike can understand. And under a microscope, chromosomes look like socks! "Lots of Socks" is acknowledged around the world as being associated with Down syndrome.

On Monday March 22nd as a school we are going to be wearing our most amazing, colourful or mismatched socks with your school uniform to celebrate 'Lots of Socks!'

Donations can be made via the QKR app, the event will open on March 15th and close on March 26th. Alternatively, donations can be made using the following link. <https://www.downsyndrome.org.au> We

are no longer able to accept cash donations at school. Money raised will be donated to Down Syndrome NSW to help support families and people of all ages who have Down syndrome.

Let's show that being different is a good thing and something to be celebrated.

Thank you for your support

ST MONICA'S NUMERACY CORNER

Numeracy enables you to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies in your daily life. We need numeracy to solve problems and make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes for activities like cooking, reading a map or bill, reading instructions and even playing sport.



Consolidating children's understanding of Number is no longer through a worksheet or drill. In the classroom students are engaged in their learning through a variety of problems and challenges. Children's motivation and achievement improve when their parents or carers are involved in their education. Each fortnight the newsletter will feature a game or activity the children can play at home with siblings or even the grown-ups in their lives, to consolidate their understanding of Number.

CARD GAMES FOR AN AFTERNOON AT HOME

(Practicing our addition and subtraction number facts)

INFANTS

ADDITION SNAP - 2 Players

Cards 1 (ace)

Remove the J,Q and K

- Players divide the cards evenly between themselves.
- At the same time, each player turns over one card.
- Players add the two numbers together as quickly as possible and say the answer aloud.
- The player who says the correct answer first, keeps the two cards.
- Play continues until one player collects all the cards.



PRIMARY

FLIP 4 AND ADD- 2 Players

The first player flips 4 cards to make two 2-digit numbers and adds these together.

- The next player also flips 4 cards and adds the two 2-digit numbers together.
- The player with the largest number gets a point.
- The player with the most points wins.

Variation

Flip 6 cards and make two 3-digit numbers to add together.

Second Hand Uniform Shop Hours:

Monday 2.30-3.30pm and Wednesday 8.30-9.30am.

We are looking for donations for the uniform shop, if you have any items that you no longer need please hand them in at the office or the uniform shop during opening hours.

	<h1>The Parish of Richmond</h1>	
St Monica's Church Cnr Windsor & Bourke Sts Richmond NSW 2753	St John of God 177 Grose Vale Road North Richmond NSW 2754	Parish Office 1A Bourke Street Richmond NSW 2753 Ph: 4578 1410 www.parishofrichmond.org.au Mon 10.30am-2.30pm Tues, Wed & Fri 9.30am-4pm
St Gregory's Church 5 Old Bells Lind of Road Kurrajong NSW 2758	St Monica's Primary School 32 Francis Street, Richmond PH: 4570 3700	

A Special Invitation

***At your First Eucharist you will receive Jesus
into your heart and life.***

We invite you to consider committing yourself to take up the important role
of serving at the Altar as a Junior Server.

**Training will be provided and will be held at the parish,
dates are yet to be decided.**

A parent must accompany the child during the training session.

Please know that the parish has taken every precaution and has procedures in place in
accordance with our COVID-19 safety plan to help protect our community.

If you have any questions please ring Martin Crew at the parish office.

Please, fill out the form below and return it to the Parish Office or put it in
the collection boxes in an envelope marked **Junior Server**

✂

I wish to learn about being a Junior Server

.....

(Please, print name clearly)

I give permission for my child to be trained as a Junior Server

.....

(Name of Parent/Guardian)	(Signature of Parent/Guardian)
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Contact Phone Number

Email address

PARKING IN THE PARISH CARPARK

Parking in the Parish Carpark for school drop off or pick up is not permitted. The carpark can be a hazard to the children when busy. Please consider arriving at school for pick up a little earlier or a little later to stagger the flow of traffic around the school zone.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

2021 TERM 2: SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Year 5 - must have completed the Sacrament of Penance & Sacrament of Eucharist

20 & 21 February 2021: **Enrolment Forms available** at all weekend Masses until 28 March 2021

1 April 2021: **Enrolment Forms Due** –

No Enrolment Ceremony will be held due to Covid Restrictions **Enrolment Forms are to be returned electronically or via office by Thurs 1 April.**

Enrolment Prayer Ceremony will take place instead during Group Session Week 1

Thursday, 22 April 2021: **Parent Night** starting at **7.00pm St Monica's, Richmond**

Sunday 25 April 2021: **Sacramental Groups** begin - **4 week** duration

Sunday 16-21 May 2021: **Reconciliation** will be available during final Group Session Week 4

Wednesday 26 May 2021 **Confirmation Ceremonies** – under normal conditions
& Thursday 27 May 2021 under 2m² rule (limited guests will apply)

commencing at 7.00pm St Monica's, Richmond

Plus:

Monday 24 May 2021 **Additional Confirmation Ceremonies** to be held if 4m² rule applies

Tuesday 25 May 2021 **commencing at 7.00pm St Monica's, Richmond**

& Friday 28 May 2021:



All Enquiries: Irene Galea sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au

The Parish of Richmond



St Monica's school and Parish work closely together and support each other in every way possible.

Parish Mass Times St Monica's

Saturday: 6.00pm (Must book online)

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am, 5.30pm (Must book online)

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00am

St Gregory's Saturday: 9am (Must book online) Sunday: 8am & 9am
(Must book online)

Parish Clergy

Fr Gayan Thamel frgayan@parishofrichmond.org.au

Fr Thomas Bui frthomas@parishofrichmond.org.au

Parish Co-ordinator of Ministries

Martin Crew martin@parishofrichmond.org.au

Pastoral Care of the Sick Co-ordinator

Mary McGuinness mary.mcguinness@parishofrichmond.org.au

Parish Administration

Teshana Laferla & Kara Hargrave admin@parishofrichmond.org.au

Sacramental Co-ordinator

Irene Galea sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au

Open Afternoon

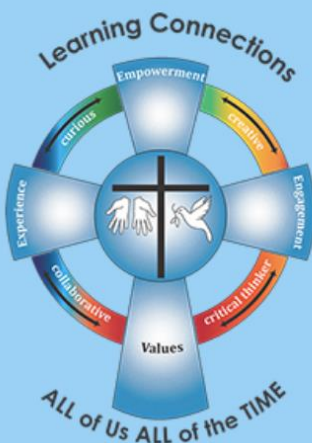


Tuesday 9th March 3.30pm - 5.45pm



Prospective students and their parents are invited to the College to meet our wonderful staff and explore our facilities.

Bookings are essential.
Sessions available at
3.30pm, 4pm,
4.30pm, 5pm.



Please book your tour via:
schoolinterviews.com.au (event code 72cd6)
Please note due to Covid restrictions, numbers for each session are limited, and only one parent and their child is permitted to attend.