



ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL:

MRS MELISSA BEGGS

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:

MRS ANNEMARIE BOND

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

FR GAYAN THAMAL

Week 10 Term 4 Tuesday December 7, 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

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 2021.

To the staff at St Monica's, thank you for the care you demonstrate to the students in our school each and every day. Once again you were called upon to adapt your teaching to cater for the students' needs in everchanging times. You connected with the students and parents and found new and creative ways of doing our work. 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. Thank you for your energy, creativity and enthusiasm.

To our parent community, thank you for your generosity, your cooperation, your feedback and particularly your partnership in the education of your children. Whilst again this year we were not always able to see you at school your support and time has been very much appreciated by all.

To our P & F, thank you for your contributions to the school often behind the scenes this year. We as a school value your work greatly and extend to all our hard-working members our gratitude for giving up your time to help us all. For those who are moving on as your children move to high school, thank you for your service to the school and for the many ways you have helped brighten the faces of the students through the events you supported and organised.

To our students, thank you for your enthusiasm for learning, your courtesy and friendliness and your spirit of hospitality when coming into your classrooms, be it virtual or in situ. Thank you for your willingness to accept the challenge of learning and accepting feedback. Thank you for your cooperation, thoughtful ideas and being great ambassadors for St Monica's.

I hope you have a restful and fun Christmas break.



This year we say farewell but not goodbye to Mrs Sally Shadlow and Mr Emmanuel Sultana. We thank them for their many contributions to St Monica's this year and the dedication, care and expertise they have shown to the students. We hope to see them back next year as they continue to support the students and teachers in a casual capacity. We also say farewell to Mrs Carmen Brugman who has after many years of service at St Monica's made the move further south and will continue teaching and serving the community south of Sydney. We wish her well in her new endeavours in 2022.

We also welcome back to St Monica's Mr Mark Feneley who will be returning after his long service leave. It will be great to see you back in the classroom Mr Feneley!

Wishing you all the blessings of the Christmas Season.

Mrs Melissa Beggs

Principal

"Our life becomes beautiful when we wait for a dear one or someone important.

May this Advent help us transform our hope into the certainty that

He whom we await loves us and will never abandon us."

Pope Francis @ Pontifex

LETTER



Happy Birthday to the children will be celebrating their Birthday throughout December

<i>Abigael G – S2W</i>	<i>Ariyah G – S3B</i>
<i>Ayla H – S2B</i>	<i>Nicholas M – S1W</i>
<i>Lucas W – S1G</i>	<i>Lincoln A – S3B</i>
<i>Maeve C – S1B</i>	<i>Maximo L-P – S3G</i>
<i>Ella B – KW</i>	<i>Lucas R – S3B</i>
<i>Hayley C – S2W</i>	<i>Ava H – S1B</i>
<i>Braxton M – S2B</i>	<i>Lucas O – S2B</i>
<i>Murphy A – KB</i>	<i>Joshua K – S2W</i>
<i>Evie R – S3W</i>	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Thursday 9th December – Year 6 Reflection Day
- Friday 10th December - End of Year Awards
End of Year Mass
- Monday 13th December - 2022 Promotions Day
- Tuesday 14th December - Year 6 Graduation Mass (attendance by Invitation)
6pm in the Church
- Wednesday 15th December - Come dressed in Christmas Mufti
Year 6 Fun Day attending Richmond Movies
Farewell & Guard of Honour for Year 6 students
LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS

PRINCIPAL'S MORNING TEA



Congratulations to the children who celebrated a Principal's Morning Tea with Mrs Beggs

Stage 1 – Valentina X, Tahlia N, Amelia O, Noah S, Eliana G, Jake M, Madison E, Ariana B

Stage 2 – Lily C, Sophia B, Jade O, Bianca T, Mikeila A, Lachlan Y, Luke W, Jack J, Ceanna H-T, Summah B, Tom B, Hope C, Abigail G, Harrison M, Monique S,

Stage 3 - Aaliyah B, Lucas R



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

As part of our outreach to the wider community, our school will once again support the Vinnies food hamper appeal. Baskets have been distributed to classrooms, and we ask that families donate non-perishable goods such as canned fruit, soft drink, cordial, tea or coffee etc. The baskets will be collected on Tuesday December 14th by the members of the Richmond Chapter of St Vincent de Paul Society and distributed to families in need this Christmas.

St Monica's School have always given generously to this vital event and on behalf of the Leadership team I'd like to thank you in advance for your support.

Leanne Ryan
Religious Education Co-Ordinator.



SEMESTER TWO LEARNING REPORTS

In response to changes to the learning and teaching environment during COVID-19, schools have needed to adjust their assessment and reporting processes.

The Semester Two report, which you will receive this Friday, will look different whilst still providing you with valuable information about your child's learning.

Complying with government requirements, the report will not have the comparative data and A-E reporting, it will, however, recognise and reflect each student's engagement and learning in three key areas: English, Mathematics and Religious Education.

The students, families and teachers showed great resilience, creativity and flexibility in an extraordinarily difficult time and created truly remarkable opportunities for learning which will be reflected and acknowledged in the Semester Two 2021 Reports.

Please also note that this year reports will not be printed and sent home but will be made available through our Compass Portal. Please see the directions to join in the newsletter so you can access the reports.

Compass Parent Portal – Our New Way of Communication

Compass is our primary parent communication tool for day-to-day operational matters, upcoming events, notices and notifications so it is essential that all parents download the app.

It is more important than ever that we are able to communicate effectively, especially when it involves the safety of our children. If you haven't already, we ask that parents download the Compass app onto your device for either Apple or Android.

Compass is a web-based system allowing you to access up-to-date and meaningful information about your school and your child's progress. Compass includes many different features, including the ability to:

- Send important messages to your mobile device (including group emails)
- Monitor your child's attendance, and enter an explanation for absence or lateness
- Communicate with your child's teachers, and update your family contact details
- View the school calendar
- Download and view your child's semester reports
- Book parent-teacher conferences

Compass is accessible on any modern web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) or by using the Compass iOS or Android apps.

Accessing Compass please click on this link to access all the [Parent Portal](#) information sheets and directions. It is important for all parents to log onto Compass as this semester our reports will not be distributed to the parents but will need to be accessed via the Parent Portal. If you have any issues please do not hesitate to contact the office.

YEAR 6 2021 AND LEAVING FAMILIES

To our Year 6 Class of 2021 - congratulations on your achievements and successes during your time at St Monica's. As a group you have risen to the challenges of the year and shown great resilience and a capacity to learn and grow. The St Monica's Community wishes you all the best as you move to your new high school.

For those families who are leaving us at the end of this year we would like to thank you for your support and for the guidance that you have provided your children. We look forward to hearing from all our ex-students and families in the future, knowing that each of them will have gained a firm foundation for their education from St Monica's.

On behalf of our community, we wish you the best for your future. We sincerely thank you for your contribution to our school community.



KINDER ORIENTATION - THANK YOU

Last week we said hello to our newest members of the school and we were also able to welcome parents to an information session about numeracy and literacy in Kindergarten.

A very big thank you to our current kinder mums Rebecca, Julie-Ann and Kate who came along and also spoke to the parents about their insights into what it is like to be a new kinder parent. Your contribution and time was greatly received and helped the new parents feel welcomed and supported on this very exciting journey.

A very big thank you to our Year 4 students who will be the kindy buddies as they begin school next year. You helped make their first experience of school very smooth! A great beginning to such an important leadership role at school.



Thank you also to our second hand uniform shop and Jenny who assisted parents on the day with their uniform questions and requirements.

We can't wait for our new kinder students to begin next year.



Wednesday 15th
December
Last Day of
School

On our last day for students in 2021 we invite the children to come dressed in Christmas mufti. Please remember for safety shoes need to be covered (no sandals or thongs) and shoulders need to be covered (no singlet tops) We look forward to a fun day!

Reminder that Yr 6 will be attending the movies as part of their fun day and are required to wear their sports uniform as they are off site and will be representing the school.



PROMOTIONS DAY

On Monday 13th December the students will meet their new teachers for 2022. We will also be welcoming new students to the school in Stages 1-3 on this day as well.

A list of teachers and their roles for 2022 will be sent home via Skoolbag after this day. Also going home will be the student equipment list for 2022.

A banner for the 2021 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge. It features a red header with the text "2021 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE" in white. Below the header is a photograph of five diverse children sitting outdoors, each reading a different colored book (yellow, green, blue, yellow, orange). In the top left corner of the banner is a small circular emblem with a traditional Indigenous design.

Congratulations to all the students who completed their Premier's Reading Challenge this year. Certificates will be distributed to the students this week. The St Monica's students joined with 316,198 students across NSW this year to read a total of 8,869,125 books. During summer you can continue to enjoy reading with a challenge and enter the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge for some great prizes.

A banner for the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge. It features a central illustration of a stack of colorful books. To the right of the books, the text "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE" is written in a stylized, hand-drawn font. Below this, there is a banner with the word "Summer" and a drawing of a swimmer. Further down, the text "WIN A \$500 GIFT VOUCHER!" is displayed, followed by a paragraph about winning vouchers. At the bottom, there is more text about entering online and the competition details, along with the logo for Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta.

MATHS ASSESSMENT INTERVIEWS (MAI)

At the beginning of the 2022 school year the teachers at St Monica's will be administering the Mathematical Assessment Interview (MAI) on each of the students in Years 1 - 6.

This is a 1:1 interview with a student and takes approximately 30 minutes. The information gathered from this assessment will assist the teacher's knowledge of where the students are in their understanding of number.

In Term 4, Week 11, of this school year, all families including new families to St Monica's in 2022 will receive a login code via email to use with the school interview online booking tool to organise an appointment time.

The MAI interviews will take place on

- Friday 28th January - Kindergarten to Yr 6
- Monday 31st January - Kindergarten to Yr 6
- Tuesday 1st February- **Kindergarten Children ONLY**

Please note that all interviews will be held in your child's 2022 learning space.



If your child is unable to be tested at a suitable time for you with their 2022 class teacher, the Diversity teachers or the Assistant Principal will be available for interview bookings during the above days.

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

SCHOOL RESUMES 2022

Week 1

Friday, January 28 - Staff Only

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



Week 2

Monday, January 31 - Staff Only

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



Tuesday, February 1

- Years 1-6 8:50am – 3:10pm Back to School
- **Kindergarten ONLY** - Mathematics Assessment Interviews (MAI's) 8:30am – 3:30pm

Wednesday, February 2

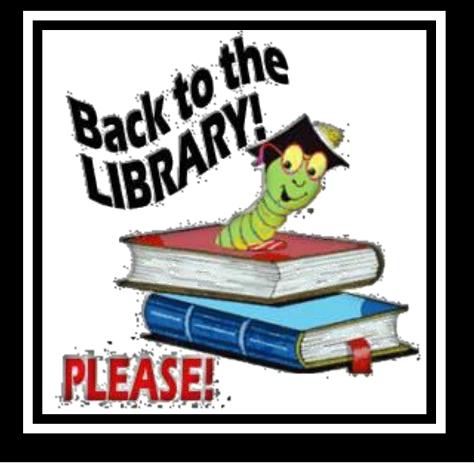
- Kindergarten's First Day of School 8:50am – 3:10pm



**It's that time of the year! Start looking
for those missing library books and
class readers.**

**Check under the bed, in the car or
maybe at Grandmas, on your
bookshelf or even in your school bag.**

**Please return them to the library
ASAP.**



School Travel for 2022



2022 school travel applications are now open

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home.

Note: some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Travel from Term 1 2022

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) open at the start of Term 4 2021 for travel in 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a difficult period for local bus operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations increasingly difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel on a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Please also remember that students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).

TRANSFORMING LEARNING

**2022 PARRAMATTA DIOCESE TEAM SPORT TRIALS
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST REGISTRATION WINDOW OPEN**

Dear Parents,

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2022 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term One & Two in 2022. **Students in Year 4 in 2022 MAY nominate for the sports of Basketball, Hockey, Softball, Tennis & Touch Football only.**

It is important to note that these trials are generally for those students that **MUST** demonstrate an **ABOVE AVERAGE** ability, **HIGH LEVEL OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT** or *in particular sports demonstrate REPRESENTATIVE playing experience in their nominated sport. In most sports, students should have experience playing regular competition outside of school.*

To facilitate this, Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in some sports and others are through CSNSW Sport at MacKillop level and nominations will be available through the CSNSW Sport portal in 2022::

TEAM SPORTS

Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports to select Parramatta Diocesan teams:

- AFL - Boys/Girls combined team
- Basketball - Boys and Girls team
- Cricket - Boys and Girls team
- Hockey - Boys and Girls team
- Football - Boys and Girls team
- Hockey - Boys and Girls team
- Netball - Boys/Girls combined team
- Rugby League (U11's) - Boys/Girls combined team
- Rugby League (U12's) - Boys/Girls combined team
- Rugby Union - Boys/Girls combined team
- Softball - Boys and Girls team
- Tennis - Boys and Girls team
- Touch Football - Boys and Girls team

The following sports will be held at the MacKillop level and nominations will be available through the CSNSW Sport portal in 2022:

- AFL Girls
- Diving - Boys and Girls team
 - *Springboard: 8 Years, 9 Years, 10 Years, 11 Years, 12/13 Years - Girls & Boys
 - *Platform: Open Girls & Open Boys
- Golf - Boys and Girls team - 18 Hole Competition Students must have a golf link number and handicap.
- Rugby Girls 7's

All Team Sports trials will be held in Term One & Two in 2022.

ELIGIBILITY - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) NOMINATION FORM OPEN 23rd November

To be eligible for selection for these trials the **2022 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration** Form must be completed. Please visit the Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport website or Facebook for the link and information.

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)** for the 2022 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Access the information using any below:

- Registration (Expression of Interest) link

[2022 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration Form \(Expression of Interest\) - Sport Trials](#)

- Primary Sport Parramatta WEBSITE link

www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

- FACEBOOK link

[Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese](#)

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2022 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and MUST be approved by the child's school. For the child to attend the nominated trial or event, the school approves students based on playing history and selection criteria. All fields and especially "Representative Experience" if applicable to the sport MUST be completed. Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the **2022 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration** Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

More detailed information can be located in the **2022 CEDP Parra Primary Sport Rep Team Trials Info for Parents COVID19** information sheet.



Headstart ELC Vacation care program

- No extra costs
- Private buses provided
- New and fun excursions
- Meals provided

Contact:

Phone: 45778255

Email: clarendon-oosh@headstartelc.com.au

Address: 208 Hawkesbury valley way clarendon

December				2021			
19	20	21	22	Return and Earn Water Play	Vision Sport	23	24
Movies	tru Ninja					Christmas Eve feast Craft day	25
26	27	28	29	Centre PJ. Movies Water Play	Fagan Park, BBQ Exploring grounds	30	31
Public Holiday	Public Holiday					New Year celebration	

January							2022	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
							1	
2	Public Holiday	3 Craft day at Centre	4 Sonic Kitchen	5 Chinese themed cooking craft day	6	7 Movies	8	
9	10 Ultimate Gaming	11 tennis	12 Dr Seuss themed day	13 Kids first aid	14 feathered friends		15	
16	SCG tour	17 Water play centre	18 tuff nutterz	19	20 Everything Craft	21 Movies	22	
23	flip Out	24 Australia Day BBQ Celebrations	25 Public Holiday	26 Cooking day ride scooter at Regatta	27	Holy molly Pott Pott	28	29
30	31							