

Term 1, Week 2

Tuesday February 5, 2019



St Monica's Primary School NEWSLETTER



WEBSITE: www.stmonicasrichmond.catholic.edu.au

PO Box 274 -32 Francis Street, Richmond 2753
Phone: 4570 3700
Parish ~ Phone: 45781410

Principal: Mr Cameron Lievore
Assistant Principal: Mrs Jacqui Van Der Burg
Parish Administrator: Fr Clifford D'Souza

Diary Dates

Wednesday February 6	Opening School Mass 11.30am Hot Dog Day K-2
Monday February 11	School Assembly 2:15pm
Tuesday February 12	Nude Food Day
Wednesday February 13	Hot Dog Day Yrs 3-6
Monday February 18	School Assembly 2:15pm Zone Swimming Carnival - Windsor
Wednesday February 20	P&F AGM 7pm – Library All Welcome
Friday February 22	Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Term 1 Dates For your Diary.....	
Week 6 –	Catholic Schools Week
8 th March –	Book Fair
-	Open Day 8.30-9.30am
15 th March –	Open Day 8.30-9.30am
21/22 March –	Yr 6 Canberra
5 th April –	Cross Country

OPENING SCHOOL MASS – WHOLE SCHOOL

Wednesday 6th February at 11.30am.

Families are invited to come and celebrate our first whole school Mass this Wednesday (tomorrow) in the Parish Church. We welcome back Father Clifford and keep our new Assistant Priest, Father Jessie in our prayers as he recovers from a serious infection.

Parents are invited to come back to the School Hall for a cuppa and some 'networking' after the Mass. We would love you to be there if you can.

Leanne Ryan
Religious Education Co-ordinator.

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2019 school year. I trust that all families had a peace-filled and relaxing break. The first few days of the new school year are always filled with excitement as children re-connect with their friends and classmates and share their news of what they did in the holidays. A special welcome to our new families who have enrolled at St Monica's – it is a privilege to have you join our community. I would also like to welcome Miss Lauren Schembri who will be teaching Year 6 this year. Lauren is looking forward to working with us and I know that it will be a productive year for the children in her care.

Tomorrow we will celebrate our Opening School Mass at 11:30am in the church. I am aware that this is short notice, however Fr Clifford only returned from his annual leave last weekend and I am very pleased that he has made himself available to celebrate Mass with us. Parents are of course welcome to join us and there will be tea and coffee available at the conclusion of Mass.


On Wednesday 20th February (Week 4), the P&F will be holding it's Annual General Meeting. The P&F work tirelessly for our school. Some of the items that have been achieved through fundraising over the last few years are: refurbished cricket nets, sand pits, playground markings as well as a full refurbishment of the school library. We simply wouldn't have these without the ongoing support and commitment of the P&F. If you are interested in attending the AGM, it will be held at 7:00pm in the Library. All positions will be declared vacant and nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will be called for. An election will be held should there be more than one nomination for any position. We will also call for a fete co-ordinator at this meeting, so if you are interested in nominating for any of the positions, please join us on the night. Entry is via the church car park gate.

Affirmation: Thank you to all those families who attended the MAIs (Mathematics Assessment Interviews) last week. By doing so, class teachers have been able to complete most of the interviews, meaning that there will be less time out of class catching up.

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Cameron Lievore
Principal

IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION

- ❖ **Kiss and Drop:** Please farewell children in the Covered Learning Area. All adults must sign in at the office before passing this point. This is not just a school rule, but a directive from the Catholic Education Office, due to Child Protection Legislation.
- ❖ **Appointments:** If you need to speak with your child's class teacher, please make an appointment through the school office. We want to assure you that we believe very strongly in being available for such meetings.
- ❖ **School Fees:** Statements will be posted to your nominated address from the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta in the coming weeks. Just a reminder that school fees will be billed over 3 Terms only. For families who had a child in Year 6 who has left, please ensure that you change your BPay details as per your fees statement.
- ❖ **Mobile Phones:** The use of mobile phones by students is not permitted on school property. If your child is in need of a mobile phone for parental contact after they have left the school grounds, the phone must be turned off and kept in their school bag or given to their class teacher for the day. Please discuss this matter with your child.
- ❖ **Morning Arrivals:** The playground duty roster for student supervision commences at 8.20am. Students arriving before this time will need to sit in the COLA with their school bags. Bourke Street gate (near the Year 6 classrooms) will be opened at 8.30am for **STUDENTS ONLY** entry. This is **NOT** an entrance for parents. If you wish to accompany your child onto the school grounds, please use the Francis Street entry. Bourke Street gates will be locked at 8.50am.
- ❖ **Punctuality:** Parents are reminded of the importance of having your children at school on time. School commences at 8.50am, all students should be at school by 8.45. I want to stress that late arrival to school means that your child/children are missing important information communication, either at assembly or within class. Late arrival to class also creates a great deal of disruption. If your child is arriving at school after the 8.50am bell, **the parent, or adult who has brought the child to school must accompany the child to the office** to complete and sign a late note. Once this has been attended to and signed by the office staff, the child will proceed to class. 
- ❖ **Afternoon Pick-up:** Parents please wait in the COLA until the 3.10pm bell when children can be collected from the central court yard area, in front of the K-2 classrooms. Please be considerate of children catching buses and teachers already on bus duty. The Bourke Street gate near Year 6 classroom will also be open at 3.10pm for the pick-up of children. Children will still be sitting in their after school positions and parents must walk in to collect them. This gate will be closed promptly at 3.20pm, when remaining children will be moved to the Hall. All children should be collected from school before 3.30pm.
PLEASE NOTE: As a matter of safety, no preschool child is permitted on the play equipment at anytime.
- ❖ **Road Safety:** As you are aware Francis & Bourke Streets are major traffic areas and parents must escort all children across the crossings. Please discuss road safety with your children.
- ❖ **Parish Car Park:** **STUDENTS ARE NOT TO ENTER SCHOOL VIA THE PARISH DRIVEWAY.** We know that you will support this as it is for the safety of your children. The Parish driveway is closed from 8.30am to 9.00am and 3.00pm to 3.30pm. NEED
TO
KNOW
- ❖ **Sport Uniform & Library Day:** The children are to wear their sport uniform as follows, and bring a library bag for borrowing:

Sports Days Term 1		Library Days Term 1
Kindergarten	Wednesday	Tuesday
Year 1	Wednesday & Friday	Friday
Year 2	Tuesday & Friday	Wednesday
Year 3	Tuesday & Thursday	Wednesday
Year 4	Tuesday & Friday	Friday
Year 5	Tuesday & Friday	Wednesday
Year 6	Thursday & Friday	Tuesday

- ❖ **Labels:** Please label all clothing and items belonging to your child. The beginning of a school year means many new items all look the same to the children if they are not labelled.
- ❖ **Lost Property:** The lost property bin is located outside the school office, student foyer entry. If your child's clothes are labelled they will be returned to them. Clothes that have not been collected after a 2 week period will be donated to the second hand uniform shop.

- ❖ **Student Banking:** Student Banking will take place on a Monday of each week. Banking books will be collected from the children each Monday Morning in class and returned to them in the afternoon. If you would like to open an account for your child please apply - Online: Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open the Youthsaver account.

OR

In branch: Visit any Commonwealth Bank branch and our friendly staff will assist. Parents will need to bring along identification for themselves and their child, like their Driver licence and their child's birth certificate.

- ❖ **Newsletter:** The school newsletter is published once a week on a Tuesday. The newsletter is uploaded to our school website: www.stmonicasrichmond.catholic.edu.au by Tuesday afternoon. To receive a copy straight to your inbox please subscribe via our school website. This will enable you to receive an email in your selected account with a link to the Newsletter.

Please follow the details below to subscribe:

Step 1: Using your internet search engine, type in the following web address.

<http://www.stmonicasrichmond.catholic.edu.au>

Step 2: Select the [Community Tab](#)

Step 3: In the dropdown box select Announcements

Step 4: On the right hand side you will see the following:

Subscribe

If you change email address, complete the above again. You will now receive the Newsletter each Tuesday afternoon.

- ❖ **Clarification:** If you are not sure about any school event, activity, procedure, learning etc, I encourage you to please take the time to seek clarification with class teachers, specialist teachers, office staff, as opposed to relying on hearsay or someone else's interpretations or perceptions.
- ❖ **Uniforms:** Our school uniform gives the children a strong sense of identity and adds to their positive self-esteem as they take pride in their appearance. However, I would like to give a gentle reminder that the correct uniform does not include surf style shorts, jewellery or coloured hair. Shoes should be the correct black school shoes and all children require the correct school hat. St Monica's school bags are mandatory now and can be purchased from the school office.
- ❖ **Uniform Shop:** All our School uniform, except school bags are available at: Brynorms, 328 Windsor Street, Richmond. 45782860. Library Bags, Hats & School Bags can be purchased at the school office. The Second Hand Uniform Shop is open every Thursday Morning 8:30-9:30am.
- ❖ **Bus Passes:** Bus pass applications are now done online. Go to www.transportnsw.info/school-students to apply. Instructions are also available at the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions regarding Bus Passes.
- ❖ **Skoolbag app:** Skoolbag is the ultimate school to parent communication tool. This School Mobile App provides schools with an easy way to tell parents and carers everything they need to know about school news, newsletters, events calendar, cancellations and school related reminders. The Skoolbag School Mobile App is very flexible to allow schools to create their own customised content and provides a great alternative to school SMS alerts directly to parent smartphones. Information on how to download this app is available from the office.
- ❖ **Child Protection at St Monica's:** It is a diocesan requirement that parents who volunteer at school must complete the CEO Online Child Protection Module as well as the Building Child Safe Communities Form. This training is available online at:

<http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/module1/index.htm>

Open the module by clicking on the START link. Read through the presentation. Complete and submit quiz questions – this will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes.



Administering Medication to Children

It is important that parents/carers contact the office to fill out and sign a "Medication Advice" form if their child requires medication (eg antibiotics) at school for a short period of time.

The medication **must** have the name of the student, name of the medicine and dosage clearly on the label. Without this signed form we are **not authorised** to administer medication to your child. Please ensure that a



measuring device, preferably a measuring cup, is provided with the medication. Please also note that we are unable to administer paracetamol eg Panadol/Nurofen etc. If your child requires paracetamol for any reason, we require a Medical Certificate from the proscribing doctor authorising us to administer paracetamol and dosage. Due to the safety of your child and other children, **under NO CIRCUMSTANCE** are children allowed to keep paracetamol in their school bag.

CANTEEN NEWS

The school canteen provides a service to your children. We fill lunch orders and provide over the counter service. There is an extensive variety of foods and drinks available. This makes for a very busy canteen.

To keep up with the demands of our canteen we need your continued help. Canteen hours for volunteers are **9.30am to 2.30pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.**

If you are interested in volunteering please call Michelle on 0405 103 866 to arrange days. If you are unable to fulfil your committed time please call Michelle so other arrangements can be made. We need two helpers every day. Volunteers are supplied with a cuppa and lunch, and the benefit of giving and seeing the happy and caring environment our students are being educated in.

Looking forward to your assistance in 2019.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Thank you to the following parents who will be working in our canteen this week. We appreciate the time and effort you give to our students. If you are unable to attend on your rostered day please contact Michelle on 0405 103 866

Wednesday February 6	Louisa Cremen Hot Dog Day K-2
Friday February 8	Paula Sciberras
Monday February 11	Joanne Apostolatos
Wednesday February 13	Jodie McMurray & Bethany Cox Hot Dog Day Yrs 3-6
Friday February 15	Jeanette Rogers & Sarah Thorp
Monday February 18	Kerrile Campbell

CAKE RAFFLE ROSTER

Cake Raffle is held each Thursday morning. Check each fortnight to see if your child is rostered to supply a cake on this day. The cake can be homemade or purchased from the grocery store. Tickets are sold for 20c each. All proceeds go towards purchases for our library.

Week 2 – Thursday 7 th February			
Kinder	Amelia B & Jayden V		
1B	Annalise A	1W	Aurora A
2B	Phoebe B		
3B	Marcus B	3W	Aaliyah B
4B	Nicholas A	4W	Oliver B
5B	Charlotte B	5W	Jacinta A
6B	Jayanna A	6W	Lauren A
K6 Gold	Marcus G		

Week 3 – Thursday 14 th February			
Kinder	Indianna B & Penelope T		
1B	Heath B	1W	Sophia B
2B	Lily-Rose B		
3B	Luella B	3W	Archer B
4B	Matilda B	4W	Aiden B
5B	Michael B	5W	Stavros A
6B	James A	6W	Connor B



Happy Birthday to the children celebrating their birthday over the next 2 weeks

Sarah H 6W
Olivia S 4B
Lachlan Y 1B
Chelsea F 1B
Lawson D 5B
Ellie J 2B
Sophie Z 3W
Natalie Z 3B
William P 6B
Harrison M 2B
Indiana M KB
Hope C 1W
Ace S 3W
Jazz S 3B
Bridget M-C 3B
Kasy S 6W
Jake M KB

P&F

P&F Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th February at 7.00pm in the library. All welcome. Please enter the library via the church car park gate. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Hot Dog Day

Kinder- Yr 2
Wednesday 6th February

Yrs 3-6
Wednesday 13th February

\$3.50
Hot Dog with sauce

Get involved in the School Banking program.

St Monica's is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2019 are:

- Scented Stackable Highlighters
- Snowy Origami Set
- Icicle Slapband Ruler
- Yeti Fluffly Notepad
- Arctic Owl Fluffy Keyring
- Scratch Art Cards
- Water Skimming Bounce Ball
- Polar Pencils & Pencil Toppers



School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives a Regular Savers Contribution of \$5 for every 10 deposits processed per student as well as an Annual Contribution which is based on the number of students who made at least one School Banking deposit in the prior year.

Getting involved in School Banking is easy!

All you need to get involved in the School Banking program is a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account. You can open an account for your child in one of two ways:

1. Online

Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account.

2. In branch

Visit a Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for yourself and your child, like a driver's licence and birth certificate.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

School Banking day is **MONDAY**. Each week you need to send your bank book down with the office bags and it will be returned to you at the end of the day.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2019 School Banking program information pack from the school office or visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

St Monica's Primary School is having an

OPEN MORNING

for *Prospective NEW Families to the school community*

- ★ Friday, March 8 from 9.30am to 10:30am.
- ★ Friday, March 15 from 9.30am to 10:30am.

Giving you the opportunity to tour our school and meet the Principal and K-2 Co-ordinator. Please phone the school to register your interest in attending on 4570 3700.

Is your child starting kindergarten? Here are some tips to help make it a smooth transition:

➤ ***“There will be fun activities and you will meet new people.”***

Parents - be calm and enthusiastic. Anxiety is normal in new situations but you can manage your child's worries with your own responses.



➤ ***“Here is a story about starting school.”***

With your child, you could read, *Starting School* by Janet and Allen Ahlberg or *Starting School* by Jane Godwin and Anna Walker which could help to explore your child's feelings about starting school.

➤ ***Goodbye and a hug, but then move on.***

If you stay at drop-off time, even if your child is upset, your child gets the impression that there is something to worry about. Once the class teacher takes your child, it is advisable to move on.

➤ ***“Tell me one good thing about your day”***

This could start a healthy discussion with your child about their experiences rather than asking too many questions.

➤ ***“We learn from mistakes”***

You can reassure your child that everyone makes mistakes and that this is how we learn. After doing something incorrectly, we can think about how we could do it differently next time.

Sources: Tanya Lancaster, Wellbeing and Counselling Services Advisor, NSW Department of Education and Raising Children Network

And

Raising Children Network: <https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning/school-choosing-starting-moving/starting-school>

Debbie Robinson, School Counsellor.

KIDS CHOIR and PARENT MUSICIANS

First Sunday of the month - Family Mass 9.30am

We are looking for parents who can play guitar, keyboard or another instrument so we can form a core group of musicians to support our growing kids choir.

Children ages K-6 who would like to sing in the choir for 2019 need to attend two rehearsals per month at the church and come to the 9.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

This will be directly after a school day TBA depending on most people's availability.

We will be learning harmonies and hymns that are upbeat and liturgically relevant. Parents must attend rehearsals for supervision purposes.

Please email or call Anne Maree Higgins for details on rehearsal times and return the form below to the parish office to book your spot in the choir.

e:am@canarystudios.com.au m:0404035320

FAMILY MASS CHILDREN'S CHOIR 9.30am Mass

Child's First Name _____ Child's Surname _____

Child's age: _____ School _____

Parent's First Name _____ Surname _____

Parent's best contact number(s) _____

Parent's email _____

I can play an instrument _____

I am interested in helping to plan the music / choose hymns YES NO

I agree to attend rehearsals with my child and attend the mass on the first Sunday of the month at 9.30am

Signed _____

Please circle which afternoon you are able to come for rehearsals. We will try to accommodate as many people as possible.

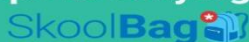
MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY (for extra practice if needed)

Stay up to date and informed of everything that is happening around the school. Subscribe to the following 4 social media sites:

SKOOLBAG

FACEBOOK/YOUTUBE

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed



SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication



2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.



Follow us on Facebook

Accessing our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Monicas-Primary-School-Richmond-1452420771540958>

or goo.gl/SeBdoA



YouTube Channel

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAcrkagh-](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAcrkagh-GwXcX2fTkolQaA)

GwXcX2fTkolQaA



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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<http://www.stmonicasrichmond.catholic.edu.au>

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Step 4: On the right hand side you will see the following:

Subscribe

Parent Connect 2019 With FREE childcare	For Dad's & Mums of children aged 0-8 years	<u>Term 1 2019</u> 11 th February, 25 th February, 11 th March, 25 th March, 8 th April <u>Term 2, 2019 -</u> 6 th May, 20 th May, 3 rd June, 17 th June, 1 st July	10am-12noon
Supporting Your Kids Through Loss & Grief WITH FREE CHILDCARE	For Dads and Mums/ primary carers of children aged 0-12 years	Weds 27th February 2019	10am - 12.30pm
Conflict Resolution for Couples WITH FREE CHILDCARE	For Dads and Mums/ primary carers of children aged 0-12 years	3 weeks ongoing Saturdays: 2nd, 9th & 16th March 2019	10am - 12.30pm
GUTS-Growing Up Through Separation	Primary School Children 7-12years	6 weeks on Tuesdays 5 th , 12 th , 19 th & 26 th March, 2 nd April & 9 th April 2019	3.30-5pm
Supporting Your Kids Through School WITH FREE CHILDCARE	For Dads and Mums/ primary carers of children aged 7-12 years	Weds 6th March 2019	6.30-9pm
Be A Great Dad WITH FREE CHILDCARE	For Dads of children aged 0-12 years	Weds 27th March 2019	6.30 - 9pm

Richmond Community Services Inc
P O Box 260
20 West Market Street
Richmond NSW 2753
Tel: **02 4588 3503 (direct line)** for EO Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)
02 4588 3502 (Generic)
Fax: 02 4578 3322