



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 2 Tuesday May 25, 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 6!

200 Years of Catholic Education

Yesterday I had the pleasure to attend Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta to celebrate 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia. I was accompanied by one of our school captains Olivia Saliba and her mother Michelle who is also our canteen manager.

As Mr Greg Whitby our Executive Director said in his address "Catholic Education in Parramatta is a story of courage and determination. We build on the strong foundations of those before us such as St Mary of the Cross MacKillop who dedicated their lives to their communities and to the education of children."

Our Bishop also mentioned how Parramatta is the 'cradle' of Catholic Education as it was from here that Catholic education began in Australia and from that humble beginning we now share our faith and learning with many young Australians.

St Monica's as one of the oldest schools in Australia has played its role in this story for many years and in partnership with the parents, the wider parish community, staff and students will continue to adapt, learn and grow supporting and celebrating the gifts that learning and faith bring.

Events at School

This is a busy week for students and families at St Monica's. Yesterday our Stage 2 children braved the elements and enjoyed a fabulous day at the Rocks in Sydney learning about our early colonial history. Today saw the first of our Principal's morning teas for those students who have earned Blue awards. I love to spend time with these students as they share their achievements in earning this special treat! On Wednesday and Thursday night we will celebrate as a Parish, the Confirmation of many of our students. We pray for all the children as they are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and strengthened in their Christian life. On Friday our youngest students - Kindergarten will head off to Sydney zoo for their very first excursion as they learn about living things.

And of course, on Thursday we have our long anticipated Colour Run. The weather looks promising and we are looking forward to a fun day of activities and celebration. A very big thank you to everyone for supporting this event and for raising over \$13000. The funds raised will help our students enormously. If you are able to join us on the day please do so and stop in at the hall for some light snacks at 12:30 before the fun run begins!

Wishing you a wonderful fortnight ahead

Mrs Melissa Beggs

Principal

"The Holy Spirit, the love of God, acts in our spirit. He comes down "within the heart", as "the soul's most welcome guest". He is the very love of God, who does not abandon us."



Pope Francis@Ponti

What's Happening at St Monica's...

| Diary Dates | |
|---------------------|--|
| Wednesday May 26 | Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day Jamison Park |
| Thursday May 27 | St Monica's COLOUR RUN |
| Friday May 28 | Early Stage 1 Sydney Zoo Excursion |
| Thursday June 3 | Stage 3 Canberra Overnight Excursion |
| Friday June 4 | Yr 2 Parish Mass Stage 3 Canberra Excursion |
| Tuesday June 15 | P&F Meeting 7pm |



| Happy Birthday to the children who are celebrating their birthday over the next 2 weeks..... | |
|--|---------------|
| Archer B S3W | Skyla S S1W |
| Sydney B S3G | Angus R S1G |
| Harry C KB | Anika C S3W |
| Olivia G KB | Madison E S1G |

CANTEEN

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Wednesday May 26 | Paula Sciberras |
| Friday May 28 | Jeanette Rogers |
| Monday May 31 | Beverly Owens |
| Wednesday June 2 | Stacey & Chris Moore |
| Friday June 4 | Volunteer Needed Please |
| Monday June 7 | Samantha 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.

HOT DOG DAY

\$3.50

Wednesday June 2
Early Stage 1 & Stage 1

Wednesday June 9
Stage 2 & 3

CONFIRMATION AT ST MONICA'S

This week students in Stage 3 will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. Just as bodies and minds grow, Catholics believe that the soul also needs to grow in the life of grace. The sacrament of Confirmation builds on the sacraments of Baptism, Penance, and Holy Communion, completing the process of initiation into the Catholic community.



Confirmation, a sacrament of initiation, establishes young adults as full-fledged members of the faith. This sacrament is called *Confirmation* because the faith given in Baptism is now confirmed and made strong. During your Baptism, parents and godparents make promises to renounce Satan and believe in God and the Church on the child's behalf. At Confirmation, the child renews those same promises, this time speaking for themselves.

During Confirmation, the focus is on the Holy Spirit, who confirmed the apostles on Pentecost and gave them courage to practice their faith. Catholics believe that the same Holy Spirit confirms Catholics during the Sacrament of Confirmation and gives them the same gifts.

Traditionally, the seven *gifts* of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude (courage), knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. These gifts are supernatural graces given to the soul. The 12 *fruits* of the Holy Spirit are charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, long-suffering, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, and chastity — human qualities that can be activated by the Holy Spirit.

Congratulations!

Term 2 Awards

| Week 6 | Class | Catholic Values | St Monica's Award 1 | St Monica's Award 2 | St Monica's Award 3 |
|--------|---------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Kindy | Diesel Robinson | Lily Dawson | Anastas Nazarian | Sabrina Dahdah |
| | | Lucas Nankervis | | | |
| | Stage 1 | Rylan Adams | Addison Farrugia | Ariana Briffa | Gatleen Kaur |
| | | Nicky Medina | Tahlia Nichol | Edgar Stockey | Michael Chadevski |
| | Stage 2 | Stage 2- The Rocks Excursion | | | |
| | Stage 3 | Caitlin Hopper | Jack Brown (S3G) | Felicity Scott (S3G) | Levi Rosa |
| | | | Emily Suter | Kane Coghlan | Marcus Gelevski |
| | K6 Gold | Connor Worsman | Tavish Mendiratta | Marcus Garland | |

Writers Packs

| Stage | Name |
|-------|------------------|
| 3 | Alex Duncan |
| 3 | Lachlan Esposito |



SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Second Hand Uniform Shop will be closed this Wednesday 26th May. It will reopen the following Wednesday, 2nd June from 2.30-3.30pm.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. If you are in need of something before next week please contact the office.

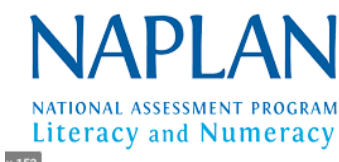
Congratulations to the children who received a Blue Awards Morning Tea with Mrs Beags today

Stage 1 – John Micallef, Jessica Pisani, Samuel Cahill, Beau Sieders, Maddsion Finch, Indee Blessing, Matilda Nolan, Indianna Bettridge, Gatleen Kaur, Hannah Cahill, Michael Chadevski, Tenielle Refalo, Isla Lindop



UNIFORMS - PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING

Unfortunately, we have a lot of jumpers/jackets in lost property, some with names and others without. If you purchase a second-hand item, please also make sure that you cross out the old name and mark it with your child's name. We also ask that you regularly check the jumper/jacket that your child comes home with as they may have inadvertently picked up someone else's. Often names on jumpers are on the back side of the tag. While we regularly sort through the lost property collection, since the weather has become cooler, we are unable to keep up with the ever increasing pile. Please feel free to look through the collection when you come to pick up your child in the afternoon. It is a shame that so many items do not get claimed.



NAPLAN AT ST MONICA'S

Congratulations to the students in Years 3 and 5 on their participation in NAPLAN 2021. The students completed these tests over the last 2 weeks. The students demonstrated a positive attitude each day and enthusiastically continued with their learning after each test session. A special thank you to our Stage 2 and 3 teachers

who calmly and professionally ran each of these test sessions, troubleshooting any technical issues and closely monitoring our students.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

School attendance plays a critical role in enhancing the lives of students in schools.

Every day of attendance adds to a student's academic achievement and success at school.

This fortnight the attendance at St Monica's has again improved slightly and we congratulate Year 4 who now lead the school with a 92.6% attendance rate. We still have a large amount of unexplained absences particularly in Stage 3. Your attention to returning notes for absences via Skoolbag or directly to the teacher is appreciated.



FEEDBACK & COMPLAINTS

St Monica's Richmond staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, the stage coordinator or myself through the school office (4570 3700 or the school email address stmonric@parra.catholic.edu.au).

St Monica's follows the CEDP Complaints Handling Policy.

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Policy-Central>



SCHOOL WELL-BEING COUNSELLING SERVICE

The wellbeing of children and young people in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools is of paramount importance. A sense of well-being and connectedness in schools promotes optimal development of the person and contributes to academic success. Access to counselling services can be made by contacting your child's classroom teacher who will then put forward a referral.

Our school counsellor is at St Monica's every Tuesday and Wednesday during term.



Premier's Reading Challenge

Hello readers!

Some Interesting PRC Statistics for 2021 so far..... 74 students have logged onto the challenge so far and they have read more than 600 books in total.

Kindergarten are in the lead with everyone having logged at least 8 books on the way to their goal of 30 books. Thank you Mrs Sultana and Mrs Duval for getting them underway.

We have 19 students in Stage 1 who have started and in Stage 2 we have 12. In Stage 3 we have 9 students who have begun.

Remember we have a goal of 100% participation in the PRC!

Keep reading everyone.

Mrs Melissa beggs

Enthusiastic Reader!



PLAYING OUR PART TO BUILD A NATIONAL PICTURE OF CHILD HEALTH



The AEDC gives us a national picture of the development, health and wellbeing of children in their first year of full-time school. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and develop better policies to target support for children and families. Our Kindergarten teachers will be completing the surveys later this term.

To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website: www.aedc.gov.au. A parent information letter will be sent home prior to the survey commencing.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS






The teachers are currently working on the student Semester 1 Reports, which will be sent home to parents on Friday 18th June. Parent Teacher Interviews will be available by appointment in Week 10. (21st - 25th June - booking details to come closer to the date)

Students will receive a level of achievement in each Key Learning Area (subject) based on the E-A scale with the exception of Kindergarten who have 3 levels only - working towards - working at - working beyond.

There will also be an effort grade displayed in each Key Learning Area.

Comments will be written for Religious Education, English, Mathematics as well as a General Comment.

It is important to remember that the majority of students are expected to receive C grades which indicate that they are achieving the expected outcomes. For those new to the E-A grading system it may help to imagine it like the driving system included in the graphic. Please note a 'C' grade indicates that your child is performing at their stage level and making the expected progress required.

| REPORT GRADES AND WHAT THEY MEAN | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| A | Grand Prix Racer! |  |
| B | Advanced driver training with extra skills. |  |
| C | Full drivers licence, like most of us! |  |
| D | A person on "P" plates drives independently but is still learning. |  |
| E | A person on "L" plates must always be accompanied by an experienced driver. |  |

A lot of time and consideration is put into allocating the grades for each student. Grades are allocated based on a number of variables such as student work samples, assessment tasks, observations and class work.

Please keep in mind that your child's grades may have varied from previous years, especially if they have moved into a new stage this year (Year 1, Year 3, Year 5).



Tell Them From Me

Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning Survey

In the coming weeks (31st May - 25th June) we will be inviting students in Years 4-6, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey - ***Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning Survey***. This survey is an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

As we greatly value the role of parents and carers within our school community, we would appreciate your feedback. TTFM is conducted throughout the Diocese and can provide a basis to inform school improvement, taking into account key drivers of student outcomes and applying them to the unique context of an individual school. Data is refreshed and generated with each new survey.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Further information on how to access the survey will be sent home in the next week.



ST MONICA'S GARDENING GROUP

If you have visited the school lately you will have noticed a large improvement in the vegetable gardens outside Stage 3.

Thanks to Lachlan and Alex, who with a small but enthusiastic team (thank you Charlotte, Jordan and Max) worked with Mr Munsey to make the garden beds ready for winter planting tomorrow.

Lachlan and Alex saw a need and following St Mary MacKillop's example decided to do something about it. They researched and wrote a letter to me (the Principal) and put forward their very convincing arguments as to why this neglected area of the school needed bringing back to life. Through their energy and enthusiasm the garden beds will once again be serving the community of St Monica's.

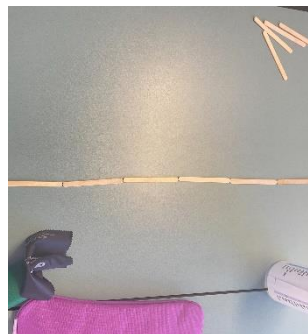


Numeracy Spotlight in Stage 1

Stage 1 have been busy investigating how to use informal units to measure length. We have found that to measure the length of something accurately using paddlepop sticks, the paddlepop sticks must be placed end-to-end with no overlapping and no gaps between the paddlepop sticks.

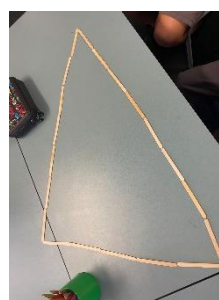
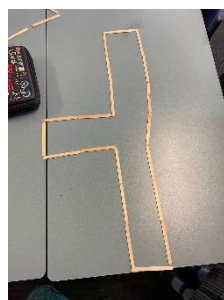
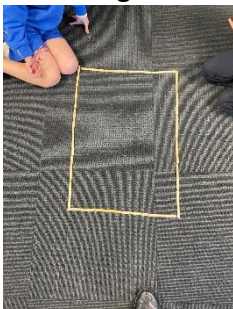


Not accurate



This is better.

We also found that different shapes can have the same number of paddlepop sticks (length) around the outside. These shapes all have 20 paddlepop sticks around the outside. We explained and demonstrated how we found our solutions. In Stage 1, we have been focussing on using mathematical language when we share our strategies and ideas with others.



Next week we will use formal units (metres and centimetres) to measure length as we have discovered that informal units such as paddlepop sticks and paper clips give the same length a different value.

St Monica's **Colour Explosion Fun Run - Two days to go!**

Thank you for your enthusiasm and fundraising. We have now raised \$13,224.

We look forward to seeing you all on **Thursday May 27th** wearing a **white** shirt and any type of shorts (fully covered in footwear eg sneakers). Children may also like to wear crazy wigs to celebrate. The colour powder easily brushes off, but we recommend clothing that is easily washable and not a concern if coloured.

If you haven't sent in permission for your child to take part in the colour explosion, please do so **as soon as possible**. If you don't wish for your child to take part they will still have fun watching from our start line and joining in our other activities on the day.

The permission note is available again below if you have not already returned to your class teacher.

The day will look like this -

Morning: Normal class time until recess (10:20 - 11:00)

After recess: The children will take part in many fun activities with their teachers. From 11:00 - 12:30. These events are for the children only. Older children will be partnered with their buddies. These same groups will then run together in the afternoon.)

Afternoon tea in the hall for parents from 12:30 - 1:00pm. The children at this time will be back in their classrooms.

Parents are then invited to have a picnic lunch in the playground from 1:00 - 1:30pm (please bring everything you need to have a wonderful lunch with your child including food and picnic blankets)

The Colour Run will commence at approx 1:40pm - parents are warmly invited. There will be designated spectator areas for parents as we will still need to observe COVID regulations. Please refer to the map on the note sent home today. Parents are asked to stay in their positions and not follow the children around the course.

Thank you to the many parent volunteers (listed on the map). Mrs Duval will meet with you at approximately 1:30pm on Thursday. Please look out for Mrs Duval near the hall. If you do not see your name on the map please contact Mrs Duval.

The day will end with the grand finale sliming of Mrs Beggs by our highest fundraiser!
Thank you for your enthusiasm and continued support and we look forward to seeing you on our day.

Mrs Duval
Colour Run Coordinator

COLOUR EXPLOSION™ SCHOOL FUN RUN PARENT CONSENT FORM

Please complete and return to the School for your children to participate in the Colour Explosion™ School Fun Run.

I, would like my children stated below to participate in the Colour Explosion™ School Fun Run.

Student's Name: Class:

Student's Name: Class:

Student's Name: Class:

Parent/Guardian's Signature:

HEADLICE

We have had a report of headlice in Stage 2. This is a cause for concern as your child may be affected, as headlice are extremely contagious.

In order to determine if your child has been infected with headlice, we are asking all parents to inspect their child's hair. We suggest that you look for the following symptoms or signs that would indicate the presence of headlice:

- General: child scratching his/her head excessively,
- On Pillows: fine black powder,
- In the hair: signs of lice eggs ("nits") - cream or coffee coloured specks close to hair roots,
- Lice: small white or 'greyish' parasites the approximate size of a pin-head.
- Remember to wash school hat with lice treatment.



If you notice any of the above signs or if you require any further information, please contact your local pharmacy as treatment is readily available and easy to apply. We encourage you to ensure that this problem is solved quickly by determining if your child is affected and seeking a recognised headlice treatment if necessary.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/treatment.aspx>

NEWS FROM THE PARISH



Parish White Elephant Stall

It's time to declutter, to clean out your cupboards, drawers and shed.

Donations of items (in good condition) that you no longer need will be gratefully accepted during June Monday-Friday 9am-3pm for the Parish White Elephant Stall to be held in the Old Church 25th, 26th, 27th June. Please contact Nolene Fienberg 0432355162 for further information

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
Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am, 5.30pm
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00am
St Gregory's Saturday: 9am
Sunday: 8am & 9am



CANTEEN MENU

| SANDWICHES | | | |
|--|---|--------------|--------|
| Bread rolls (add extra) | | | \$0.50 |
| Roast chicken | | | \$3.50 |
| Roast chicken with salad | | | \$4.00 |
| Ham & salad | | | \$4.00 |
| Ham | | | \$3.00 |
| Tuna | | | \$3.00 |
| Vegemite | | | \$2.50 |
| Cheese | | | \$2.50 |
| Cheese & salad | | | \$3.50 |
| Mediterranean roll (w/Tuna, olives & tomato paste) | | | \$3.00 |
| Egg & lettuce | | | \$3.00 |
| Jaffle: Ham & cheese | | | \$3.50 |
| Jaffle: Cheese | | | \$3.00 |
| SALAD PACKS | | | |
| Salad with Avo, Feta & Olives | | | \$4.50 |
| Chicken & salad | | | \$4.50 |
| Ham & salad | | | \$4.50 |
| Tuna & Salad | | | \$4.50 |
| Egg & salad | | | \$4.00 |
| Salad bowl | | | \$3.50 |
| WRAPS | | | |
| Roast chicken, avocado, lettuce & mayo | | | \$4.50 |
| Roast chicken & salad | | | \$4.50 |
| Chicken tender wrap with lettuce & mayo | | | \$3.50 |
| \$3.50 | HOT DOG DAY | | |
| | K-2 - First WEDNESDAY of each month 3-6 - Second WEDNESDAY of each month | | |
| Hot dog with sauce | | | |
| HOT FOOD | | | |
| Chicken Nuggets | 3 for \$2.00 | 6 for \$4.00 | |
| Gluten free nuggets | 3 for \$2.00 | 6 for \$4.00 | |
| Hash browns | | | \$1.50 |
| Fish fingers | 3 for \$2.00 | 6 for \$4.00 | |
| Corn on the cob | | | \$1.50 |
| Hot roast chicken roll | | | \$3.50 |
| Pie -Traveller (Large) | | | \$3.50 |
| Nacho dippers with salsa & cheese | | | \$3.50 |
| Potato Pie | | | \$4.00 |
| Lite sausage roll | | | \$3.00 |
| Spinach & cheese roll | | | \$3.00 |
| Pizza – Cheese & bacon | | | \$3.50 |
| Lasagne | | | \$4.00 |
| Macaroni & cheese | | | \$4.00 |
| Mamee chicken noodles | | | \$3.00 |
| BURGERS | | | |
| St Monica's cheese burger with tomato sauce | | | \$4.00 |
| St Monica's beef burger with lettuce & tomato | | | \$4.00 |
| Fish burger with lettuce & mayo | | | \$4.00 |
| Chicken burger with lettuce & mayo | | | \$4.00 |
|  | | | |
| Apples | | | |
| \$1.00 | | | |
|  | | | |
| EXTRA FILLINGS | | | |
| Mayonnaise | | | \$0.30 |
| Lettuce, tomato | | | \$0.30 |
| Tomato sauce | | | \$0.30 |
| Cheese, egg or avocado | | | \$0.50 |
| FRUIT & JELLY | | | |
| Jelly cup | | | \$1.00 |
| Jelly & custard | | | \$1.50 |
| Custard cup | | | \$1.00 |
| Seasonal fruit cups (ONLY Term 1 & 4) | | | \$1.00 |
| RECESS MENU | | | |
| Garlic bread | | | \$1.00 |
| Cheese & bacon roll | | | \$2.00 |
| Pasta cups (ONLY Term 2 & 3) | | | \$2.00 |
| Carrot & cucumber with vegetable dip | | | \$1.00 |
| Banana muffin | | | \$1.00 |
| Chocolate muffin | | | \$1.00 |
| Vegemite & Cheese Scrolls | | | \$0.50 |
| To provide the best canteen service for the children, it is necessary for all orders to be handed in at the canteen before 9am. Thank you. | | | |
| SNACKS | | | |
| Red rock deli chips – Honey & soy | | | \$1.50 |
| Smith's salt & vinegar (Gluten free) | | | \$1.50 |
| Popcorn | | | \$1.00 |
| Want Want Rice Crackers | | | \$0.30 |
| Eucalyptus drops | | | \$1.00 |
| ICE BLOCKS | | | |
| Quelch – 99% Fruit juice | | | \$1.00 |
| Zooper Doopers | | | \$1.00 |
| Zing (yoghurt & fruit) | | | \$1.00 |
| Frozen apple/blackcurrant cups | | | \$1.00 |
| Jelly joy sticks (Gluten free) | | | \$0.30 |
| DRINKS | | | |
| Popper juice Apple or Orange | | | \$1.50 |
| Spring water | | | \$2.00 |
| Chill J (Raspberry, orange passion) | | | \$2.50 |
| Flavoured milk Strawberry or Chocolate | | | \$2.50 |
| Cup of plain milk | | | \$1.00 |
| Please Note: RECESS & LUNCH ORDERS ARE TO BE IN SEPARATE BAGS | | | |