

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

8:20am
Morning supervision

8:30am-8:45am
Bag Unpacking

8:50am
Morning bell

10:40am—11:10am
Recess

12:50pm-1:30pm
Lunch

3:00pm
Dismissal

3:00pm—3:30pm
Afternoon supervision

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS (amended)

Monday 30 April
(Term 2, Week 1)

Friday 23 November
(Term 4, Week 6)

Thursday 20 December
(Term 4, Week 10)

Friday 21 December
(Term 4, Week 10)

OPEN MORNING

WEDNESDAY
7 March 2018

Principal talk followed by
School Tours for new
families.

9:30am and 10:00 am

Please register your
attendance by calling the
school office on
8832 4100

Important Dates on
Page 8



Monica's Matters

Web: www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au
Email: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 8832 4100
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

BUILDING SUCCESS FOR YOUR CHILD IN 2018

As we begin the school year I'd like to share some helpful advice on setting yourself and your child up for a successful year.

1. **Ask about your child's day** - Stay involved in your child's education, beyond helping with homework. Even small things, like asking a child what happened at school, can be the difference between a child who unplugs at the end of the day and one who continues thinking about what they learned. Give them the kind of feedback that acknowledges and respects their feelings so they know you are really hearing them.

Try asking these questions:

- What was the best thing that happened at school today?
- Tell me a new word that you heard today.
- Tell me the best thing that you learned today.
- When were you challenged in your learning today?
- What piece of work were you most proud of today?
- What feedback did your teacher give you today about your learning?
- How did you help somebody today or when did someone help you?
- If I called your teacher tomorrow what would she/he tell me about you?
- What and who did you play with at recess/lunch?
- Tell me something that made you laugh today.



2. **Let your child see you making mistakes** - Teachers do this often! Parents are their child's first teacher and their life time teacher. Part of being a teacher is teaching your child how to deal with making mistakes. Let them see that you can make mistakes and deal with it so they will understand, mistakes are part of life and part of learning. It helps them to being resilience to cope when they trip up.

3. **Keep up to date with what is happening at school** - Read the Newsletter each fortnight and highlight all the information, note important dates on your family calendar or in your electronic calendar. You can also follow what is happening on our website and by using the Skoolbag app. If you are unsure of something come and ask. Show your child you value education and they will too. We have a very active Parent Involvement Committee that meet every term and plan activities. All of their initiatives rely on generosity of parent volunteers for their success. This Thursday we will have popcorn on sale at morning tea- can you help?

4. **Avoid telling your child that you weren't good at school** - (I was never a good speller or I was hopeless at mathematics). Some parents might feel intimidated by the thought of talking with their children about their learning at school. Whether it was spelling, reading or mathematics, it is important to give your child a sense that they can succeed. Success at school starts at home with parents showing they are positive about learning. Make learning fun!

5. **Avoid comparing your child with others** - Often children feel pressure to be just like others through the things we say or suggest. Each child is uniquely different. They all have strengths and weaknesses, they all have talents and challenges.

6. Help your child make connections to literature -To help your child get the most out of books, focus on problem-solving, social skills and life experience. Having a wide variety of life experiences, being able to ask an adult for help if they lose something (problem-solving) or to hold the door for others (social skills) all contributes to helping make connections when reading. With skills like these, children are able to relate their own life experiences to those of book characters. If they don't have these life experiences making deeper connections when reading becomes hard for them.

7. Encourage your child to do things for themselves -Sometimes it's faster to do things yourself than wait for your children to complete a task. But having everything done for them means they don't learn take care of themselves. Empower your children to think for themselves and be more responsible for themselves.

Popcorn on sale tomorrow at recess - 50c per packet.

Yours sincerely,

Louise O'Donnell
Principal

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy And Numeracy)

Years 3 and 5 (Term 2, Week 3)

The dates for NAPLAN testing are:

- **Tuesday 15 May** (Language Conventions—Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)
- **Wednesday 16 May** (Reading)
- **Thursday 17 May** (Numeracy)

It is important that all students in Years 3 and 5 attend school during the 3 days of NAPLAN testing.

End of Year Celebrations / Graduation **Important dates for your diary!**



Tuesday 18 December 2018

9:15am Awards Ceremony
Followed by a Thank you Morning Tea for all parents

11:15am Graduation and End of Year Mass followed by
Year 6 students /parents—Graduation light lunch.

1:30pm Farewell Guard of Honour for Year Six students and families
leaving St Monica's

Wednesday 19 December 2018

Last day of school for students.

Thursday 20 December and Friday 21 December

Staff Development Days—students do not attend school

Open Morning—Wednesday 7 March

An 'Open Morning' for prospective 2019 St Monica's families will take place on **Wednesday 7 March**. We will have two sessions commencing at **9:30am** and then another one at **10:00 am**.

The sessions will commence with a welcome in the Community Room and an overview of our school, followed by children from Stage 3 who will show our visitors our learning spaces and focus on our day to day school life. There will be time for questions after the students finish the school tours in the hall.

We have been advertising the event through the Parish Bulletin, our school website, communication board and local preschools.

Please let family, friends and neighbours know about our open morning if they have a child due to start school in 2019.

2019 Kindergarten Enrolments - Siblings

If any of our families have a child starting school in 2019 please let Mrs Abood know in the office so that we have some idea of the number of places we will have in Kindergarten next year.

Early Stage One—Parent Information Evening—tonight

The Early Stage One Parent Information Evening will be held this tonight **Wednesday 28 February** commencing at **6:00pm-7:00pm in the ES1 Learning Space**. Early Stage Parents were sent a letter on Monday 12 February advising of the date change.

School Fees

School Fees have now been sent out and families should have received their first School Fee Instalment Invoice. Parents will have the opportunity this year to take up the Flexible Payment Plan (Direct Debit). The offer is available online or by post. Forms should be returned for processing by 9th March (to CEDP). Should parents not return these forms by the due date a reminder notice may be sent.

For those families that do not accept Flexible Payment Plan, your **first instalment is due on Wednesday 21st March 2018 (Week 8)**.

Any families who have not received their invoice is requested to contact Mrs Irma Dawinan in the school office on 8832 4100.

COSHC

If your child is booked into COSHC (Catholic Out of School Hours Care) and they go home early from school due to illness, appointments etc, it would be appreciated if you could please notify COSHC on 0429 990 179 as this will make it easier for them in the afternoons when marking their attendance roll.

Seasons for Growth Program

The Seasons for Growth school program is based on the belief that grief is normal and can be a valuable part of life and that children need to be provided with the opportunity to examine how grief, as a result of death, separation or divorce has impacted on their lives.

The program is based on research, which highlights the importance of social support in dealing with grief. If you would like your child to participate in this program please complete the Permission Slip which can be found on the school website under Notes & Forms.

Thank You

Thank you to the many parent helpers who generously donated their time to cook pancakes on Shrove Tuesday for the students.



Evacuation Drill

Fire Drills and Lockdown are conducted each term at school as part of our safety programme. A Fire Drill will be practised sometime next week. Please discuss this with your child and inform them that it is a practise drill and not to panic. A Skoolbag message will be sent to parents once the practise drill has been completed.

2018 Catholic Schools Week Activities



Wednesday 7 March

9:30am and 10:00am
Principal Talks and School
Tours for new families

Thursday 8 March

9:15am Whole School Mass followed by Open Classrooms
Followed by Morning Tea in the Hall.

Friday 9 March

Dance Fever Athletics
(parents are welcome to watch their child's lessons)

Timetable:	08:50—09:30	Years 5 & 6
	09:30—10:10	Years 1 & 2
	10:10-10:40	ES1
	14:00-14:40	Years 3 & 4

Merit Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received Merit Awards.



ES1: Amelia Corera, Elijah Essey, Lana Salic

Year One: Sage Abiodun, Mathew Dretvic, Ziyang Lin, Joseph Joe Robin

Year Two: Elijah Corera, Wyatt Heesen, Mia Siemsen

Stage 2: Chloe Abiodun, Parmida Foroutan, Ruby Knight, Eon Lee, Riana Arredondo, Tiara Arredondo

Stage 3: Zac Michael, Giselle Mondinelli, Jessica Stoker, Jonah Assaf, Skye Meale, Ashley Roberts, Anthony Carslake, Kayla Grzelak, Jordan Basha

SRC Representatives for Semester 1

*Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to the SRC .
Students were presented with their badges at last Monday's morning assembly.*

ES1

Elijah Essey and Amelia Corera

Stage One

Enzo Inigo, Lukas Lozancic Babic and
Georgia Fernandes

Stage 2

Sanoy Bhattachan and Lola Sloane

Stage 3

Hayden Herder-Beke and Giselle Mondinelli



Congratulations

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Scholastic has been bringing the best of children's publishing to Australian children for over 45 years. Carefully curated age appropriate selections help put the right books in the right hands. Every Book Club Order earns the school 20% of the total spend.



The Scholastic ordering platform has changed to LOOP (Linked online Ordering & Payment). LOOP allows the orders to be submitted safely, eliminating the need for paper order forms. Online orders are recognised by your child's class/homerooms. LOOP orders are closed after the recommended cut-off date. This then allows parents the home delivery option for an additional fee of \$5.00

Parents can still send cash orders to the school. These orders need to be submitted with the forms that come attached to the Book Club Catalogue. These forms need to be clearly filled out with your child's name, year and stage.

Gulshan Muttoo
Book Club Co-ordinator

Happy birthday to the following students and staff who celebrated birthdays in January and February.



Matilda Cooper	Siria Mondinelli	Alicia Youssef	Rafael Noonan
Tia El-Kazzi	Iryssa Alley	Zac Michael	Deihl Talampas
William Stewart	Joshua Chandra	Noah Day	Ana Maria Costea
Laila Kula	Aadit Grover	Anna Maria Anish	Elizabeth Stolk

Veronica Sadek	Jake Chapman	Philopateer Toma	Poppy Sloane
Sarah Vasanth	Aaliyah Assaf	Lachlan Dardagos	George Keranis
Mathew Dretvic	Chloe Abiodun	Maureen Haddad	Jessica Crowle
Tiffany Do	Lucia Biasin	Matthew Johnson	Cody Wylie

Staff: Mrs Mason

Early Stage One Parent Evening



Tonight—Wednesday 28 February 2018

Commencing at 6:00pm–7pm in the Learning Space

Children do not attend this meeting.

Clean Up Australia Day Friday 2 March



In support of the Australia wide campaign we will be conducting a clean up at St Monica's this Friday.

Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the following students who represented our school at the Cumberland Diocesan Swimming Carnival on Friday 23 February;

Jonah Assaf	Alexander Azar	Manraj Kahlon	Noah Day	Aimee Loof
Charlize Cooper	Matilda Cooper	Maureen Haddad	Sara Younes	

We are so proud of your achievements and sportsmanship! Well done!!

Mrs Erin Werner, Sports Co-ordinator





COLES SPORT FOR SCHOOLS

It is Coles Voucher time again! We hope to earn some much needed sporting equipment for our students to use during sport lessons and on the playground to promote active play.

Last time, we collected over 35 000 vouchers. So we hope to be as successful this time around.

Update

A huge thank you to all of the families who have brought in Coles vouchers so that we can earn some sporting equipment for our school. **Our current tally is 1638 vouchers!**

We would greatly appreciate it if you could **cut and staple bundles of ten vouchers** to assist with the counting process.

Let's keep collecting!

The Coles Sports for Schools box is located in the Student Entrance Foyer in the School Office.

Mrs Erin Werner, Sports Co-ordinator



The School Writing Competition for 2018 is NOW OPEN!

Calling all Australian school students... prep to grade 12...

Write a poem or short story for your chance to win \$1,000 cash (\$500 for you & \$500 for your school)! As well as one of the AWESOME prizes below. All it takes is a burst of inspiration, a dash of creativity and a little bit of effort for great poems and stories to appear! We can't wait to read yours!

Entry is FREE! **Entries close Saturday 31st March, 2018.**

To enter the competition visit www.write4fun.net



Change of Details

Have you recently changed your address, your mobile phone number, work phone number, email?

Have you let the school office know?

Change of address needs to be advised in writing.

School Office—8832 4100

SYMPATHY

St Monica's extends sympathy to the Crame family (Jericho S3 and Alexis Yr 2) on the passing of their grandfather (Mr Crame's father). Please keep the Crame family in your prayers at this sad time.

*The Stage One Shoe Lace tying competition was held on Friday 23 February!
Congratulations to Manuela who was the overall winner of Stage One!!*



**St Monica's current
attendance rate is 91.6 %**

A reminder to all parents that if your child is absent due to illness or for any other reason, a note must be provided on your child's return to school explaining their absence.

You may also submit an absence form via the Skoolbag app. This form is sent directly to the school office.

Please note that if we do not receive a note of explanation after seven days your child's absence will automatically be recorded as an Unexplained Absence.

every year
every day ☒

When is sick too sick for school

If I am sick please call the school or write me a note to let the school know why I am not at school.

Send me to school if ...	Keep me home if ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ I have the symptoms of a cold or hayfever ✓ I have a sprain, strain or pain and I can function (walk, talk and eat) ✓ If I have asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc - school personnel are trained to manage my condition. Talk to the school about my health plan ✓ I haven't vomited or had diarrhoea for 24 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ I have a temperature higher than 37 degrees ✓ I am vomiting or have diarrhoea ✓ My eyes are red, and crusty (conjunctivitis) ✓ I have influenza (flu) - combination fever, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches ✓ I have the symptoms of an infectious disease. Go to NSW Health - A-Z of infectious diseases for more information

Term 1 Important Dates

Please make a note of the important upcoming dates and events for this term.

Week 5

Wednesday 28 February	6:00pm	ES1 Parent Information Evening 6pm-7pm
Thursday 1 March		Popcorn Day 50c per packet
Friday 2 March		Dance Fever
		Clean Up Australia Day at St Monica's
Saturday 3 March	5:00pm	Commitment Mass for Confirmation—St Monica's Church
Sunday 4 March	9:00am	

Week 6

Monday 5 March		PRC Term 1 Meeting doors open 6:30pm for 7pm start Patrician Brothers College, 100 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown
Wednesday 7 March		Open Morning for 2019 Early Stage One enrolments 9:30am and 10:00am School Tours (new families to register at the school office)
Thursday 8	9:15am	Whole School Mass followed by Open Classrooms Followed by Morning Tea in the Hall.
Friday 9 March		Dance Fever - parents welcome to watch their child's lessons (see timetable on page 4)

Week 7

Tuesday 13 March		Stage 3 Camp—Vision Valley
Wednesday 14 March		Stage 3 Camp—Vision Valley
Friday 16 March		Dance Fever

Week 8

Friday 23 March		Dance Fever
Sunday 25 March		Palm Sunday

Week 9 /10

Thursday 29 March		Holy Thursday
Friday 30 March		Good Friday
Sunday 1 April		Easter Sunday
Friday 6 April		Dance Fever

Week 11

Friday 13 April		Dance Fever Term 1 concludes
-----------------	--	---------------------------------

School Holidays

Term 2

Week 1

Monday 30 April	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY <i>Students do not attend school today</i>
-----------------	---

Tuesday 1 May	Students return for Term 2
---------------	----------------------------

Friday 4 May	Athletics Carnival
--------------	--------------------



PARENTS MATTER



How can our parents really engage with our schools and our teachers?
Parent Involvement vs. Parent engagement – how this helps your child

Our guest speaker for the evening is:

Mrs Danielle Cronin

Chief Governance and Strategy at Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

Register FREE now: www.prc.catholic.edu.au

Monday, 5 March 2018

Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm start (approx. 2 hours)

**(Term 1 - PRC Annual General Meeting will be held prior to our speaker session)
at Patrician Brothers College, 100 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown**

Tea, Coffee and light snacks will be provided and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!



www.prc.catholic.edu.au



**THANK YOU to our sponsors for 2018,
www.floralexpressions.com.au**

Proudly supporting Catholic education, parents and
school communities in the Diocese of Parramatta



Oakhill College Open Day—Sunday 11 March 2018

Oakhill College is holding an Open Day on Sunday 11 March, 2018 from 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Tours will be available on the day. Applications for enrolment into **Year 7, 2020** will close on

Friday 23 March, 2018 and enrolment for girls into **Year 11, 2019** will close on **Friday 18**

May, 2018. Parents who wish to apply for enrolment of their sons in Year 7 and/or daughters in Year 11 at Oakhill College, and who have not yet submitted an Application for Enrolment, are requested to contact the Registrar before the closing dates on 9899 2288 or registrar@oakhill.nsw.edu.au. Applications for Years 8-11 can be made at any time by contacting the Registrar.



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2019

Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.

OPEN NIGHT

Tuesday 13 March 2018 4.00pm - 7.00pm

This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 6TH APRIL 2018

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au



OLMC OPEN DAY

SUNDAY MARCH 11, 2018

10am – 2pm

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta

www.olmc.nsw.edu.au

expanding beyond what we know we can be



MERCY COMPASSION JUSTICE DIGNITY EXCELLENCE HOSPITALITY STEWARDSHIP SERVICE



PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL
 2 DARCY ROAD, WESTMEAD NSW 2145
 PH. 02 9635 7066 | E. PARRAMARIST@PARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU
WWW.PARRAMARIST.NSW.EDU.AU

YEAR 7 2019 INFORMATION EVENING

WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH 2018

6:00PM FOR 6:15PM - 7:00PM

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL VIA WWW.PARRAMARIST.NSW.EDU.AU

LIMITED PARKING AVAILABLE VIA GATE 3, 2 DARCY ROAD (OPPOSITE WESTMEAD PRIVATE HOSPITAL)

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

Information will be provided by staff on current offerings at Parramatta Marist High School.

Enrolments Open: Monday 19th March – Close: Friday 6th April

ENROLMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE WILL BE PLACED ON A WAITING LIST

WE OFFER TOP QUALITY, AFFORDABLE CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOR BOYS

Over the past 10 years, Our HSC Results have placed us in the top 100 schools in NSW.

A significant achievement was made in all courses in 2017. Mathematics Extension 1 and Extension 2 were ranked 8th in the state, Mathematics General 2 ranked 56th, English as a second language and English Standard ranked 39th and English Advanced, Extension 1 and Extension 2 ranked 51st in the state.

Parramatta Marist High School has been both Nationally and Internationally recognised as High Quality Innovators in 21st Century Education



REGISTER NOW

SEASON 2018

All ages and abilities welcome



Visit our website
to register

www.stpaulsnetballclub.teamapp.com

For any questions or queries contact Vicki at:
stpaulsnetballclub@gmail.com OR 0401 338 185

Christian Meditation

Fridays at 7:00pm—8:00pm
at St Monica's Parish, Meeting Room

Let us spend time in silence, simplicity
and stillness to connect to our Source
by continuing as a group on Fridays,
weekly from 7pm—8pm.

For further information call
0418 406 661, Patricia,
group co-ordinator or
email pabrown02@gmail.com

LDC Term 1 Seminar

Understanding Anxiety for Students with Learning Challenges

Presenter: Dr Maria Milic (Clinical Psychologist)
Date: Tuesday 27 March 2018
Venue: Castle Hill RSL
Time: 10am—12:30pm

This seminar for teachers and parents is being held by the Learning Difficulties Coalition of NSW Inc. For further details about this seminar, including cost, please see our website www ldc.org.au or phone the office 9806 9960.

Reminder

Commitment Mass for Confirmation this weekend

*Children who have registered for the Sacrament of Confirmation are
reminded that the Commitment Mass will be held this weekend.*

Saturday 3 March at 5pm or Sunday 4 March at 9am.

(Children who have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of Communion, are in
Year 5 or above are eligible for the Sacrament of Confirmation.)

Tennis Lessons are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

1st Group 8am–8:30am

2nd Group 8:30am–9am

Mr Davidson advises that there are a few vacancies in the 8:00am groups.

If your child is interested in tennis lessons, please see Mr Davidson on the playground on Tuesday/Thursday mornings. Thankyou.



ARIA MUSIC

Quality investment in your child's future

Would your child like to learn Guitar or Keyboard?

Please email: ariamusicschool@gmail.com Phone: **0402 780 130**

Qualified, friendly teachers encourage serious musical skills in a fun learning environment.
Group classes at school **\$23:10** (incl GST) per lesson. Individual tuition is also available.

Guitar Classes!

Days: **Tuesday** lunchtime

Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm

Location: The Community Room

Keyboard Classes!

Day: **Wednesday** lunchtime

Time: 12:30pm—1:30pm

Location: The Community Room

Music Lessons have the Power!

Develops musical talent

Develops self discipline

Encourages self esteem

Enhances co-ordination & concentration

Is lots of fun!!

www.ariamusic.com.au

Notice of Intention to Remove a Student from St Monica's School

The Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta Office has developed a Policy relating to the notice required from parents to terminate their children's enrolment in the schools of the Parramatta Diocese. In part this states :

"A term's notice (10 weeks) in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be paid. The notice can be given any time during the term for the next term."

This means that unless the school receives a term's notice no pro rata adjustment will be given for part term tuition.

Child Protection Requirements

*All Parent Volunteers / Helpers are required to complete the following Child Protection requirements **prior** to assisting in the classroom or on excursions
(‘Building Child Safe Communities—Undertaking for Volunteers’)*

These can be accessed by visiting the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta homepage
<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au> then scroll down to **‘Volunteers and Contractors – click here’**

- **Volunteer Form**
- **Online Training Module (every two years)**

(Links are also available on the homepage of our school website www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au)
Please contact the school if you require any assistance.

We thank all volunteers for their continued support.