



TERM 4, WEEK 7  
Wednesday 28 November 2018

## 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 (Term 4)

**Thursday 20 December**  
(Term 4, Week 10)

**Friday 21 December**  
(Term 4, Week 10)

*Tuesday 4 December*  
*PBL Product Launch*  
*(3:30pm—4:30pm)*

*(End of Year Learning  
Celebration—  
postponed until 2019)*

*Tuesday 18 December*  
*9:00am*  
*Awards Ceremony*  
*11:15am End of Year*  
*Mass / Graduation*  
*followed by luncheon*  
*(Year 6 students / family only)*  
*1:30pm*  
*Guard of Honour for all*  
*students leaving St Monica's*

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

This Sunday we begin the season of Advent and it is the start of the Church's liturgical year. Every season in the church has its special grace and in the season of Advent we prepare for Christmas and await the birth of Jesus into our lives again.

During the four weeks of Advent, it is a time for us to reassess our direction in life and to await with expectation the special grace that God promises to offer us at Christmas. We are encouraged to be people of hope, compassion and tolerance for those whose needs are greater than our own. Our Social Justice Team have organised the Mission Tree Project providing gifts for Arrupe Place to distribute to refugee families. I thank all the families who have been able to support this initiative. We will still be accepting gifts until this Friday 30 November.

We will shortly begin the St Vincent de Paul annual food hamper drive. Details will be sent home to families next week.

## Staffing News

Mrs Mary-Jo Mason and Mrs Cath Ungsuprasert will be taking Long Service Leave for all of the first term in 2019. We wish them both a very relaxing time and well earned leave.

Mrs Ungsuprasert will be replaced by Mrs Loretta Farrelly. The Catholic Education Office Parramatta has commenced the process of appointing an Acting Assistant Principal to replace Mrs Mason.

I am in the final stages of finalising the teaching staff for 2019 and I will publish this information in the next newsletter.

## Christmas Concert (Parish Hall)

Thank you to Paul and Danielle Kneipp who have kindly offered to organise each class to sing a Christmas Carol on **Wednesday 12 December from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm** as a parting gift to the school. The children are invited to dress up in Christmas colours. There will be lots of opportunity for parents to join in the singing too!

## PBL Time Change

The staff had decided earlier in the term that at the final PBL launch we would extend the time and do something very special during the afternoon. As we will now have the Christmas Concert we will leave this initiative until next year. The timing for the PBL launch will now go from **3:30 pm until 4:30 pm** next Tuesday 4 December instead of the original advertised time of 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. I am sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause some families.

## Book Sale / 2nd Hand Clothing Sale - Thursday 6 December

**8:15am—8:45am**  
(undercroft area near the Teacher's Workroom)

Books will be on sale for 50c—\$1 each  
2nd hand clothing items \$5 each

All money raised from the book sales will be sent to St Vincent de Paul.

Yours sincerely,

**Louise O'Donnell**  
Principal

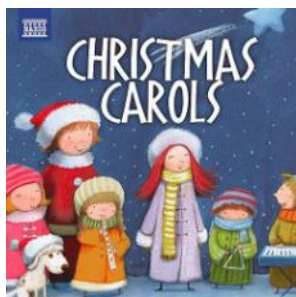
## End of Year Celebrations

### Awards Ceremony / End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation

On **Tuesday 18 December 2018** we will hold our End of Year Awards Ceremony, End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation. Following the Mass, Year 6 students and their families only, are invited to attend a luncheon in the Hall. We will farewell all students who are leaving St Monica's with a Guard of Honour.

*The schedule for the day is below.*

<b>9:00am</b>	<b>End of Years Awards Ceremony (Hall)</b>
<b>11:15am</b>	<b>End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation Followed by luncheon for Year 6 students and their families only (Hall)</b>
<b>1:30pm</b>	<b>Guard of Honour for all students leaving St Monica's</b>



## Christmas Carols

**Wednesday 12 December 2018**

**6:00pm—7:00pm**

**St Monica's Parish Hall**

**Children to wear CHRISTMAS CLOTHES**



### Outstanding School Fees

Thank you to those families who have paid their school fees. There are still some families who have outstanding school fees for 2018. Families who are not on approved arrangements are requested to contact Mrs Irma Dawinan **immediately** to arrange an interview—**8832 4100**.

### 2019 MAI (Mathematical Assessment Interviews)

The first two schools days in 2019 will be **Staff Development Days (Tuesday 29 & Wednesday 30 January 2019)**.

Staff will be using these days to assess children (Years 1-6) using a one-on-one numeracy interview (MAI). For the past six years we have found that this is time well used as the teachers complete the majority of their class interviews and are able to use the data to plan the mathematics starting point for their students.

Online bookings for the interviews will open on **Monday 10 December (Week 9)**. Parents who know in advance that they will be away for the MAI's are asked to let their child's teacher know as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made. A note will be sent home with instructions for booking online interviews.

### COSHC - open on Wednesday 30 January 2019 (Pupil Free Day at St Monica's School)

Catholic Out of School Hours Care at St Monica's is able to offer limited places for care on this day. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis—priority given to families already enrolled at the service. For more information please contact Andrew Kelleher on 0429 990 179.

### Prayers

Prayers are requested for members of our school community and for family members who are here and overseas who are unwell. There are a few families who especially need our prayers at this time.



## 2019 Term 1 Dates

Staff return —

**Tuesday 29 January 2019**

*Tuesday 29 January and Wednesday 30 January are Staff Development Days  
(MAI for Years 1-6 will be held on these two days)*

**Stages 1-3 (Years 1-6) return Thursday 31 January 2019 (8:50am-3:00pm)**

**Friday 1 February—Swimming Carnival (Wentworthville Pool)**

**ESI (Kindergarten) commence**

**Monday 4 February 2019 (9:00am-2:30pm)**

Early finish time is for new families only so that they can become familiar with the afternoon drive through procedure.

**Term 1 ends**

**Friday 12 April 2019**

## 2019 Swimming Carnival (Wentworthville Swimming Centre)



***The 2019 Swimming Carnival will be held on the second day back at school, Friday 1 February.***

2019 Swimming Carnival permission notes have been sent home with students in Years 1-5. Please complete the second page indicating how your child will travel to Wentworthville, the events they will be participating in and if you are able to assist on the day of the carnival. **Please return the permission note to your child's teacher by Friday 30 November.**

The note is also on the school website — Community—School Notes—Sports

## Walkathon—money due by Friday 30 November

A reminder that all walkathon sponsorship money is due back at school **by Friday 30 November.**

**Our Goal is \$5000**

**Raised \$4631:80 (121 students have returned their money)**

*Congratulations*

Congratulations to the winners of our walkathon raffles:

*First Draw: Theresa Wong, Matilda Cooper, Elizabeth Toman, Samira Hekeik, Ruby Elias*

*Second Draw: Philopateer Toma, Lydia Sun, Galia Evangelista and Emma O'Rourke*



**Theme Lunch—Subway will be held this Friday 30 November.**

An order form was sent home with every student on Monday (also via Skoolbag)  
The order has now been placed and **NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED.**

Thank you to Kimberly Graham and Sushila Pun for co-ordinating this fundraiser.

## Student Banking

The last day for Student Banking this year will be **Wednesday 12 December** (Week 9).

Student Banking will resume on **Wednesday 13 February 2019 (Term 1 Week 3).**



All parents and carers are reminded to please ensure that you have the **latest Skoolbag app** on your devices. The app should appear on your device as per the image to the left and not the school logo. If you still have the app displaying the school logo—*please remove it from your device and download the latest Skoolbag app*. (Instructions are below)

*Please also remember to check for any updates via the app store so that you do not miss receiving notifications.*

## The SkoolBag - Single App Instructions for Parents

The SkoolBag "Single App" enables users to add multiple schools to one app and is frequently updated with bug fixes and improvements. It's the most reliable way to keep your community informed with SkoolBag.

### Download Instructions

#### For Apple Users

- From your iPhone/iPad, open the Apple App Store and search for "SkoolBag" or follow this [link](#)
- Download the free SkoolBag app
- Open the app, and add your school and you're ready to go!

#### For Google Android Users

- From your Android device, ensure you have an account in the Google Play Store
- Open the Google Play Store and search for "SkoolBag" or follow this [link](#)
- Download the free SkoolBag app
- Open the app, add your school(s) and you're ready to go!

**SkoolBag**

Don't forget to download our school's SkoolBag app to ensure that you are kept in the loop on:

- \* School newsletters
- \* Notices
- \* Events
- \* Cancellations
- \* Reminders
- \* ...and more!

**INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Just download the "SkoolBag" app on your phone, open the app and add our school!

### Stay informed with the SkoolBag App

The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and **all** school communications.

- 1 Download the app**  
Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store
- 2 Create an account**  
Sign up in seconds with your email address
- 3 Add your school**  
Search for your school and add your subscription groups

**SkoolBag**



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

2019

Win an  
**IPAD  
MINI**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of four iPad minis.

The more books you read, the more chances you have to win. Enter online [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



**Entries close at 5pm on 4 February 2019**

Terms and Conditions apply



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Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta



## School Attendance

Our School Attendance Rate for

**Term 4 Week 6 was 91.5%**

We all know that consistent attendance is vital for student success in their learning.

***Congratulations to those classes meeting the Diocesan 90% target for attendance.***



Week 5—93.5%		Week 6— 91.5%	
ES1	93.5%	ES1	<b>87.1%</b>
Year 1	100%	Year 1	96.2%
Year 2	96.2%	Year 2	96.2%
Year 3	96.6%	Year 3	96.6%
Year 4	91.7%	Year 4	91.7%
Year 5	94.1%	Year 5	91.0%
Year 6	<b>83.9%</b>	Year 6	<b>83.9%</b>



Congratulations to all the students who received Bee Awards at this week's assembly. Well done!



Term 4 Silver Bee Awards



Term 4 Gold Bee Awards



Term 4 Platinum Bee Awards

### Reminders ...



- Please send a plastic spoon/fork with your child if they require one to eat their recess or lunch. The office does not keep supplies of these items.
- *Please do not send any food containing nuts to school.*
- Ensure all clothing is labelled to avoid lost property.
- New School Banking Day —students are reminded to bring their bank deposit books to school on **WEDNESDAYS**. **Banking is processed on Wednesday mornings.**

### Hairstyles— Guidelines as per our Parent Handbook.

**Please read the following guidelines for students.**

Hair is to be clean and neatly cut.

#### Girls

- Shoulder length or longer hair **must be tied back**.
- Ribbons or scrunchies in **school colours only** must be worn.
- Hair colouring is **not permitted**. This includes streaks, colour, dyes or excessive gel.
- Decorative headbands are **not permitted**.

#### Boys

- Neat and simple haircuts.
- No undercuts, shaved heads, number ones, rat tails or pony tails.
- Hair colouring is **not permitted**. This includes streaks, colour, dyes or excessive gel.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Happy birthday to the following students and staff who celebrate birthdays in December.*

Andrew Clark	Manda Lu	Roger Corcoran	Cadence Metierre	Onur James Unver
Ava Cong	Pranvee Basu	Thao Theresa Huynh	Lucas Alvarez	Reema Santos
Hayden Herder-Beke	Rafaella Santos	Ivy Tran	Jonah Assaf	Skye Meale
<i>Staff: Mr Harry Weekley</i>				



## MERIT AWARDS

*Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Merit Awards.*

- ES1: Aiden Forsyth, Angus Graham, Joel Heesen,
- Year One: Lucas Alvarez, Allegra Jammo, Dominick Macorig, Joseph Joe Robin,
- Stage 2: Michael Maffina, Sophie Stoker, Simon Forsyth, Jessica Ishak, Max Lukasik, Ryan Malatag
- Stage 3: Jayden Albayeh, Ana Maria Costea, Tia El-Kazzi, Gabrielle Nassif, Alexander Azar, Gabriel Bucur, Emma O'Rourke, Poppy Sloane, Christian Bouassi, Samira Hekeik

## Year 6 Graduation Dinner

**A reminder to all Year 6 parents to please RSVP and pay for the Graduation Dinner ASAP.**

If you have any questions regarding the Graduation Dinner please contact:

**Carmel Hossack** 0407 206 146 or  
**Cathryn Crowle** 0401 295 173 or  
**Kathy Basha** 0410683615

*Don't forget*

## 20% discount

on sports groups and co-curricular photos

Our school photographers, **advancedlife**, are currently offering the St Monica's Primary School community a 20% discount when a family purchases 3 or more sports groups and/or co-curricular photographs in one order. **This discount will expire on 7 December 2018.**

If you would like to take advantage of this offer please -

1. Go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)
2. Enter our school code **FEF 88K ZMQ**
3. Click on **Groups**
4. Select your groups and enter the code **DISC3927**



### Terms & Conditions

This discount offer applies to co-curricular and sports prints only. The minimum purchase total required for the discount to apply is \$55 (\$54 + \$1 processing fee) and the maximum possible discount is \$60. Discount code must be entered at checkout for discount to be applied. Offer expires on 7/12/2018.

**advancedlife**  
school photography & print specialists

## School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) 2019 Applicants

School student applications for 2019 opened on Monday 15 October.

Students progressing to Year 3 and Year 7 **do not** need to re-apply **if** they:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW

Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to reapply.

If you need to update your child's details or reapply, please go to:

<https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

*Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2018 to ensure student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2018, the system will automatically cancel their card and a new one will need to be issued.*

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out during December 2018 and January 2019.

For further information visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts>



*Farewell to our visitors from Japan*





# ST MONICA'S WORKING BEE

Many hands make light work

**Saturday 15 December 2018**

**7:00am – 11:00am**

**Can you spare an hour or two to come and support the school?**

❖ A great opportunity to become involved in St Monica's Community, especially if your work commitments during the week prevent you from visiting our school.

❖ Improve the physical environment of the school.

❖ Meet new parents

❖ All welcome.



***Term 4 Working Bee – Saturday 15 December 2018***

***Please return to the School Office by Wednesday 5 December***

☐ *I/we will be able to attend the Working Bee*

☐ *I/we are unable to attend the Working Bee*

☐ *I/we will be able to bring morning tea*

***I can assist with: (please indicate)***

☐ Pruning bushes – especially on Daking Street

☐ Getting rid of cobwebs/spiderwebs

☐ Cleaning windows / window sills

☐ Clean playground using blower

☐ Clean bubblers

☐ Kitchen / kitchen cupboards

☐ Organise the sport shed

☐ Washing down outside seating / tables

☐ Weeding

☐ Wipe out bag cupboards

☐ Hang paintings / photographs



I will arrive at school at

☐ 7am

☐ 8am

☐ 9am

☐ 10am

Please bring brooms, cloths, gardening tools, cleaning products, gloves, scrubbing brushes etc.

***Name/s:***

\_\_\_\_\_

***Contact Number:***

\_\_\_\_\_

***Signature/s:***

\_\_\_\_\_

***Eldest Child's Homeroom:***

\_\_\_\_\_

# INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose – No. 1 parenting educator



## Making a smooth start to secondary school

*Getting used to new subjects and new teachers, as well as forming new friendships are just some of the requirements of this period.*

Starting secondary school is a time of change and uncertainty, which places new demands on young people. Being at the bottom of the pecking order where they are unsure of the playground hierarchies is just one adjustment that they need to make.

Some kids take these new experiences in their stride but it is natural to experience some difficulty, particularly when it's accompanied by the potentially unsettling transition from childhood to adolescence. It's no coincidence that many research projects indicate that children's learning levels out in the transition year, presumably because the social tasks of adjustment take precedence over academic performance.

It helps to remember the **Four P's** to help your young person settle in:

**1. Promote friendships:** The quicker kids form new friendships the sooner they'll feel comfortable in their secondary school surroundings. Encourage your young person to be open to forming friendships with all sorts of kids; to be accepting of others who may be different to them; to take social risks by joining in activities even though they may feel uncomfortable; and to be friendly, approachable and positive!

**2. Practice patience:** Patience and understanding in the early weeks is essential. Brush up on your listening skills as you help your young person adjust. Talk to your young person about change and reassure them that it is normal to feel unsure or nervous in new circumstances. Let them know that many difficulties they face will be temporary.

**3. Pursue a positive attitude:** Confidence is catching so make sure you see this transition time as an exciting challenge that your child can handle rather than an event to be feared. Ask them about the new subjects or interesting activities they are doing, and try to shift their focus to the positive aspects of school. Discuss settling in issues with the appropriate person such as a year level coordinator, but give your young person time to handle them on their own before seeking help.

**4. Process their day:** Some young people may come home with fairly exaggerated accounts of secondary school and may not always paint a fair picture. They may become sensitive to things that they might have shrugged off in primary school. Listen without judgment and show a real interest in their new school, while providing them with the space they need to get away for a while. Expect some behaviour blowouts as many kids let off steam in the relatively safe and stable environment of a loving family.

If your eldest is starting, then secondary school will be a relatively new experience for you too. It will take some time for you to adjust to the school's culture and communication methods.

Although secondary schools may seem a little foreign for those used to the relative intimacy of primary schools, one aspect is the same – *outcomes for students are maximised when schools and parents work together in the best interests of the student.*

One way to support your young person's school is by actively promoting the school's values. For instance, if respect is a prominent school value then you can discuss this in relation to the way your young person behaves around friends, relatives and family.

Most importantly, talk up your young person's new school, rather than talk it down, as kids of all ages take their cues from the most significant adults in their lives – their parents!



Get a **FREE** weekly Guide: Subscribe to *Happy Kids*, Michael's regular parenting guide and get a *Chores & Responsibilities Guide* when you do. Just go to [www.parentingideas.com.au](http://www.parentingideas.com.au) and subscribe to *Happy Kids*.

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Michael Grose Presentations

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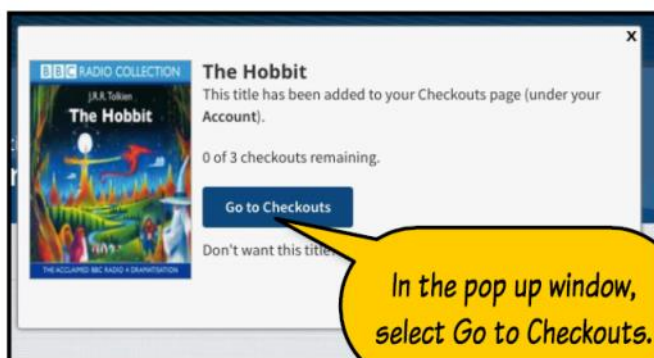
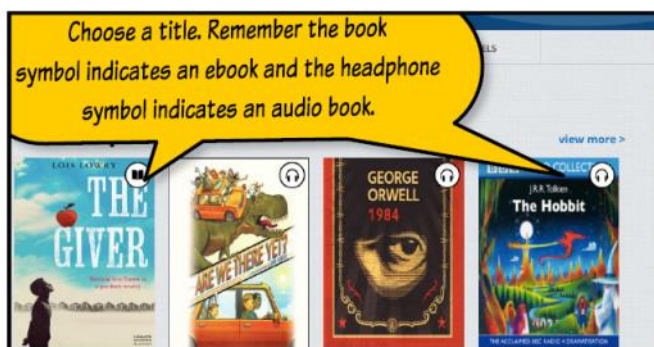
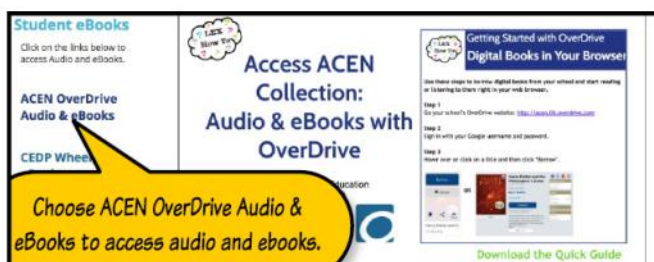
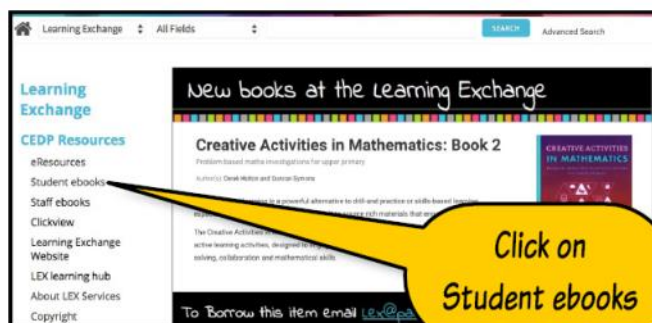
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[twitter.com/michaelgrose](https://twitter.com/michaelgrose)



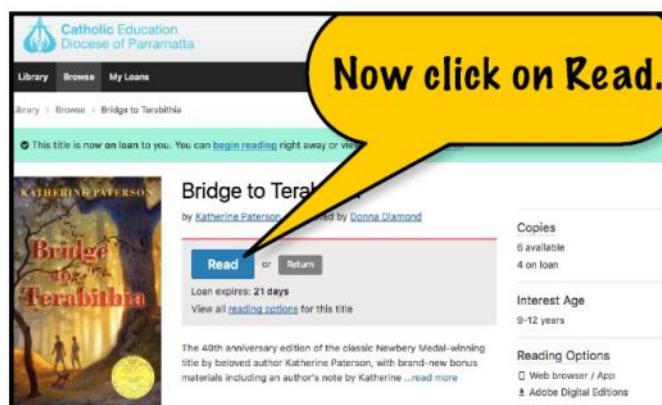
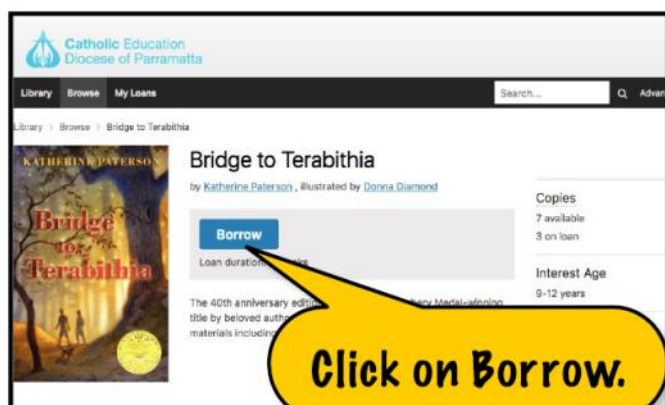
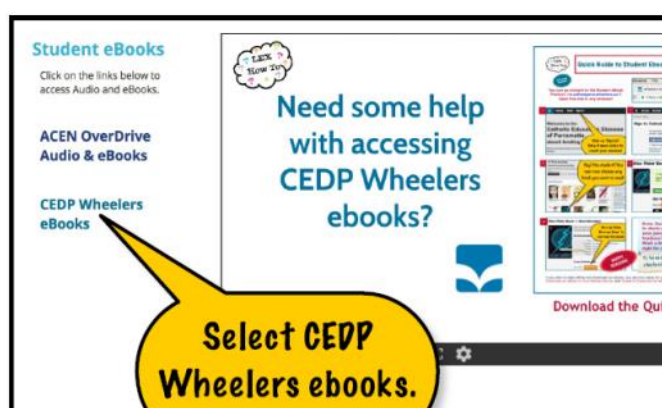
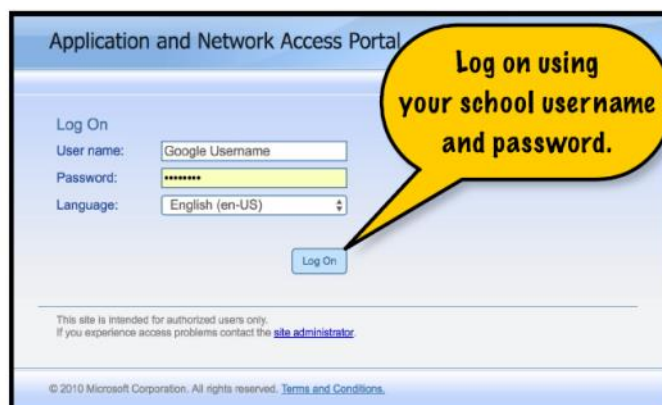
# Student Guide for ACEN OverDrive eBooks & Audio



Remember to check with your parents and teachers if you think a book is right for you.  
You are allowed to borrow 3 books at a time for a few weeks.



# Student Guide for CEDP Wheelers eBooks



Remember to check with your teacher and parents if you think a book is right for you. You are allowed to borrow 3 books at a time for a few weeks.

## ***Term 4 Important Dates***

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

### **Week 7**

Thursday 29 November	Tennis Lessons / Aria Music Lessons (Guitar) Stage 3 Parish Mass
Friday 30 November	<b>Theme Lunch—SUBWAY (pre-ordered lunch)</b>

### **Week 8**

Monday 3 December	Pow Wow 9am-10am
Tuesday 4 December	Tennis Lessons 9:30am-2:30pm 2019 New Students - Orientation 3:30pm-4:30pm PBL Product Launch
Wednesday 5 December	Just Like You Workshops (Disability Awareness) Aria Music Lessons (Keyboard)
Thursday 6 December	Tennis Lessons ( <b><i>last lessons for 2018</i></b> ) 8:15am-8:45am Book Sale / 2nd Hand Clothing Sale—Playground Aria Music Lessons (Guitar) Stage 1 Parish Mass

### **Week 9**

Monday 10 December	8:50am Bee Awards—Assembly Just Like You Workshop (Disability Awareness)
Tuesday 11 December	Year 6 Fun Day
Wednesday 12 December	Semester 2 reports go home 6:00pm-7:00pm Christmas Carols (Parish Hall)
Thursday 13 December	Aria Music Lessons (Guitar)
Saturday 15 December	WORKING BEE 7:00am-11:00am

### **Week 10**

Monday 17 December	Scrub Day—students wear mufti Whole School Mass rehearsal
Tuesday 18 December	9:00am End of School Awards Ceremony 11:15am End of Year Mass / Graduation followed by Year 6 luncheon (Luncheon for Year 6 students and family only) 1:30pm Guard of Honour for all students who are leaving St Monica's
Wednesday 19 December	Last day for students
Thursday 20 December	Staff Development Day ( <i>students do not attend school today</i> )
Friday 21 December	Staff Development Day ( <i>students do not attend school today</i> )

## **2019**

### **Week 1**

Tuesday 29 January	Staff Development Day - MAI for Years 1—6
Wednesday 30 January	Staff Development Day - MAI for Years 1—6
Thursday 31 January	School resumes for Years 1—6
Friday 1 February	Swimming Carnival—Wentworthville Pool (Years 3 –6)

### **Week 2**

Monday 4 February	Early Stage One (Kindergarten) commence school 9:00am—2:30pm ( <b><i>Early finish time is for new families only</i></b> so that they can become familiar with the afternoon drive through procedure).
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## Tennis Lessons are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

1st Group 8:00am–8:30am

2nd Group 8:30am–9:00am



Please ensure your child is on time for their lesson.

Tennis lessons \$40 per student, per term. Payments directly to Mr Davidson.

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

Please note that the last lessons for this year will be held on Thursday 6 December 2018.

## ARIA MUSIC

Quality investment in your child's future

Would your child like to learn Guitar or Keyboard?

Please email: [ariamusicschool@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### Keyboard Classes!

Days: **Wednesday**  
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!!

### Guitar Classes!

Day: **Thursday**  
Time: 12:20pm—12:50pm  
Location: The Community Room

[www.ariamusic.com.au](http://www.ariamusic.com.au)

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents are required to purchase all school clothing items through **Oz Fashions.**

**Oz Fashions is located at:**  
115-127 Parramatta Road, Granville  
Phone: 9897 3121

**Opening Hours:**  
Monday-Friday 9:00am - 5:30pm  
Saturday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Parking is available on site.

<http://www.ozfashions.com.au>

## Relocating in 2019?

*Any families who will not be returning to St Monica's North Parramatta in 2019 are requested to please inform the school immediately.*

*Thank you*

## 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](http://www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au))  
Please contact the school if you require any assistance.

**We thank all volunteers for their continued support.**