

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 2
Friday 5 July

Term 4
Friday 22 November
Thursday 19 December
Friday 20 December

*POSMS Meeting
tonight 20/3/19*

*7:00pm -8:00pm
Learning Space*

*Parenting Purity
to Teens Meeting
tonight 20/3/19*

*7:00pm—8:00pm
Parish Hall*



Monica's Matters

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

Phone: 8832 4100
Fax: 8832 4199

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

I'm sure that you were shocked and appalled by the senseless act of violence on innocent people as they were going about their day in their chosen place of worship last Friday in Christchurch. There is no place for the abhorrent views behind this terrible act of terrorism.

It is impossible to comprehend the violation of human life. How do we respond to our children's concerns when they are exposed to terrible events such as this? Distressing events like terrorist attacks affect us all in different ways. While adults often have enough life experience to be able to take a long-term perspective towards such disasters, children can face different challenges.

We need to listen to our children's feelings and concerns and reassure them of their safety within the family and at school. A distressing or frightening experience can challenge your child's sense of security and the predictability of their world. Reassure your child that the event is over and they are safe. You may have to reassure them over and over again. Children look to their parents or carers to understand a crisis and find ways to respond and deal with it. They need the adults around them to be able to 'tune in' to their fears and distress and to comfort and support them.

Sarah Parry, Clinical Psychologist at Manchester Metropolitan University advises parents to point out the heroes.

Showing children how people are actively trying to help and support people in need is a great way to frame horror with heroes. While older children will be able to process and understand many of the details and implications of tragedy that surround traumatic attacks and events, younger children just don't have the life experience or developmental mechanisms to process such details.

Remind children that real life heroes don't wear capes. Instead, point out that the heroes in this story are the people in paramedic uniforms or theatre scrubs. They are the passers-by, the people who offered help, taxi rides, cups of tea and a bed for the night when people were stranded after the attack.

Not only does this give a new focus to the story but it also highlights familiar cultural narratives – of heroes and villains or goodies and baddies – that children can connect with. Such approaches have also been shown to enhance children's confidence, sense of bravery, ability to problem solve and develop their moral compass.

Sarah Parry

Let us continue to pray for those who have been directly affected by this incident. Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers go to the loved ones of those killed and those in hospital and to all people of Islamic faith during what is described by New Zealand's Prime Minister as one of New Zealand's darkest days.

We seek comfort through faith in our living and forgiving God, each other and prayer. This week we have been praying the Peace Prayer of St Francis (on page 2) Families are invited to pray this as a family too.

Yours sincerely,

Louise O'Donnell
Principal

Peace Prayer of St Francis

*Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness, joy.*

*O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be
consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen*

Harmony Day

Each year on 21st March, Harmony Day is celebrated. This day began in 1999 on United Nations Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The message of Harmony Day is **everyone belongs**. It's a day to celebrate Australia's diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home.

We are blessed to have such a rich cultural diversity at our school. We have families with heritage from many countries around the world, and many of our children are bilingual, which is a great skill to possess.

Mrs Wedesweiler and the Social Justice Team have planned a wonderful celebration for us tomorrow at St Monica's. Parents are welcome to join in the activities at the times indicated below.

Program for the day:

- 8:50 am Prayer followed by the National Costume parade
- 11:10am - 12:50pm Activity workshops
- 12:50pm Lunch. The children will have an opportunity to taste food from around the world (Hall)
- Children are invited to wear their national costume to school and may change into something orange after the parade.
- Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect.
- All children K-6 can wear something orange or something that may represent their country of origin.
- All children are to wear sport shoes or school shoes only.

Thank you to all the families that have offered to provide national food dishes. Food items may be left in the hall from 8:20am.

Please remember - All food items must not contain nuts.
- All food items must be accompanied with a list of ingredients.

PARENTS OF ST MONICA'S MEETING (POSMs)

TONIGHT

WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH, 2019
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
IN THE STAGE 3 LEARNING SPACE

AGENDA:

Literacy learning in the early years

Liz Ryan (Reading Recovery Tutor CEDP)

- Shared Reading and Lap Reading
- Home Readers from School
- Talk and Language
- English Second Language
- Writing

School Goals in 2019

PARENTING PURITY TO TEENS

WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH, 2019
7:00 pm- 8:00 pm
ST MONICA'S PARISH HALL

Guest speaker **Simon Carrington**

This is a special invitation to parents of children in Stage 3 or older.

Free of Charge. Adults only

For any enquiry please email: tobstmonica@gmail.com

Staffing News

Welcome to Jenny Lo Cascio to the position of Acting Finance Officer. Jenny will be in the office every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday until the end of the term. In the next newsletter I will announce our new permanent Finance Officer as the Catholic Education is in the final phase of the employment process. Welcome also to Amanda Spencer (Administration) who will be working in the office each Monday until the end of term.

Technology Safety

Knowing how to use online technologies safely is essential for our children to have a positive experience online and to protect our children from potential harm.

As parents and teachers we have a vitally important role to play in helping to guide and educate our children in their online experiences. The following tips provided by www.cybersafety.gov.au are helpful points to remember:

- Remember that even when children seem to have good technical knowledge, their online behaviour still requires parental monitoring and guidance.
- Spend time online with your child so that you can teach your child that there are ways they can deal with disturbing material- encourage them not to respond to any communication that makes them feel uncomfortable or worried and to report it to a trusted adult.
- Always locate computers in a shared or visible place in the home.
- Use filters, labels and safe zones to help manage your child's online access.



2020 Kindergarten Enrolments - NOW OPEN

Enrolment applications have now commenced. Enrolment application forms may be downloaded from our school website or you may collect a package from the school office. Enrolments will remain open, however, first round applications will close on **Friday 29 March 2019**, to enable interviews to commence.

Please provide **original supporting documentation** (together with photocopies) when lodging your enrolment application.

Current families who have a child starting school in 2020 are reminded to submit their enrolment application prior to Friday 29 March 2019.

School Fees

A reminder that unless you have an arrangement with the school, the **first school fee instalment is due by Friday 29 March 2019 (Week 9)**. Families who have not received their statement are requested to contact the school office immediately on 8832 4100.

COSHC

Vacation Care for the school holidays must be **booked in by Friday 29 March**. Please contact COSHC directly for an enrolment form. A copy of the schedule can be found in our school display case outside the office. **Closing date for payments is Friday 5th April.**

School Attendance

Our School Attendance Rate for

Term 1 Week 7 was 92.9%

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 6—91.3%		Week 7— 92.9%	
ES1	88.3%	ES1	86.2%
Year 1	93.5%	Year 1	93.5%
Year 2	100%	Year 2	100%
Year 3	91.7%	Year 3	95.8%
Year 4	88.5%	Year 4	92.3%
Year 5	88.3%	Year 5	87.5%
Year 6	94.4%	Year 6	97.2%

NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy And Numeracy) Years 3 and 5 (Term 2, Week 3)

The dates for NAPLAN testing are:

- **Tuesday 14 May** (Language Conventions—Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)
- **Wednesday 15 May** (Reading)
- **Thursday 16 May** (Numeracy)

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

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy – important skills that each child needs to succeed in school and life. The NAPLAN tests are designed to help us make sure students are on track with their literacy and numeracy development. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in NAPLAN tests for reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Between Tuesday 14 May—Thursday 16 May our school will participate in NAPLAN Online. Students do not need to be computer experts to take the NAPLAN test online. Making sure students have computer skills is part of our school curriculum, and our teachers will ensure your child is familiar with the online format.

To see the types of questions and interactive features of NAPLAN Online, visit [the public demonstration site](#).

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

For more info:

[How to support your child during NAPLAN](#) information for parents and carers

[Watch a video that explains NAPLAN Online](#)

[Subscribe to ACARA's monthly parent newsletter, Parent Update](#)

Mrs Denelle Gardoni

Parents are invited to view their child's Dance Fever lessons on Friday 5 April (Week 10)

Timetable is below:

11:50am—12:20pm	Early Stage One
12:20pm—12:50pm	Stage One
1:30pm—2:15pm	Stage Two
2:15pm—3:00pm	Stage Three

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOLS



Parish Bingo Night

Friday 12 April 2019 **Parish Hall—7:00pm**

Sausage Sizzle commencing at 6:00pm
Bingo commencing at 7:00pm



Tickets are available at the Parish Office or after all the masses on the weekend. If you would like to purchase tickets through the school, please send the correct money in a clearly marked envelope with your details and we will forward it to the Parish Office.

Single ticket \$5 Family Ticket \$20

2019 EASTER CELEBRATIONS

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

St Monica's Parish

Thursday, 18th April 2019—7.30pm

GOOD FRIDAY

St Monica's Parish

Friday, 19th April 2019

Stations of the Cross (English) —10:00am

Chinese Stations of the Cross— 11.30am

Passion of the Lord—3:00pm (English)

Passion of the Lord— 7:00pm (Chinese)

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Easter Vigil

St Monica's Parish

Saturday, 20th April 2019—6:00pm

Chinese Mass —9.00pm

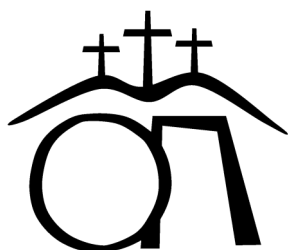
Easter Sunday

St Monica's Parish

Sunday, 21st April 2019 —9:00am

Chinese Mass—11.30am

No evening Mass



He is not here:
for he is risen,
Matthew 28:6



MERIT AWARDS



*Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Merit Awards.
(Week 7—Monday 11 March)*

ES1: Gabrielle David, Evangeline Hbeiche, Marco Jimenez, Archie Levins, Manton Lu
 Year 1: Amelia Bavell, Abigail Corera, Angelica Menjivar, Soraya Mondinelli
 Year 2: Pare Nader, Martin Salib
 Stage 2: Tiara Arredondo, Wyatt Heesen, Kristian Romic, Aimee Akiko Loof, Lola Sloane,
 Stage 3: Menuk Gunawardena, Ashleigh North, Deihl Peter Talampas, Amy Makko, Poppy Sloane, Elizabeth Toman

TUCKSHOP2U

Important
Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

From Term 2 this year, Tuckshop2U will cease providing the recess and lunch service to schools. This is due to a change in the business direction.

It has been a pleasure servicing your school and we sincerely thank everyone for their support over the years.

Tuckshop2U Team.

(Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta is in the process of finding another service provider)

Jarrara visit St Monica's

The team from Jarrara came and spoke to the students yesterday about the Aboriginal culture as an activity for Harmony Day. We thank them for all of the craft and information they shared with us. They reminded us of our responsibility to share their stories with others. *Mrs Wedesweiler*



Term 1 Important Dates

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

Week 8

Wednesday 20 March	7:00pm– 8:00pm POSMS Meeting (Stage 3 Learning Space) 7:00pm– 8:00pm Parenting Purity to Teens (Parish Hall)
Thursday 21 March	Harmony Day Aria Music—Guitar Lessons
Friday 22 March	Dance Fever

Week 9

Monday 25 March	9:30am Open Morning / School Tour
Wednesday 27 March	Cross Country Aria Music—Keyboard Lessons
Thursday 28 March	Aria Music—Guitar Lessons Popcorn Day (recess)
Friday 29 March	Dance Fever

Week 10

Monday 1 April	9:30am Open Morning / School Tour
Tuesday 2 April	8am-9:30am PBL Launch—Learning Space (Whole School)
Wednesday 3 April	Mother's Day Wrapping (9am in the Community Room) Aria Music—Keyboard Lessons Cross Country Back up day
Thursday 4 April	Aria Music—Guitar Lessons
Friday 5 April	Dance Fever (Parents invited to view lessons—timetable on page 5) Sushi Theme Lunch (Parent Involvement Committee)

Week 11

Wednesday 10 April	Aria Music—Keyboard Lessons
Thursday 11 April	Aria Music—Guitar Lessons
Friday 12 April	Dance Fever School ends for Term 1 Parish Bingo Night 6pm Sausage Sizzle 7pm Bingo commences

Tennis Lessons are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

Lessons will resume in Term 2 2019

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.



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>

ARIA MUSIC

Quality investment in your child's future

Would your child like to learn Guitar or Keyboard?

Please email: ariamusicsschool@gmail.com Phone: 0402 780 130

Qualified, friendly teachers encourage serious musical skills in a fun learning environment. Group tuition at school **\$24:50** (incl GST) per lesson.

Private Tuition at school **\$39 (incl GST)** and Private Home Tuition **\$42 (incl GST)**

Individual tuition is also available.

Keyboard Classes!

Day: **Wednesday**

Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm

Location: The Community Room

Guitar Classes!

Day: **Thursday**

Time: 12:20pm—12:50pm

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

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.