

DIARY DATES

OCTOBER

Week 1

Fri 11 Mufti Day—Bottle /
White elephant
Stage 3—Eels Educate

Week 2

Mon 14 Uniform Shop opens
8.30am-10.30am
Pow Wow 9am-11am

Tues 15 Fete Meeting 7.30pm

Thurs 17 Stage 2—Eels Educate

Fri 18 Theme Lunch
Stage 3—Eels Educate

Week 3

Mon 21 ES1 2014—Transition
Uniform Shop
8.30am—10.30am
Pow Wow 9am-11am

Wed 23 Tim Bailey visits
St Monica's—5pm

Thurs 24 Stage 2—Eels Educate

Fri 25 Mufti Day—Cake
boxes to be returned
Stage 3—Eels Educate

Sat 26 **ST MONICA'S
FETE**
9am-3pm 

Week 4

Mon 28 Uniform Shop
8.30am-10.30am
Pow Wow 9am-11am

Wed 30 POSMS Meeting 7pm

Thurs 31 NRL Skills ES1-Yr 2
Stage 2—Eels Educate

Fri 1 Nov All Saints Day—Mass
9.15am
NRL Skills Stages 2/3
Stage 3—Eels Educate



Monica's Matters

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Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Welcome back to the final term of the year. I trust the holidays were relaxing and a good break from the routines of school. The term began very well for staff yesterday as they engaged in professional learning that included the focused literacy block, effective learning strategies, the ESL learner and the importance of assessment.

The term also began well for our students who returned energised today ready for the term ahead. This is a REALLY important term of focused learning, right through until the last day of term. It is a wonderful opportunity to build upon the great progress made so far this year.

Our final term of the year always presents significant opportunities to celebrate in a variety of ways the learning journey of our students. The term calendar has been updated and I strongly encourage you to read it carefully and mark the important dates, particularly those which involve the school community in significant celebrations eg Whole School Christmas Celebration (Friday 13 December), Awards, End of Year and Graduation Mass (Tuesday 17 December) to name a few.

As we return to school during the month of October we join with the Church in acknowledging devotion to Our Lady, Mary the mother of Jesus, by praying the Rosary. The Rosary can be at times challenging to pray- it requires us to overcome distractions, relax and focus our attention simply on prayer, putting aside the head chatter of our daily lives. Moving the beads through our fingers as we recite the familiar prayer is one way of freeing the mind.

Traditional prayers such as the Our Father, the Glory Be and the Hail Mary are a rich part of our Catholic faith traditions. The power of the Rosary as a form of prayer and meditation is something we will be asking all the children to learn about and participate in during October. I encourage you to share your experiences with your children. Perhaps you could get them to ask their grandparents or an elderly relative or friend to share their special memories of the Rosary.

I look forward to working with the staff and students this term as we learn, achieve, celebrate and prepare during an action packed Term 4. I hope that you are ready for a wonderful journey as a faith and learning community.

Have a great week.

Louise O'Donnell
Principal

Fete Volunteers

It's amazing how many families have put up their hands to volunteer at our fete which is just over two weeks away. If you haven't already volunteered please complete the form that has been sent home with your child today. We are only asking an hour or two of your time on Saturday 26th October so that everyone can enjoy the fete. If we had one representative from every family in the school it would lighten the load of the small band of coordinators who have worked tirelessly over the year to prepare for the fete. If you can't work on a stall at the fete please consider some of the other jobs- collecting stalls from a nearby school, setting up stalls, packing up after the fete.

Friday 11th October (Children may wear mufti)

Thank you for the wonderful response to our bottle lottery collection at the end of Term 3. If you have any other bottled items eg jam, sauce, cordial, wine, topping please send them in on Friday.

During the holidays many parents would know that the Parish collected items for the 'Trash and Treasure' stall. If you have any items suitable for this stall please send them in on Friday. This stall is always a very popular stall at fetes with adults and children.

Fruit Boxes

Don't forget to order your fruit and vegetable box at the very reasonable price of \$30. The boxes are straight from the markets and are guaranteed to be fresh and filled with seasonal products. Money can be placed in a clearly labelled envelope and left at the School Office. Orders are due by **Friday 18th October**.

Raffle Tickets

Don't forget to keep on selling the raffle tickets for the fete. All raffle tickets are due back at the school by **Friday 18 October** (Week 2)

We still have a number of books of raffle tickets available to sell. If you would like another booklet please contact the office.

We will have another draw for the children who have brought back their raffle tickets this Friday. The 1st prize is a \$30 voucher to spend at Pancakes Restaurant and the 2nd prize is a family pass to the Australian Museum.

Fete Flyers

Next week we will be delivering Fete Flyers in the local area. If you are able to assist, please contact the office.

Selling Raffle Tickets at Local Shopping Centres

We are looking for students and parents to sell raffle tickets at Winston Hills and North Rocks Shopping Centres on **Saturday 19th October**. Selling raffle tickets will build an awareness of the fete and raise the public profile of the school within the local community. Tickets can be sold between 8:30am and 3:00pm.

If you are able to assist, please complete the form below indicating your preferred time and place.



Name: _____ Phone: _____

	North Rocks	Winston Hills
8:30am		
9:30am		
10:30am		
11:30am		
12:30pm		
1:30pm		
2:30pm		

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING TO ST MONICA'S IN 2014

The school is currently interviewing families for enrolment for 2014. Places are limited in some grades. To enable the school to plan appropriately we ask families of students in Kindergarten – Year 5 who are not returning in 2014 to notify the school in writing as soon as possible.

THANK YOU - Activities Afternoon

Many thanks to all the parents who assisted at the Activities Afternoon last term - Rebecca Assaf, Victoria Elias, Swapna Tadepalli, Joan Evangelista, Karla Stewart-Sykes, Dorota Grzelak, Agi Kowalczyk, Julie-Anne Gorrell, Kristy O'Rourke, Gulshan Muttoo and Simone Lewis.

Seymour Centre

Many thanks to Mrs Talty and Mrs Haddad for taking our group to the Seymour Centre last term to see the play "The 13th Storey Treehouse." We all enjoyed the production and it helped us to compare and contrast with the book which we had worked on during Readers Circle. Now we are looking forward to reading "The 26th Storey Treehouse" and "The 39th Storey Treehouse." Stage 2 and Mrs Mason



STUDENT BANKING

Student banking will resume next **Tuesday 15 October**. Please remember to complete both side of the deposit slip when submitting your banking. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following winners of our pre-fete raffle. *Treetops Voucher*—Genesis Evangelista
Powerhouse Vouchers: Jason Grey, Alexis Chang, Ryan Clark and Jack Talty.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The St Monica's Conference of the St Vincent De Paul Society wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to the staff, students and families of your school for the generous donation of food collected during your recent Winter Appeal. The many cans & packets of soup, noodles, pasta and other winter foods were put to good use by being given to the needy families that we serve throughout our parish community. Our clients, in turn, expressed their "thank you's" and requested we pass this information back to you. The food packages were received at a time when many clients were experiencing cost of living difficulties, particularly with rising energy costs. A special thanks also to Ms Kerry Power for coordinating this appeal. *Mr Peter Mooney*

FRUIT OF THE WEEK

Each week throughout Term Four, St. Monica's students will have the opportunity to sample a variety of seasonal fruit.

Students will be provided fruit at no cost in order to encourage healthy eating habits.

On Monday mornings, we will announce the fruit for the week.

If you are interested in helping to prepare and serve the fruit, please contact Mrs. Erin Turner.
Happy eating!

Mrs Turner, Sport Coordinator



Happy birthday to the following students and staff who will celebrate birthdays in October.



Dion Mageropoulos	Myles Gaddi	Carl Mendez Valencia	Christian Dib
Jayden Albayeh	Isabelle Kandalaft	Bryce Hossack	Levi Bryant
Tyra Lawler-Cass	Emma Halamkova	Ruby Dumazel	Jordan Basha
Charlotte Newey	Nish Jain	Pankti Patel	Salama Kipanya Kunambi
Kiara Naik	Patrick Youssef	Staff: Mrs Paley and Mrs Gardoni	

Full Attendance in Term 3

Congratulations to the following students who did not miss one day of school last term.

ES1—DOYLE Alexander Azar Sophia Elias Galia Evangelista Samira Hekeik Summer Ierfino Zachariah Kassis Jesse Maffina Aidan Muttoo Emma O'Rourke Medeea Pandrea Emma Sadek Maxwell Taylor Jeremy Adu-Sarfoh Neave Sciacca	YEAR 1A McAULEY Jordan Basha Akwasi Boakye Ana Maria Costea Emma Halamkova Hayden Herder-Beke Laeticia Hossack Michael Kositse Joshua North Geshua Toledo	YEAR 1B CALLAN Ryan Clark Jericho Crame Ahmed Dukuly Peter Farah Raymond Khadi Dion Mageropoulos Veronica Sadek Kael Sciacca	YEAR 2 CONWAY Jessica Chapman Rachel French Amelia Furjanic Matilda Rose Hall Christian Kandalaft Chelsea Lewis Madeline Lewis Chanelle Maikhael Charlotte Newey Isabella Smith Mateo Soriano Alanis Supuk Pinar Helena Unver
S2A AUGUSTINE Jackson Basha Erica Crame Patrick Crowle Josue Heydari Philip Joseph Jenny Taylor Ruby Dumazel Patrick Newey	S2B MCKINNON Victoria Kassis Toni Mageropoulos Brendan Pospischil Ritesh Ashok Kumar Amalie Dona Hayley Herder-Beke Saisriman Tadepalli	S3A MORAN Bril Adu Joseph Azar Charlotte Carter Genesis Evangelista Martha Kassis Jacob Khadi	S3B KEOGH Christiane Farah Mark Furjanic Alby Giles Lucas Gonzalez Bernadette Martinez

Cyber Safety and Behaviour

Digital technologies provide students with wonderful tools for learning. They can deliver the world to students by the click of a mouse and their potential in this area is truly extraordinary. The area of social networking can also connect people and provide valuable social opportunities. It is important however that, as parents and teachers, we maintain awareness of what our primary aged children/students are engaged with in this area. Behaviour in the online world and towards others needs to be based on the same basic principles as those in the non digital life. The areas mentioned below are important in monitoring and teaching our children about appropriate behaviour and safety whilst connected online.

Teaching:

- Instruct your child on how they can develop positive and constructive online relationships with peers, family and friends
- Make your child aware that comments posted need to be respectful and appropriate
- Explain to your child that comments posted online are not anonymous and can be viewed by others
Educate your child on why it's not safe to give out any personal details- addresses, passwords etc

Monitoring:

- Keep the computer in a shared family area where you can monitor how long your child is on the computer as well as websites that are being viewed
- Together with your child, set up some simple and fair rules about internet use. This may include setting reasonable limits on the amount of screen time that your child is allowed
- Check that the social networking sites your child may want to use are appropriate for his/her age. For example, to have a Facebook account you need to be 13 or older.
- Empower your child to use the internet safely by showing your child safe sites and explaining why they are safe.

For further information and advice please refer to:

<http://www.aifs.gov.au/nch/resources/internetsafety.html>

http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/social_networking.html

Fete Entertainment Timetable

9:00 am—10:00 am	Setting up
10:00 am-10:30 am	Irish dancing
10:30 am-11:00 am	Performing Arts Studio
11:00 am -11:30 am	Taekwondo
11:30 am-12:00 pm	Hills Community Band
12:00 pm -1:00 pm	Disco (Mr Assaf)
1:00 pm -1:30 pm	St Monica's School Choir
1:30 pm -2:00 pm	Towle Theatrical Dance Academy
2:00 pm -3:00 pm	Packing up

DATES TO REMEMBER

Week 2 Friday 18 October 2013	Praying the Rosary Daily all week 9am Mission Prayer	In class Beginning of Assembly
Week 3 Thursday 24 October 2013	Stage 2 and 3 Reconciliation	11.30am
Week 4 Friday 1 November 2013	All Saints Mass	9.15am