

ST MONICA'S
PRIMARY
NORTH PARRAMATTA

TERM 3, WEEK 1
16 July 2014

DIARY DATES

JULY

Week 2
Mon 21 Pow Wow 9-10:30am
Tues 22 Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am
Fri 25 Theme Lunch
Grandparent's Day -
Liturgy
2pm Church Cleaning

Week 3
Mon 28 Pow Wow 9-10:30am
Tues 29 ICAS—English
Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am

Fri 1 Aug Census Day

AUGUST

Week 4
Mon 4 Pow Wow 9-10:30am
Book Character Parade
and Book Fair

Tues 5 ICAS—Maths
Zone Athletics
Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am

Fri 8 Feast of St Mary of the
Cross MacKillop

Week 5
Mon 11 Pow Wow 9-10:30am
Tues 12 Science in the City
Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am

Wed 13 Science in the City
Fri 15 Feast of the Assumption

Week 6
Mon 18 Pow Wow 9-10:30am
Voice of Youth

Tues 19 Netball Gala Day—
Penrith
Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am

Thur 21 Liz Ellis Netball Clinic
S3

Fri 22 Theme Lunch
Sun 24 9am First Communion



Monica's Matters

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Email: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 9630 3697
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Welcome back to Term 3. I have enjoyed listening to all the stories from children and parents about the way they spent their holidays. The children appear to be well rested and happy to be back.

We look forward to a very busy term with the Book Parade, Science in the City, Netball Gala Day, Father's Day, Voice of Youth, African Beat, Stage 3 Camp to Bathurst, Farm Visit and Early Stage One 2015 Meeting along with the usual events that occur during the term.

During the holidays Miss Rosewell, Mrs Boulous and I had the privilege of attending the New Tech Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Fifteen hundred educators from the United States and Australia attended the conference. St Monica's, along with leaders and teachers from Parramatta Marist High School and Emmanuel College, Melbourne were the only Australian representatives at the conference.

The week long conference immersed us in the design and implementation of project based design. We were provided with many opportunities to collaborate together with elementary teachers in projects that required us to critically think, draw upon our creativity and encouraged us to communicate so that we were able to answer challenging questions and solve complex problems. These strategies gave us a deeper and broader understanding of Project Based Learning.

We look forward to continuing our learning partnership with Parramatta Marist High School over the next year.

Have a great week.

Yours sincerely,

Louise O'Donnell
Principal

ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

There will be a stop work meeting on **Wednesday 23 July 2014** for 3 hours from the commencement of school. The action will involve members of the Independent Education Union (IEU) discussing concerns regarding the proposed new Enterprise Agreement. **We do not expect any interruption to school attendance. Supervision will be available at the school during this time.**

UNSURE OF AN EVENT

If you are ever unsure about any school event, activity, procedure, learnings or anything that may have involved your child, parents are encouraged to please take the time to seek clarification with school personnel. Class teachers, administration staff, Mrs Mason or Miss O'Donnell are able to give parents first-hand information as opposed to relying on hearsay or other's interpretations or perceptions.

Please note that it is never appropriate to approach other children within the school for clarification of an issue or event. Matters should always be referred through the teachers or the office.



MORNING SUPERVISION

Parents are reminded that when dropping off their children in the morning, **the following guidelines apply:**

- Supervision on the playground commences at 8:20am
- School Kiss and Drop—students are to leave their car from the driver's side only. Parents are requested **not** to get out of the car to get bags out of the boot or to give last minute messages.
- Please exercise caution driving through the carpark and be aware that some children use the internal pedestrian crossing in the carpark.
- Park only in the designated parking spaces.
- Any student arriving after the bell (8:50am) must be accompanied to the Office for a late note.

RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENTS

With all Key Learning Areas, the children are assessed in their knowledge and understanding of concepts and skills taught. In Religious Education the Parramatta Diocesan units of 'Sharing Our Story' are taught and assessed in each stage. Formal Religious Literacy Assessments for all Year 4 and Year 6 students will occur this term. Both grades will complete an online assessment with Year 4 also having a practical assessment as well. Miss Rosewell will communicate more information regarding these assessments in the Religious Education Newsletter in the next few weeks.

SCHOOL UNIFORM—WINTER

Parents are reminded that all students are now to be wearing their **full winter uniform.** Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform to school.

GIRLS

Winter

Short-sleeved shirt
Long-sleeved shirt (optional)
Culottes and Navy winter stockings **or**
Long Navy pants
Navy Sloppy Joe (optional)
School Jacket
Black school shoes

Sport

Short-Sleeved Shirt
Sports Shorts
Tracksuit Pants/School Jacket
Navy or white Socks
Joggers

The **School Jacket** with crest may be worn at any time throughout the year
The **School Hat** with crest is a compulsory school item to be worn every day

BOYS

Winter

Short-sleeved Shirt
Long-sleeved shirt (optional)
Long Navy pants
Navy Sloppy Joe (optional)
School Jacket
Navy Socks
Black school shoes

Sport

Short-Sleeved Shirt
Sports Shorts
Tracksuit pants/School Jacket
Navy or white Socks
Joggers

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE AND BOOK FAIR

A reminder that our **Book Character Parade** and our second **Book Fair** of the year will be held on **Monday 4th August. Parade will start at 9am. The Book Fair will be held after the parade** and the students will be able to attend the Book Fair with their parents or later in their class groups. The Book Week theme this year is 'Connect to Reading', and we encourage the students to come dressed as **a book character they have connected with!** We emphasise that the character **MUST be from a book** and not just the child's favourite movie (although some movies have been made about books). *Mrs Sharon Boulous*

The following thankyou letter was sent to our school in recognition of contributions made to the DWF Appeal

Dear Louise,

I am writing to thank you and your school community for the efforts made in holding the May DWF Appeal and for returning the funds. Because of your generosity the various Church agencies will be able to continue providing assistance to those in need. Blessings on staff and students as you go on to enjoy a well-deserved break.

Cecilia Zammit

Parish Support and Fundraising Manager, Business Unit, **Catholic Diocese of Parramatta**

Walking to the park—Can you help?

Any parent who would be available to assist Miss O'Donnell with walking students to the park on Mondays at lunchtime is asked to leave their name at the school office. Thank you.

THE LITTLE BIG TIME—AFL

St Monica's Primary School AFL Auskick Centre—After School. (Lake Parramatta Reserve, Bourke St, North Parramatta) **Each Monday starting 21 July until 25 August 2014 from 3:30pm—4:30pm.** To register visit www.AFLAUSKICK.com.au and enter your postcode then click on "S Monica's, Parramatta AFL Auskick Centre—After School". View the flyer under SCHOOL NOTES—WHOLE SCHOOL NOTES—on the school website.

Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta College Open Morning Tour, **Friday 1 August 2014.** Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or call 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information

Have you considered completing Years 11 and 12 at OLMC Parramatta? Prospective Year 11, 2015 students and their families are invited to discover the benefits of a senior Mercy education at the **Year 11 2015**

Information Evening on Wednesday, July 23 in the Edith Angel Hall at OLMC Parramatta. To attend, please contact the College Registrar on 8838 1222 or email registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend (a marriage enrichment experience for married couples)

Weekend dates: 12-14 September 2014 and 7-9 November 2014 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW. Bookings: Ardell and Bill Sharpe tel 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au.

Seminar—Understanding Family Law

The Solo Parent Ministry will be running our next Seminar on "Understanding Family Law" which will cover information on how the Family Law act applies to issues related to living arrangements for children and property settlements post separation or divorce amongst other topics. **Date: Tuesday 22nd July, 7.30pm**, Venue: Blacktown Cost: \$5.00. Bookings essential: Ph: 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au

SEASONS FOR GROWTH – Bereavement Support Program (Adults) CCSS Solo Parent Ministry is running its next Seasons for Growth Program for adults commencing on **Tuesday 5th August 2014**. This small group Program runs for five consecutive Tuesdays and is open to anyone grieving the death of their spouse or partner. See Notice Board for Flyer. **Venue:** CCSS Centre 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown. **Date/Time:** 5 Tuesdays from 05th August - 10.00am – 1.00pm. **Cost:** \$80.00. Information and Registration- Ph. 9933 0205 or email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au



Would your child like to learn Guitar or Keyboard ?

Aria Music is enrolling for Term 3 at St Monica's
Please email: ariamusicsschool@gmail.com
Ph: 0402 780 130

Qualified, friendly teachers encourage serious musical skills in a fun learning environment.
Group classes at school, \$21 per lesson.
Individual tuition is also available.



Guitar classes!
Day: Monday lunchtime
Time: 12 - 1p.m
Location: The community room

Keyboard Classes!
Day: Tuesday lunchtime
Time: 12-1p.m
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

2014/2015

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

This fundraiser will end shortly!

The new 2014/2015 Entertainment Books are available for purchase! **Books cost \$65 each** and every membership sold raises \$13 for our school.

This year you have the option of ordering an **Entertainment Book Membership** or an **Entertainment Digital Membership**.

You may order securely online at:
<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/21576y3>

Please contact Mrs Abood in the school office if you have any further enquiries.



2ND NORTHMEAD SCOUT GROUP

Come and challenge yourself...

Ages 10½ - 15yrs,
no experience necessary.
Meetings held Wednesdays
7.30-9.30pm

19 Whitehaven Road, Northmead

If hiking through the Hawkesbury,
li-lo'ing through the Blue Mountains,
cooking on open fires and camping
sounds like you...

Contact Group Leader Neal Anderson
0407 269 635

Or visit www.northmeadscouts.org.au/
Also available Cubs 7½ - 11yrs

Waste Free Wednesday

Year One and Two have been learning about how we can protect our environment. As part of our learning we have decided to introduce 'Waste Free Wednesday' to reduce the amount of rubbish that we have at school. Commencing in Week 2, each Wednesday you are encouraged to bring reusable food containers so that we can reduce the rubbish at school and in our environment.

Some suggestions:

- Use a lunchbox
- Avoid wrapped food eg chips, muesli bars etc
- Reuse containers so that our environment stays healthy
- Use a drink bottle instead of disposable bottles.



We look forward to your participation.
Look out for our posters too! They are full of great ideas!

From Year One Students

SEASONS FOR GROWTH 2014

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.

Seasons for Growth

- Assists students in understanding that the emotions associated with their losses are normal.
- Encourages the expressions of thoughts and emotions.
- Helps restore self- confidence and self-esteem.
- Develops a peer support network.

The program caters for different age levels where groups are limited to 4-6 children. The children are withdrawn from class once a week for 40 minutes. Each session is facilitated by the same Companion, and children participate in eight formal sessions, one celebration session and two 'reconnector' sessions.

The trained Companions at St Monica's this year are Mrs Sharon Boulous and Mrs Mary-Jo Mason. The children must have parental permission to attend the program.

At this stage we are looking for expressions of interest from parents who believe such a program would benefit their child/children.

Please fill in the form below and return to school by Wednesday 23 July 2014.

If you have any queries about the program please feel free to contact me.

Mary-Jo Mason
Assistant Principal

✂ _____

SEASONS FOR GROWTH—2014

(Return to Mrs Mason by Wednesday 23 July 2014)

I _____ (Parent) am interested in my child _____
Print Name **Print Name**

in _____ (Homeroom) attending the *Seasons For Growth Program* this year.

Signed: _____