

ST MONICA'S
PRIMARY
NORTH PARRAMATTA

TERM 1, WEEK 5
26 February 2014

DIARY DATES

Week 5
Fri 28 Dance Fever Athletics

MARCH

Week 6
Mon 3 Uniform Shop
8:30am—10:30am
Pow Wow 9-10.30am

Tues 4 Shrove Tuesday

Wed 5 Ash Wednesday
11:30am Liturgy—
Church

Fri 7 Dance Fever Athletics

Sun 9 Parish Picnic —
Parramatta Park

Week 7 *Catholic Schools
Week*

Mon 10 Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am
Pow Wow 9-10.30am

Tues 11 **BOOK FAIR/
GRANDPARENTS
DAY**

Wed 12 **SCHOOL PHOTOS**
(Envelopes to be
brought in today)

Thur 13 Open Afternoon
1:45-2:45pm

Fri 14 Cross Country
Dance Fever Athletics

Sat 15 Car Boot Sale

Week 8
Mon 17 Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am
Pow Wow 9-10.30am

Wed 19 Year 6—Back Care

Fri 21 Dance Fever Athletics
2pm Church Cleaning

Week 9
Mon 24 Uniform Shop
8:30am-10:30am
Pow Wow 9-10.30am

Wed 26 Pie /Sausage Roll Day

Fri 28 Theme Lunch
Dance Fever Athletics



Monica's Matters

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

Phone: 9630 3697
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

In two weeks' time Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated at St Monica's and we will join Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT in celebrating this event. Our activities during this week will showcase to our local community the opportunities available to our students and also raise awareness and celebrate the distinctiveness of Catholic schools.

Catholic Schools Week is about strengthening relationships between all those who have a stake in our schools - students, staff, families, priests, parishioners and members of the wider community.

It is for this reason that I would like to extend an invitation to you and your family to join us at St Monica's to celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2014.

Monday 10th March Catholic Schools Week Prayer at Morning Assembly

Tuesday 11th March **Grandparent's Day** (Parents welcome too!)
9:00am- 9:40am Morning Tea
9:40am- 10:20am Liturgy/Stage Presentations
10:20am – 11:00am Classroom visits and Book Fair
11:00am – 11:20am Morning tea

Wednesday 12th March **School Photos**
7:00pm Parent Program 1-2-3 Magic

Thursday 13th March 11:00am Dr Geoff Lee (Member for Parramatta) visiting St Monica's. We will be showcasing what happens in classrooms every day.

Open Afternoon for new parents (**1:45pm- 2:45pm**)
Friday 14th March 9:15am – 11:00am Cross Country at Lake Parramatta

Parents are invited to view Athletics lessons:
11:50am—12:20pm ES1/Year 1
12:20pm—12:50pm Year 2
1:30pm-2:15pm Stage 2
2:15pm-3:00pm Stage 3

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

Thank you to the many parents who attended the Parent Information evenings over the past two weeks. The increased attendance was testament to the great interest of our parents. Our class teachers have reported an enthusiastic response by all in their respective session. Thank you and congratulations to the teachers on the preparation and effort on their part to ensure their session and of course the year ahead has been well planned.

YEAR TWO TEACHERS

In the last two weeks I have written to all of the Year 2 families to inform them that Mrs Ungsuprasert is taking long service leave as her son is getting married overseas and also that Mrs Gardoni will be away from school for the remainder of the term on her doctor's advice.

Mrs Gardoni has had an operation and is doing well. Please keep her in your prayers. During Mrs Gardoni's and Mrs Ungsuprasert's absences, Mrs Patrice Hanna, Miss Joanna Haddad and Mrs Janet Laurence will be in Year 2.

WESTFIELD'S PROJECT

An exciting children's fun zone is currently under development at Westfield, North Rocks, in the space previously occupied by Franklins and IGA. This fun zone will be known as 'Fun Lab' and will provide amusement activities for toddlers to older adolescents. It will open in stages over the next few months.

Ten students from Stage 3 together with ten students from Christ the King have been selected to be involved in the design and creation of computer generated, graphically designed art work to decorate the walls of the lab.

Over the next couple of weeks these students will have this fantastic opportunity to work in a design team to experience the graphic design process and work on a student-directed, project based learning task.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MRS TURNER

Last week St Monica's was responsible for coordinating the Zone Carnival for the Cumberland cluster of schools. Mrs Turner with the assistance of Mrs Mason, Mrs Boulous and Mr McBriarty convened a superbly organised day which ran smoothly and finished ahead of schedule! Congratulations to the parent helpers and the Year 6 students who went along to help on the day and did such a fabulous job!

Congratulations to all of the children who participated! Your mighty efforts impressed everyone. Best wishes to those going onto the Diocesan Swimming Carnival this Friday the 28th February. (Please see Mrs Turner's report in this newsletter for full details of the carnival.)



I received this email from Mrs Margaret Thornton, Teaching Educator Primary Sport, Catholic Education Office:

Thank you to all the school sports coordinators who prepared and successfully ran their school Carnivals and prepared team entries for the CUMBERLAND Zone Carnival.

*Firstly thank you to the **St Monica's staff** who were the CUMBERLAND Zone conveners this year. In particular special mention to **Erin Turner** who ensured that the carnival ran smoothly prior to the carnival and on the day. The effort of Erin, her principal and school support network is greatly appreciated by all. Special thanks to the student representatives from St Monica's who were fantastic in collecting and displaying results.*

I also received this email from a parent who attended the carnival that beautifully expressed the feelings of staff attending the carnival.

Dear Miss O'Donnell,

I wanted to compliment the Year 6 leaders on a job well done at the Zone Swimming Carnival held yesterday at Parramatta. Each of the children were great ambassadors for our school in the way they conducted themselves. Along with the terrific efforts by the swimmers on the day, these children brought great credit to St Monica's. I feel very proud to be an Old Girl. Catherine Delaney

IF I HAVE A QUESTION WHO DO I SEE?

For general matters and information, Mrs Cattermole and Mrs Abood in the office can usually help or they will direct you to the appropriate staff member.

For any classroom matters concerning your child's wellbeing or learning please contact your child's class teacher.

A member of the leadership team is also a point of contact for each of the Stages and may be contacted.

Kindergarten and Stage 1 : Ms Kerry Power
Stage 2: Miss Michelle Rosewell
Stage 3: Mrs Mary-Jo Mason

MAKING AN APPOINTMENT

An appointment can be made with any staff member by writing a note to your child's teacher or the relevant staff member or by contacting the office. Please note that it is very important that an appointment is made at a mutually convenient time so that the matter can be given the quality time it needs.

ANIMALS AT SCHOOL

To ensure the safety of students, animals such as family pets are not to be brought onto the school site. Animals can only be brought onto the site for educational purposes with the prior written approval of the Principal. This request is in line with the guidelines of the NSW Department of Education and Training “Animals in Schools” policy.

PARISH PICNIC

Sunday March 9th 2014 at Parramatta Park, enter via Westmead near playground. Come along for a fun filled day!! Starting at 12pm.



ENROLMENT 2015

Please contact the office if you have a child commencing school in 2015. Enrolment packages will then be sent home on **Thursday 13th March** and arrangements will be made for parents to attend an enrolment interview early in Term 2.

FETE MONEY

As Parents would be aware we had a very successful fete in October, 2013 and raised just over \$19,000 for our school. So far we have spent \$11,000 on the synthetic grass on the playground and \$4000 on painting of all 30 doors in the school. The remainder of the money will be put towards our next Technology order in a few weeks time.

Have a great week.

Yours sincerely,

Louise O'Donnell
Principal

ST MONICA'S NEWS

SRC REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following children who have been elected as SRC for Semester One 2014. Badges will be presented next **Tuesday 4 March** at morning assembly.

ES1—Maureen and Kwaku, **Year 1**—Poppy, **Year 2**—Emma H, **Year 3**-Chelsea,
Year 4-Joshua, **Year 5**-Alysha D and **Year 6**-Bernard.

ASTHMA FORMS

A reminder to parents that if your child suffers from asthma, an **Student Asthma Form** needs to be completed and returned to the School Office **immediately**. The form was sent home recently and can be found on the school website—**News and Events, School Notes** then **Whole School Notes**. For more serious cases, this form will need to be completed in conjunction with your doctor. Students with asthma are required to provide the School Office with an asthma puffer. Thank you to those families who have already returned the forms.

SCHOOL FEES

School Fees have now been sent out by the Catholic Education Office. If you have not received your fees, or if you have changed addresses and have not yet informed the school office, please contact Mrs Cattermole immediately so that we can update your details and forward a new statement of account. Thank you to those families who have paid their fees. Term 1 School Fees are due and payable by **Friday 7 March 2014**.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Thank you to the following parents for their assistance at the Sausage Sizzle held on Friday 14 February— Simone Lewis, Neil and Janet Joseph, Paul Hossack, Mark Kandalaft, Tiffany Cooper, Rebecca Assaf, Katherine Basha, Dorota Grzelak, Aida Salmani, Emma Kuea, Gabriela Maksimova, Rodeza Rodriguez, Julie-Anne Gorrell and Vesna Furjanic. A profit of \$400.50 was raised which will go towards technology for the Learning Space

Thanks to Mr Chalk (Chalky—Rhiannon and Matilda Cooper's grandfather) for bringing a box of sugar plums on Sausage Sizzle day (fresh from the markets) for everyone to try.



FOSMS

FOSMS (Fathers of St Monica's Students) have regular dinners throughout the school year. Quite often the men are the ones who miss out on school meetings or playground chats, so these dinners are a great opportunity for the men of St Monica's to catch up, share a meal and some information about the school, swap ideas and views on parenting and generally get to know each other a bit more.

FOSMS Dinner Details: 7:30 pm Friday 14th March 2014,

Standard Indian Restaurant.

Address: 515 Church St, North Parramatta NSW 2151 Phone:(02) 9630 0319

RSVP: Neil Joseph on 0418 113 160 by 7th March if you would like to attend.

CAR PARK—AFTERNOON PICK UP

If parents arrive early in the afternoon please park closely to the car ahead of you. We have found that lots of space has been left in between the cars causing traffic outside the grounds to be caught up at Church Street. The car park opens at 2:45pm each afternoon. Please consider delaying picking up your child/ren until 3:10pm-3:15pm so that you are not caught in the Daking Street traffic. Parents are reminded that supervision ceases at 3:30pm.

2014 Acceptable Use of Internet Policy

All students at St Monica's Primary school are required to read and sign the agreement form to use technology at school. Parents are asked to read the policy with their child and to sign and date the last page of the policy and to return it to their homeroom teacher.

The Agreement Form can be found under **School Notes** on the Website. Alternatively you may copy the link below and paste it into the web browser. On the School Notes page of the website, please go to your child's stage and print a copy of the policy to sign.

(ES1-Year 2—Junior Primary Years 3-6 Primary)

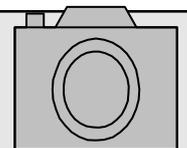
Every child must return the Agreement Form in order for them to use technology at school.

<http://www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au/school-notes>



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - Wednesday 12 March 2014

School Photographs will be held on **Wednesday 12 March 2014**. Every student will be sent home an order envelope next week which needs to be returned, complete with payment, **ON THE DAY OF THE PHOTOS**.



Please read the instructions for payment on the letter attached to the envelope (you may download a copy of the letter from the school website under **School Notes—Whole School**).

Sibling envelopes are also available from the school office. These envelopes also need to be completed and brought to school on the day of the photos.

***PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR ENVELOPES / PAYMENT TO SCHOOL PRIOR TO PHOTO DAY.**

Students who do not return their envelopes on photo day will be issued with a late order form flyer from Advancedlife Photographers (this includes a late order fee). Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in their **full school uniform** in readiness for the photos (*no joggers*).

Thank you for your co-operation.

HEAD LICE

There have been reported cases of head lice across all grades in the school.

Please examine your child's hair to look for the following signs—

- Persistent scratching, particularly behind the ears and the nape of the neck accompanied by a red rash.
- Tiny silver white eggs at the base of the hair shaft.
- Small pale brown lice. You may wish to use a magnifying glass and a fine tooth comb under strong light to help identify lice.

Head lice can be treated quickly and effectively by simply following these steps—

- Purchase a specialist head lice treatment from your pharmacy and apply it according to the directions on the pack.
- Examine all family members' hair, and treat everyone found to have head lice at the same time.
- Wash out the treatment and use a fine tooth comb to remove the dead lice and eggs.
- Repeat the **treatment in 7-10 days if lice are still present or eggs are found within 1cm of the scalp**.

To prevent head lice in the future, all family members should avoid sharing items such as clothing, brushes or hats from each other or from friends.

To assist in attempting to eradicate head lice from the school we ask that you check your child's hair weekly for the presence of lice.

For further information visit: http://www.healthinsite.gov.au/topics/Head_Lice

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME—2014

CONFIRMATION

If your child has received the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* and the *Sacrament of Communion* is in Year 5 or above, he/she is eligible to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation**.

Confirmation: Programme Date (**Sunday 8th June 2014**)
Registration: 15th / 16th March 2014 (after Mass 6pm Saturday and 9am Sunday)

COMMUNION

If your child has received the *Sacrament of Reconciliation* and is in Year 4 or above, he/she is eligible to receive the **Sacrament of Communion**.

Communion: Programme Date (**Sunday 24th August 2014**)
Registration: 31st May / 1st June 2014 (after Mass 6pm Saturday and 9am Sunday)

RECONCILIATION

If your child has received the *Sacrament of Baptism* and is in Year 3 or above, he/she is eligible to receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

Reconciliation: Programme Date: (**Friday 21st November 2014**)
Registration: 6th / 7th September 2014 (after Mass 6pm Saturday and 9am Sunday)

For further enquiries regarding the Sacramental Programmes, please contact the Church Office (Tues-Fri 9am-3pm) or email stmonicanp@bigpond.com

Early registration forms are available if you email Sacramental Co-ordinator—
 Jenny Coorey (jcoorey@gmail.com)

BOOK FAIR ON GRANDPARENTS DAY, 2014



Dear Parents, on Grandparents day, **Tuesday 11th March**, St Monica's school will be holding the first of our book fairs for the year in our school library.

All children will have the opportunity to preview the Book Fair from 3rd – 7th March during Literacy or borrowing time.

Parents and Grandparents are welcome to view the Book Fair in our library space, and bring their children along to purchase some books on Tuesday 11th March **after our special assembly and morning tea in the hall which commences at 9.15am, and concludes at 10.15am.**

There will also be a selection of books on a table if any Grandparents or Parents would like to donate a book to our school library. There will be a dedication plaque in the front of each of these books.

All children will be able to purchase books during their Literacy or borrowing time during the day, or at lunchtime on Tuesday 11th March.

Books may be purchased with cash, cheque (made out to St Monica's School), or credit card (forms on the back of the wish list may be filled in, signed and sent along with the children)

If there are any parents or Grandparents who are unable to attend any of the above Book Fair times, please see me or send me a note and we can make the display and sale available at another time over the Book Fair week.

Thank you

Mrs Sharon Boulous

SOCIAL/WELCOME TEAM NEWS

Upcoming events

Tuesday 4 March	Shrove / Pancake Tuesday
Tuesday 11 March	Book Fair / Grandparents Day
Friday 21 March	Church Cleaning (Helpers needed)
Wednesday 26 March	Pie / Sausage Roll Day
Friday 4 April	School Disco 6-8pm

GRANDPARENTS DAY

We will be holding a cake stall in aid of the Red Cross on Grandparents Day on Tuesday 11 March. Australian Red Cross helps tens of millions of people around the world each year (including the Philippines post typhoon, Tasmania after the bushfires and the Syrian crisis). They also care for local communities in Australia and Asia Pacific. If you could donate a cake, some biscuits, a slice or a small plate of cupcakes for the day, we would appreciate it. Volunteers to help on the stall would be appreciated too!

PRC REPRESENTATIVE needed

St Monica's is in need of a new PRC Rep (Parents Representative Council) - only one (1) meeting a term to meet parents from all over the diocese to share ideas and initiatives. Not much to do except turn up at the meetings and report back anything of interest to the school via the Principal. Many thanks to Peta Cappello for being our 2013 PRC Rep. For more information: <http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au/home>

PIE / SAUSAGE ROLL DAY

We are planning a Pie/Sausage Roll lunch on Wednesday 26th March.—please look out for the order form in March. Please also note that the order needs to be made one week before and exact numbers are delivered hot on the day. We cannot accept late orders - they will be returned.

Social / Welcome Team



Teaching someone to drive can be a **happy** experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

TIME & DATE: 6pm – 8pm Wednesday 5 March 2014	VENUE: Granville Youth Centre (room 2), 3A Memorial Drive, Granville	BOOK NOW ON: Elisabeth Sacco M: 0449 247 495 or esacco@saccom.com.au
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Helping learner drivers become safe drivers




Would your child like to play
Guitar, Keyboard, Violin?

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



Aria Music is enrolling for 2014!
Please email
ariamusic@school@gmail.com
Ph: 0402 780 130



Music lessons have the Power!
 Develops musical talent
 Encourages self-esteem
 Develops Self discipline
 Enhances concentration and co-ordination



Www.ariamusic.com.au



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA
Celebrating 125 Years

Open Day
Sunday
March 2, 2014
10am-2pm

Volunteers needed for Chisholm Cottage, Westmead

Chisholm Cottage provides 'a home away from home' for country families attending hospitals and clinics in Westmead. This low-cost, short-term accommodation is managed by Sisters of Charity Outreach and owned by the Catholic Women's League (Aust), Diocese of Parramatta Inc. The Cottage needs volunteers who assist with house duties, answer the phone and provide a welcoming presence to residents. For more information, please contact Maria McNuff, Volunteer Coordinator & Educator, tel (02) 8382 6437, 0404 861 523, mmcnuff@stvincents.com.au

LENT 4 REAL: Join the Journey! 28 Feb-2 March

Inviting young men and women (18-35) to a Lenten retreat at Mount Schoenstatt. This weekend aims to help young adults make the most of their Lent. Begins 7pm Friday 28 February; concludes 4pm Sunday 2 March. Venue: Mt Schoenstatt Retreat Centre, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. For further details or to register, contact Sr M Julie Brcar 0408 738 334, juliebrcar@gmail.com

Sisterhood Conference: 7-9 March

Sisterhood is a national Catholic women's movement that seeks to support women from all walks and stages of life. Sisterhood operates under the banner of the St Benedict's Eucharist Centre in Canberra and Fr Ken Barker MGL is the spiritual director. The conference draws together women of all ages for a weekend of prayer, reflection, formation and fellowship. The program includes keynote speakers, workshops, the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, adoration and prayer. Speakers: Sr Mary Rachel OP, Katie Kobler, Anna Krohn, Patrick Langrell, Karen Doyle, Fr Steve Fletcher MGL, Francine Pirola, Trish McCarthy. Venue: The Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops. Cost: \$225 includes meals & accommodation. BYO sheets, towels, toiletries, etc. Further information and registrations: Felicity Pollard tel 0420 541 772, info@sisterhood.org.au

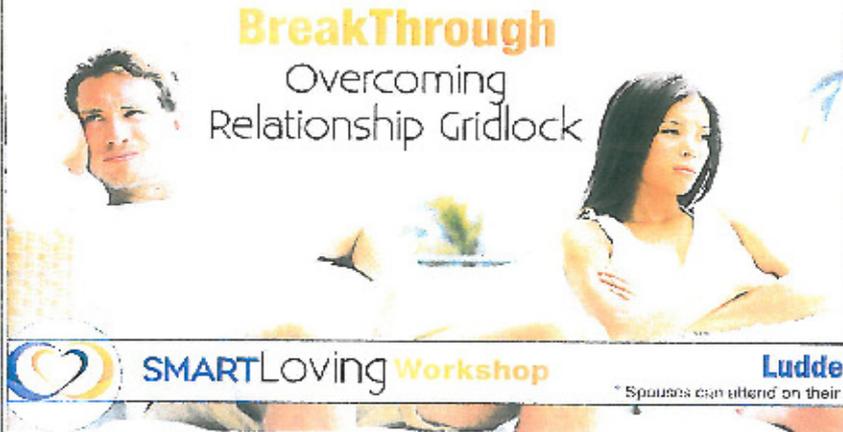
Faith at the Fiddler: 13 March

A forum for young people aged 18-35 to gather together to discuss issues of faith and spirituality in the friendly and warm atmosphere of Sydney's most famous pub. Speaker: Dr Ryan Messmore, President of Campion College, Toongabbie. Topic: Theology of the Body – Answering the Deeper Questions; the Meaning of Sex and the Body. Time: 5pm-7pm. Venue: The Greenway Room at the Mean Fiddler, cnr Commercial & Windsor Rds, Rouse Hill. Details: Steven Buhagiar – Catholic Education, Parramatta sbuhagiar@parra.catholic.edu.au

I would like to invite you to the *SmartLoving Workshop* on Sunday March 23rd from 2 - 5pm in the Holy Family School Hall.

Please see below for full details.

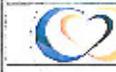
God Bless,
Father Zvonimir



BreakThrough
Overcoming
Relationship Gridlock

SUNDAY, MAR 23
2-5PM

 **SMARTLoving Workshop** **Luddenham NSW**
* Spouses can attend on their own or as a couple



BreakThrough Overcoming Relationship Gridlock

All couples go through periods where their relationship is strained. Stress, sleep-deprivation, demands from family and work can starve your marriage of the positive energy it needs and deserves. Soon, you find yourselves arguing more often, making up with less enthusiasm and becoming someone even you yourself don't like.

If this sounds like you, or someone you love, it's time to do something about it. The *SmartLoving BreakThrough* Workshop is a practical, solution-focused event for all stages of marriage. Drawing on contemporary research and Catholic theology, this workshop will arm you with skills and insights to transform your relationship into the thriving, joy-filled encounter that it is meant to be.

- **Identify your conflict triggers**
- **Learn strategies to de-escalate an argument**
- **Understand what the real issues are**
- **Find constructive ways to re-establish connection**

Workshop Details
Sunday, March 23
2-5pm
Holy Family School Hall
32 Willowdene Ave
Luddenham NSW 2745
Donation at the door
(afternoon tea provided)
Bookings essential
Call Jess: 02 9319 6280
Info@smartloving.org

*Check website for more dates



Enrolling now for 2015

Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning. Our school was named in the Sydney Morning Herald Honours Roll as one of the top 150 schools in the State.

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 11TH APRIL 2014.

School Open Mornings are Tuesday 11 March and Thursday 3 April 2014
Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au