

ST MONICA'S  
PRIMARY  
NORTH PARRAMATTA

TERM 4, WEEK 5  
Wednesday 4 November 2015

DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER

Week 5

Thur 5 9:15am S1 Parish Mass  
Fri 6 Start Smart Banking  
Yrs 2-6

Week 6

Mon 9 Pow Wow 9-10:30am

Tues 10 Uniform Shop open  
8:30am-9:30am

Wed 11 Remembrance Day  
Liturgy 10:15am  
Assembly Area

6-8pm Johnny Romeo  
Art Exhibition  
Stages 2 and 3

Fri 13 NRMA Road Safety  
Day

Week 7

Mon 16 Pow Wow 9-10:30am

Tues 17 Uniform Shop open  
8:30am-9:30am

Fri 20 7pm - Church  
First Reconciliation

Week 8

Mon 23 Pow Wow 9-10:30am

Tues 24 Uniform Shop open  
8:30am-9:30am

Wed 25 9:15am ES1—Parish  
Mass

Thur 26 9:15am S2 Parish Mass

Fri 27 9:15am S3 Parish Mass

Staff Development Days

Term 4, Week 11 2015

Thursday 17 December  
Friday 18 December



# Monica's Matters

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Email: [stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Phone: 9630 3697  
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

All those involved with schools in any capacity, for example, teaching, administration, volunteering in any capacity, helping out in your child's classroom, assisting on excursions, coordinating a fete stall or organising a school disco have the great honour and privilege to make a significant difference to the lives of others.

All the little things you do in every moment of your work, no matter how small, can ripple out to create endless changes in the lives of students.

Tony Ryan, the author of 'The Ripple Effect', describes a ripple as 'the outward release of energy that is generated by your thoughts and actions, that eventually affects the lives of other people in some way.' This energy connects with the ripples from the thoughts and actions of others to create all of the daily events on this planet. Known as 'the ripple effect' this energy creates hope for the future and makes a positive difference.

Just think for a minute of all the occasions every day that you set off ripples in this manner. These are special moments when you make choices that create changes in the world around you. Some of the tiny actions in your everyday work can magnify exponentially and create massive ripples in the lives of many other people. That single conversation, friendly smile, helping hand in the classroom or selfless act of service to the school community can set a child, parent or colleague onto an entirely different pathway in life. This is an astonishing responsibility. Pay respect to its influence.

Last Friday 30 October, Australia celebrated World Teachers Day. Thank you to Charles, Marie and Max Lukasik for the beautiful flowers that they gave every staff member at St Monica's to celebrate the day.



World Teacher's Day provides the opportunity to draw public attention to the role of teachers worldwide and the crucial importance of that role in society. The day acknowledges the efforts of teachers in an increasingly complex, multicultural and technological society.

I would like to commend and thank the staff of our school for the vital work that they do, for the example that they set, for the support that they extend and for the extra mile that they go each and every day to ensure that students are given the very best of opportunities.

### Thank You

Thank you to Paul Hossack and Neil Joseph for returning the fete stalls to Christ the King School after our fete. I appreciate you both for taking the time out of your busy day to assist the school.

Last Friday night Year 6 parents organised an awesome Fright Night disco for all the students as a fundraising event for Year 6 Graduation. From all reports the students had a wonderful night that they will long remember. Thank you to Simone & John Lewis, Scott & Joelle Day, Geoff & Kylie Newey, Caterina & Peter Herder-Beke, Gerard Noonan, Teresa Dona and Rebecca Essey for their many hours of preparation for this wonderful event. Thank you also to George Assaf for running the disco and to Mary-Jo Mason and Michelle Rosewell for supporting the students and parents at the event.

### **Student Leadership**

As we look towards 2016 and the exciting challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for our senior students, it is timely that we begin to prepare Year 5 students for some of the more unique aspects of student leadership at St Monica's School.

In a few weeks our Year 5 students will begin the process of nominating for the student leadership positions of Ambassadors and Student Representative Council, through application, nomination and speech delivery. We believe it is vital at this point, that students are supported and guided in this journey towards their final year at Primary School. In the learning space the teachers will be unpacking what Student Leadership looks like at St Monica's and how all students can contribute in some way to the life of our whole school community.

Have a great week.

Yours sincerely,

**Louise O'Donnell**  
Principal



The School Opal card's new online application for relevant parents and students travelling in the Opal public transport region was launched on Monday 2 November.

*The application can be found at*  
**[transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students)**

Just like current paper travel passes, the School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days. However, the School Opal card makes travel simpler, because now students don't need multiple application forms and passes if they use different transport operators within the Opal network.

**Students with school travel passes this year will not need to apply for a School Opal card unless they are changing schools, campus, their home address or moving from Year 2 to 3 or Year 6 to 7.**

Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to your school for the beginning of the first term in 2016.

More information will follow in the next few weeks.

### **2015 ANNUAL SCHOOL FINANCIAL / ADMINISTRATION ROLLOVER**

The Annual School Financial Rollover will be taking place on  
**Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th December (Week 11).**

Please note that there will be ***limited services available from the school office*** on these days.

**It would be appreciated if only phone calls of an urgent nature are made to the office while the Rollover is in progress. Thank you.**

### **OUTSTANDING SCHOOL FEES**

Unless you have an arrangement with the school, all school fees should now have been paid. If you still have outstanding school fees, please call the school office ***immediately*** to discuss this with the Principal.

**Please note that all outstanding school fees must be finalised by Tuesday 8 December 2015.**

## MERIT AWARDS

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



<b>ES1:</b>	Siria Mondinelli, Kristian Romic, Abbi Meale, Matthew Johnson
<b>Year One:</b>	Aaliyah Assaf, Kwaku Boakye, Ahmad El Merhabi
<b>Year Two:</b>	Alexandra Santos, Emma O'Rourke, Jacob Kandalauft, Poppy Sloane
<b>Stage 2:</b>	Christian Dib, Marley Puyat, Matilda-Rose Hall, Hayden Herder-Beke, Emma Halamkova, Amelia Furjanic, Merna El Merhabi, Ainsley Mitchell, Christian Kandalauft, Alexis Chang, Pinar Helena Unver, Jessica Crowle, Kayla Grzelak, Manraj Kahlon, Sandra Chirchir, Garbhan Sciacca, Rachel French, Samika Seepersad, Akwasi Boakye
<b>Stage 3:</b>	Natasha Muttoo, Victoria Kassis, Eddie Tran, Marcus Trimbounas, Brendan Pospischil, Erica Crame, Brandon Lukic.

Recently St Monica's received a very generous \$1200 grant from the Telstra Kids Fund for our Project Based Learning program. This grant is part of Telstra's yearly donations supporting local communities and projects for kids.



Mrs Sonia Noonan (Mattheas and Rafael's mother) nominated our school and we are very grateful for thinking of our school and putting us forward.

We are thrilled to receive this grant and we intend to use these funds to purchase an IPAD or Digital Cameras for the St Monica's students to use in their PBL projects.

Thank you so much Mrs Noonan!

### The Youth Eco Summit [Y.E.S]

On the 21st of October a group of Stage Three and Stage Two students went to the Youth Eco Summit. The students participated in a number of activities. The first activity that the students participated in was a talk about worms where the students got to make their own worm farm. Then they moved onto an activity about making the Parramatta River swimmable again.

After that the group went to a science expo which had multiple workshops from organisations about everything from Biology to Physics. This is where the students created a trilha celum, which is a container that collects the evaporated water and transfers it back to the plant. The students then went to a workshop about how to make an aboriginal style stone axe. Many thanks to Mr Unver and Mrs Pospischil for accompanying us on the excursion.

### Nail Polish

A reminder to all girls that **nail polish is not to be worn to school**. Permission was given for wearing nail polish for one week after the Fete but it is now time for this to be removed.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the Haddad Family who were the winners of the final fete raffle which was drawn on 23 October.

### Mathematic Assessment Interviews (MAI) Online Bookings

Interviews will be held next year  
(Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 January 2016  
(Staff Development Days) for students in Years 1-6.

Parents will need to book their children in for these  
interviews via our **ONLINE BOOKINGS**.

Instructions will sent home closer to the date.

**Bookings will open on Monday 23 November and  
will close on Wednesday 9 December.**



**College Open  
Morning Tour  
Monday  
November 16, 2015**

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on November 16, 2015 the last tour of the year.

Tour the College and discover why a Mercy Education is treasured for life and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team. The College is now enrolling for 2017.

Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) to reserve your place or contact the Registrar 8838 1222 to discuss how your daughter can be a Mercy Girl.



Thank you to the students who helped at our school fete. They were presented with a Merit Award at this week's assembly.

Thank you to Samira Hekeik, Aidan and Natasha Muttoo whose names were omitted from the last newsletter.



**Thank You!**

## **SKOOLBAG INSTRUCTIONS FOR WINDOWS USERS**

**A complete list of instructions can be viewed on the front page of the school website.**

### **For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:**

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.

**Important—Working With Children Check**

Parent helpers are required to complete the **Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta Online Child Protection training module for Volunteers**.

This module must be updated **every 2 years**.



Please go to <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training>

Parents are also required to complete the **NSW Working With Children Check for Volunteers**.

Please go to [www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au) and click on the blue square with the gold star “Start Here” and then follow the prompts. This check is free for volunteers and is valid for 5 years.

The links for both of these modules are also on the front page of our school website.

**Please ensure that both of these are completed BEFORE you volunteer.** Parents who have not completed these checks are not eligible to assist in the classroom or on excursions. Thank you for your co-operation with this important matter.

**ARIA MUSIC**

Quality investment in your child's future

Would your child like to learn Guitar or Keyboard? Please email: [ariamusicsschool@gmail.com](mailto:ariamusicsschool@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.

**Guitar Classes!**

Days: **Wednesday** lunchtime  
Time: 12:30pm-1:30pm  
Location: The Community Room

**Keyboard Classes!**

Day: **Tuesday** lunchtime  
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!!

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

**The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta wants to hear from you**

If you or someone close to you has suffered **ANY** abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us.

Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options.

**You can contact us on:**

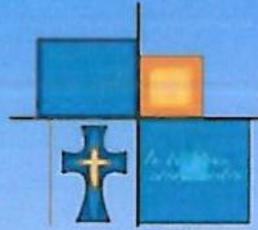
Phone: (02) 9933 0233  
Web: [www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding](http://www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding)  
Mail: PO BOX 3066, North Parramatta NSW 1750

For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact  
**NSW Police on 1800 333 0000**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO REMOVE A STUDENT FROM ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta, has developed a policy relating to the notice required from parents to terminate their child/children's enrolment in the schools of the Parramatta Diocese. In part this policy states that “A term's notice (10 weeks) in writing must be given to the principal before the removal of a student or a full term's fees will be paid. The notice can be given anytime during the term for the next term.” This means that unless the school receives a term's notice then no pro rata adjustment will be given for part term tuition.

Notice in writing will be accepted at anytime during Term 4 in relation to the following year's enrolment. In this circumstance the requirement for 10 week's notice will be waived.



ST MONICA'S  
**ART EXHIBITION**

Opening Night:  
**Wednesday 11th  
November, 2015**

**YEAR 3, 4, 5**

**6-8PM**

**DRESS: SMART CASUAL  
IN THE LIBRARY LEARNING SPACE**



**GUEST SPEAKER**  
**JOHNNY  
ROMEO**

[WWW.STMONICASPARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU](http://WWW.STMONICASPARRA.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU)