

DIARY DATES

Week 10

Thursday 31 March

- 9:15 am ES1 & Stage 1 Mass
- Swimming Championships at Homebush

Friday 1 April

- Dance Fever
- Theme Lunch -Sausage Sizzle
- Mufti Day—hamper donations

Week 11

Monday 4 April

- 8am-9:30am PBL Stage 3
- ES1 2017 enrolments close
- Pow Wow 9am-10:30am
- Whole School Annunciation Liturgy

Tuesday 5 April

- Uniform Shop **CLOSED** for stocktake
- 5pm Online QCS Survey closes

Wednesday 6 April

- 8am-9:30am PBL Stage 2

Thursday 7 April

- 9:15am Stage 2 Parish Mass

Friday 8 April

- 9:15am Stage 3 Parish Mass
- Dance Fever
- Term 1 ends

TERM 2 - Week 1

Monday 25 April

- Anzac Day—Public Holiday

Tuesday 26 April

- Term 2 commences
- Mother's Day Wrapping

Thursday 28 April

- School Photos—Students to wear Summer Uniform

Friday 29 April

- Athletics Carnival — Barton Park, North Parramatta
- Bingo Night



Monica's Matters

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

Phone: 9630 3697
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Alleluia, Alleluia, He is Risen, Alleluia

These are the words that echoed across our faith community nearly two thousand years ago in Jerusalem, and again in 2016 in our own lives.

As people of faith we know that the resurrection of Jesus is at the very heart of our beliefs. We know that the resurrection of Jesus was:

- ♦ Goodness prevailing over evil;
- ♦ Love prevailing over hate;
- ♦ Hope prevailing over despair.

Each year with the Easter celebration of the resurrection of Jesus, we are again called to bring alive goodness, love and hope into our own lives.

This morning Stage 3 students led our school community in prayer to celebrate Jesus' life and the gift of hope and new life which He gave to us all when He died on the cross and rose from the dead.

As we move through these coming weeks, I pray that the Easter spirit of joy and celebration be with us. May we continue to feel Jesus alive amongst our families, our friends, our school and our community today and always!

It has certainly been a challenging term as far as the health of our staff. Many of our teachers have had leave due to sickness during the term. Every effort has been made to get the same teacher to replace a teacher in their absence. A number of our relief teachers work part-time in other schools and are only available two or three days each week.

When your child's teacher is away the teacher's program and day book is made available to the relief teacher. Teachers in each stage work closely together and they will always liaise with the relief teacher so that good teaching and learning continues and routines are kept in a teacher's absence.

Over the next week all teachers will have a day to plan the learning for Term 2 with their stage partner/s. The teachers will review all their assessment data for their students and plan for individual students. The teachers will be at school and will plan the day for the relief teacher. We thank you for your support in this matter.

As this is the last newsletter for Term 1, I would like to thank the children for all their hard work — particularly in remembering our rules of being respectful, safe and a learner. I especially want to commend the Year 6 students who have stepped up throughout the term in assisting their Kindergarten buddies, attending to important school visitors, being tour guides, leading school assemblies and prayer, and opening and closing school gates. I would also like to thank you the parents for your continued support in working together for the benefit of your children. Finally, I would like to thank the staff for their commitment to providing quality teaching for the students at St Monica's. Have a safe and well-earned rest during the school holidays.

Yours sincerely,

Louise O'Donnell
Principal



CHANGE OF MASS DATE FOR STAGE ONE

Father Fernando has had to cancel the Stage One Mass which was scheduled for Tuesday 5 April. **Early Stage One** and **Stage One (Years 1 and 2)** will now be attending the Parish Mass **this Thursday 31 March at 9:15am.**



QCS SURVEY

Thank you to those families who have completed the QCS survey. To date we have had a response from **19 of the 60** families who were sent a survey. **It would be greatly appreciated if you could return the completed paper survey immediately so that the responses can be returned to the facilitators in Melbourne.** We were notified yesterday that due to technical difficulties there may have been a problem completing the online survey. The closing date for the **online survey** has now been **extended to Tuesday 5 April.** Thank you for participating in this important survey for our school.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Parents are advised that the Uniform Shop will be **CLOSED** next **Tuesday 5 April** for stocktake.

All students are to wear their Summer Uniform for School Photos on Thursday 28 April.

Students are to be wearing their **Winter Uniform** by Monday 9 May (Term 2, Week 3).

TERM 1 SCHOOL FEES

Term 1 school fees were due on Friday 18 March. Thank you to all those families who have paid their fees.

Any families who have not yet paid their fees are asked to contact the office immediately to arrange an appointment with Miss O'Donnell or Mrs Cattermole.

2017 ES1 ENROLMENTS

Applications closing next Monday 4 April

A reminder to families who may have children ready to commence ES1 in 2017 that the closing date for Enrolment Applications is next **Monday 4 April.** Enrolment applications may be downloaded from the website or you may collect a form from the school office. First round interviews with Miss O'Donnell and Father Fernando will be conducted at the start of Term 2.

SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - 'Working With Children Check' for volunteers

The School Athletics Carnival will be held on **Friday 29 April 2016 (Term 2, Week 1)** at Barton Park, (Gladstone Street, North Parramatta). Please note the *back-up date* for the Carnival is *Friday 6 May 2016.*

Parent helpers/volunteers are reminded that a '**Working With Children Check**' for volunteers as well as the **Online Training Module** must be completed **prior** to volunteering at school events. Links for the 'Working With Children Check' and the Online Training Module can be found on the front page of the school website.

GIRLS	BOYS
Summer	Summer
Short-sleeved St Monica's shirt	Short-sleeved St Monica's shirt
Culottes	Navy blue shorts
Navy Socks	Navy Socks
Black school shoes	Black school shoes
Winter	Winter
Short-sleeved shirt	Short-Sleeved Shirt
Long sleeved shirt (optional)	Long Sleeved shirt (optional)
Culottes / Long navy pants	Long Navy pants
Navy Sloppy Joe (optional)	Navy Sloppy Joe (optional)
School Jacket	School Jacket
Navy winter stockings	Navy Socks
Black school shoes	Black school shoes
Sport	Sport
Short-Sleeved Shirt	Short-Sleeved Shirt
Sports Shorts	Sports Shorts
Tracksuit Pants/School Jacket	Tracksuit pants/School Jacket
White Socks	White Socks
Joggers (predominantly white)	Joggers (predominantly white)
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	

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School photographs will be held on **Thursday 28 April.**

Ordering envelopes will be sent home with each child shortly. Please take the time to read the instructions for ordering photos. Please note that **no change** will be available from the school office.



Regardless of the weather, students are to wear their SUMMER UNIFORM for the school photos.

Curriculum News

Merit Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received Merit Awards.



Early Stage One:	(names will be published in the next newsletter)
Year One:	Anna Maria Anish, Lucia Biasin and Manuela Salib
Year Two:	Nika Naeme, Ashleigh North, Sanoy Bhattachan
Stage 2:	Jayden Albayeh, Sophia Elias, Galia Evangelista, Gabriel Bucur
Stage 3	Brendan Pospischil, Pinar Helena Unver

PBL Project Dates (Week 11—Term 1)

Stage 3 Monday 4 April 8am—9:30am

Stage 2 Wednesday 6 April 8am—9:30am



Happy birthday to the following students and staff who celebrate birthdays in **April**

Jason Grey	Sophie Stoker,	Jessica Ishak	Sofia El Gabaili
Ezekiel Logo	Liam Sciacca	Eva Sentas	Kwaku Boakye
Pinar Helena Unver	Charles Sentas	Brandon Lukic	Kael Sciacca
Brooke Emphield	Sakina Kunambi	Annabelle Boasiako	Nika Naeme
Jayden Wilson	Jacob Kandalaft	Gabriela Andrade	Akwasi Boakye
Staff: Miss O'Donnell			

Attendance Matters

Over the past five years I have strongly promoted and encouraged all students to aim for full attendance. The teachers and I are continually working to improve our students' full attendance and I would like to take this opportunity to again involve you as parents.

In order to support this aim we would ask you to:

1. Always encourage prompt daily arrival in time for our morning assembly at **8:50am**.

Every minute counts... Last week we had a total of 41 children who either arrived late for school or left early. Bear in mind this was only a four day week.

If your child is.....	Days of Education lost in a year
5 minutes late every day	3 days
10 minutes late	6.5 days
15 minutes late	10 days
20 minutes late	13 days
25 minutes late	19.5 days

2. Always encourage your child to come to school. One of the major causes of absenteeism is illness. However, it is alarming when students take the whole day off to attend a non urgent medical/dental appointment. ***When the appointment is not urgent please request for your GP/dental appointments to be made outside of school hours.***
3. Always encourage discussions with your child concerning any problems he/she may be having and inform classroom teachers. Teachers will always support and work with you and your child.
4. Always encourage holidays to be taken outside of term time.
5. If **TRAFFIC** is the reason given for the lateness, I urge you to allow more travel time so that your child arrives at school before 8:50am

JUNIOR SCIENCE ACADEMY

The Junior Science Academy is a program offered by Access Macquarie Limited to help children develop their understanding of science concepts and knowledge. It aims to support their science understanding and enhance and extend their school science learning.

To find out more, visit: www.juniorscienceacademy.com.au

The Junior Science Academy is supported by Faculty of Science academic staff at Macquarie University and delivered by final semester student teachers or newly qualified teachers.

Topics include;

- Electricity
- Chemistry: Change, Mixtures and Pure Substances
- Beginner Coding
- Science is Real (for children in year 1)
- Energy

Children may attend any day or days of each program, or all days. Our program runs from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Drop-off is from 8.30am to 9.30am and pick-up is from 4.30pm to 5.30pm at the Macquarie University campus, North Ryde.

Drop-off and pick-up times are supervised.

Please see website for more details, including the activities on each day, and to book your child's place for the upcoming school holidays. Please share with colleagues, friends and family who you think could be interested.

We hope to see you in a few weeks! The Junior Science Academy team

School Opal Cards

Please note that all School Opal Cards have now been distributed to schools and students.

Students who have not received their pass can forward an email to The Concessions Team at concessions@transport.nsw.gov.au with the subject heading "**Pass not received**" providing the following details:

- Student full name
- DOB
- Address
- School

All students that have applied for a new pass through our website (<http://transportnsw.info/school-students>) will have their pass sent to the nominated address. Please allow 7-10 business days from the date you receive the approved email before the School Opal card is despatched to the address.

Write4Fun - closing date has been extended until Sunday 10 April 2016!

ENTRY DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED!

You now have until Sunday 10th April to enter! What do you have to do to win?

Enter your best 16 line (or less) poem or 500 word (or less) short story in the Write4Fun Schools Writing Competition to be in the running for the great cash and prizes on offer. Visit www.write4fun.net

Write a story you like to read or a poem that makes laugh or cry. If you love reading it over and over, chances are we will too :-)

Enter today by [website](#), [email](#), or fax (07 5574 3644).

Or **Mail your entries** to PO Box 2734, Nerang DC, QLD 4211

Happy Writing!

Are you interested in playing Rugby?

North Rocks Rugby Union club are urgently seeking boys who will be turning 11 or 12 in 2016. The team trains at Kingsdene Oval on Felton Road in Carlingford, and plays a home and away competition on Sundays. All new players will receive free shorts and socks. Jersey is supplied by the club and returned at the end of the season.

We can even help with second hand boots! Please contact Neil Joseph on 0418113160 if you are interested or email njoptus@optusnet.com.au. Our club website can be found here: <https://www.northrocksjuniorrugby.com/>

Hills Community Aid
Open Day
 @ Learning in the Hills
& Family Fun Day
Free
19th April
 Tuesday 10am - 1pm
 @ Balcombe Heights Estate
 92 Seven Hills Road
 Baulkham Hills.

What's On:

- Sausage Sizzle by Rotary Club Norwest Sunrise
- Drum Beats • GIANTS Big Kick • Police
- Fire Engine • FREE Arts and Crafts for children
- Open Class Rooms with Painting, Dressmaking, Knitting, Arts and Crafts • Devonshire Teas
- Book Sale • Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Service







FOR MORE INFORMATION ☎ 02 9639 8620 ✉ enq@hca.org.au 🌐 www.hca.org.au

Book Character Parade!

There will be a **Book Character Parade** this year during 3rd term in August.

Details will follow in next term's newsletters.

Mrs Sharon Boulous



Book Covering

We would really appreciate anyone who could take a bundle of books to cover from the office.



I will have the contact cut and ready to use.

Thank you.


Mrs Sharon Boulous

Cancer Council NSW Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to make fruit and veggie snacks.

Snacks are an important part of a healthy diet for active children. And a great way to serve fruit and veg!




Try some of the following fun, nutritious snacks to help your kids eat more fruit and veg.

For more great ideas and recipes visit eatittobeatit.com.au.

- Raw veggie sticks with homemade or shop-bought dip.
- Pumpkin scones or veggie pancakes.
- Celery boats (filled with reduced fat cream cheese + sultanas dotted on top).
- Fruit frozen paddle pops (thread pineapple wedges or banana halves on a stick and freeze).
- Apple crumble (stewed apple + muesli, baked).
- Poppletana (unsalted popcorn + dried apple + sultana = nibble mix).

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.


Health
 Western Sydney
 Local Health District

Eat It To Beat It

If you have read this newsletter and you would like to put your children's names in the draw for Parramatta Eels caps and drink bottles, please write their name on a small piece of paper and place it in the box outside the Teacher's Workroom. The draw will be held on Thursday morning.

Please do not put this notice on Facebook and notify other parents. It is strictly for parents who have taken the time to read this newsletter.

Louise O'Donnell, Principal

Recycling

Parents are invited to send in small boxes, containers etc for recycling.



Please place in containers outside the lift up in the Learning Space.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thursday 31 March | * 9:15am ES1 and Stage One—attending Parish Mass |
| Friday 1 April | * Mufti Day (Trivia Night)
Students to wear suitable clothes and joggers for sport
* Theme Lunch—Sausage Sizzle |
| Monday 4 April | * 2017 ES1 enrolments close
* 8am-9:30am PBL Product Launch—Stage 3
* 10:15am Annunciation Liturgy |
| Tuesday 5 April | * Uniform Shop CLOSED for stocktake
* 5pm—Online Survey closes for QCS Survey |
| Wednesday 6 April | * 8am-9:30am PBL Product Launch—Stage 2 |
| Friday 8 April | * Term 1 ends |

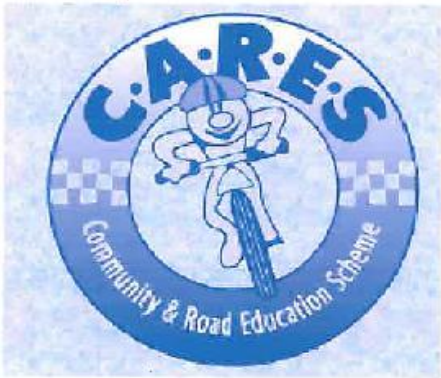
School Holidays

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 25 April | * Anzac Day Public Holiday |
| Tuesday 26 April | * Term 2 commences
* Mother's Day wrapping (Mother's Day Stall Monday 2 May) |
| Thursday 28 April | * School Photos—Students to wear SUMMER UNIFORM |
| Friday 29 April | * Athletics Carnival, Barton Park, Gladstone Street,
North Parramatta |

Easter Hat Parade



Visit our Media Galleries on the School Website for more photos



AUTO PLACE X PETER BROCK DR, PROSPECT

TUESDAY 19TH APRIL 2016

10AM – 2PM

Come along during the school holidays and ride in a safe environment with real traffic lights.

Bring your own bike and helmet

FREE Face Painting

Parking is on site and free



Bring a picnic

Sausage sizzle and drinks

Adult Supervision required

O P E N

D A Y



Photos from today's Resurrection Liturgy



More photos on the school website (Media Galleries)



CatholicCare Social Services **SOLO PARENT SERVICES**

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM—BLACKTOWN

For men and women who grieve the death of their spouse or partner.



Tuesdays fortnightly: 05th April — 12th July 2016

An opportunity for those who are widowed to further understand and come to terms with the many ways in which grief impacts on their lives.

An opportunity to ask questions, explore and learn more about the ways in which grief unfolds and how best to deal with the unsuspecting challenges and difficulties of the uncharted waters of this long and painful journey.

**WHEN WE ARE LISTENED TO WITH EMPATHY, WE ARE CONSOLED IN
OUR GRIEF, OUR LONELINESS IS ALLEVIATED AND
CONNECTIONS ARE CREATED AMONGST US.**

Eight Workshops

Introduction and Overview of Program

Physical Effects of Grief

Images and Frameworks for the Grieving Process

Dealing with Intense Emotions

Social Effects of Grief

Seasons and Tasks of Grief

Is it Grief or Depression?

Continuing Bonds with the Deceased and Closing Ritual

VENUE: 38 Prince St (cnr First Ave)
Blacktown

DAY/TIME: 10.30 am — 12.30 pm
Tuesdays. Fortnightly
05th April - 12th July

FEE: \$5.00 per Session

FACILITATOR: Rita Chater

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Ph. 8822 2222

soloparentservices@ccss.org.au