



Week 7

Wednesday 8 June

- 7pm POSMS Meeting
Literacy focus - reading & writing

Friday 10 June

- Dance Fever—sport uniform
- School Financial Audit

Week 8

Monday 13 June

- Queen's Birthday—Public Holiday

Tuesday 14 June

- 7pm Communion Meeting for **PARENTS only**
- Uniform Shop 8:30am-9:30am

Wednesday 15 June

- ICAS Spelling Stages 2 & 3

Thursday 16 June

- 9am Online bookings CLOSE
- 9:15am Stage 3 Parish Mass
- Semester 1 reports sent home

Friday 17 June

- Dance Fever

Saturday 18 June

- 5pm Commitment Mass for First Communion

Sunday 19 June

- 9am Commitment Mass for First Communion

Monday 20 June

Parent Teacher interviews this week

- Pow Wow 9am-10:30am

Tuesday 21 June

- Uniform Shop 8:30am-9:30am

Thursday 23 June

- 9:15am Stage 2 Parish Mass
- 4:30pm Dance Fever Interschool Challenge (Years 3-6)

Friday 24 June

- Dance Fever (ES1-Yr 2 parents welcome to attend their child's lessons—see page 4)

POSMS Meeting—tonight
Wednesday 8 June 2016

The meeting will commence at 7pm
in the Learning Space
Literacy Focus
(Reading and Writing)

All invited to attend

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

This year, Refugee Week is being celebrated from Sunday 19 June to Saturday 25 June. Refugee Week is an annual event which promotes positive images of refugees and celebrates the valuable contribution refugees make to Australian society. The week provides a platform where positive images of refugees can be promoted in order to create a culture of welcome throughout the country.

The theme for Refugee Week in 2016 is '*With courage let us all combine*'. The Refugee Council of Australia has taken this theme from the second verse of the national anthem to acknowledge and celebrate the courage of refugees and of people who speak out against persecution and injustice. It serves as a call for unity and for positive action, encouraging Australians to improve our nation's welcome to refugees and to acknowledge the skills and energy refugees bring to their new home.

It takes courage to be a refugee: As people who have faced persecution because of who they are (their race, nationality or membership of a persecuted group) or what they believe (their religion or political opinion), refugees need:

- The courage to hold firm to what they believe is right and just.
- The courage to leave all that is familiar and step into the unknown in search of peace and safety.
- The courage to keep going in the face of devastating loss, difficulty and despair.
- The courage to begin again, to work hard and to maintain hope in an unfamiliar land.

It takes courage to speak out against injustice: In a world where refugees experience persecution in their countries of origin and often face discrimination, difficulty and rejection in places where they seek refuge, speaking out often requires courage.

In Refugee Week, we are encouraged to acknowledge and celebrate the dedication and bravery of refugee leaders, advocates and citizens who draw attention to violations of human rights, who support people at their time of greatest need and who challenge callous indifference to the suffering of others.

During Refugee Week we at St Monica's will focus on a different aspect each day.

This will include:

- focusing on who refugees are and why they have come to Australia
- helping the students to understand the many challenges refugees face in coming to Australia
- celebrating the contribution refugees make to our community
- focusing on ways our community can provide a safe and welcoming environment for refugees

Sometimes it is hard for students (and adults) to comprehend refugee issues. It is important to humanise the issue and bring it closer to home. At school the teachers will be using images and reading stories to assist in developing the students' knowledge and appreciation of refugees and in fostering a spirit of empathy and goodwill towards others, especially those in need. I would encourage all parents to engage in conversation with their child during Refugee Week so that together we can continue to create a culture of welcome at St Monica's together.

Source Refugee Council 2016

Yours sincerely,

Louise O'Donnell
Principal



The Refugee Council has released the following data in the lead up to Refugee Week

Statistics at a Glance

- ♦ 1,153,296 refugees are in need of resettlement. These refugees are divided (by region of asylum) between the Middle East and North Africa (369,334 people, 32.0%), Africa (391,939 people, 34.0%), Asia (169,559 people, 14.7%), Europe (214,972, 18.7%) and the Americas (7,492, 0.6%).
- ♦ Australia resettled 11,570 refugees in 2014. It was third overall and first on a per capita basis and relative to national GDP. When the combined impact of refugee recognition and resettlement is considered, Australia contributed to 0.43% of the initial or further protection offered to refugees in 2014. By this measure, Australia was ranked 22nd overall, 27th on a per capita basis and 43rd relative to national GDP.
- ♦ Of the 13,768 Refugee and Humanitarian visas issued by Australia in 2013-14, 6,501 were part of the offshore Refugee Program, 4,515 were offshore Special Humanitarian Program visas and 2,572 were permanent Onshore Protection visas. The offshore Refugee Program included 1,052 Woman at Risk visas and 717 In-Country Special Humanitarian Program visas. Of those issued visas, 49.6% were from Asia, 35.2% from the Middle East and 15.3% from Africa. During 2013-14, the Australian Government received 72,162 offshore Refugee and Humanitarian visa applications (35,156 for the Refugee Program and 37,006 for the Special Humanitarian Program). The Australian government has also committed to settling an additional 12,000 refugees from Iraq and Syria which is expected to arrive over the next two years.
- ♦ The Refugee and Humanitarian Program made up 6.6% of the 239,036 permanent additions through migration in 2013-14. The total number of settler arrivals and onshore visas issued by migration category were: Family 64,242 (26.9%), Skill 128,744 (53.9%), Special Eligibility 718 (0.3%), Non-program Migration 29,532 (12.4%) and Refugee and Humanitarian 15,800 (6.6%). Humanitarian arrivals peaked at 48.9% of Australia's settler intake in 1949-50 and exceeded 20% in 1948-49, 1950-51, 1979-80 and 1983-84.
- ♦ The total number of refugees settled in Australia between 1901 (when Australia gained independence) and June 2014 is estimated at 822,924. This figure includes 20,000 refugees settled as migrants before 1947 (Parliamentary Library estimate), 738,085 offshore arrivals since 1947 and 64,839 asylum seekers recognised as refugees.
- ♦ As at 29 February 2016, 1,753 people were held in closed immigration detention facilities in Australia, of whom 820 were asylum seekers who had arrived by boat. A further 576 asylum seekers were living in the community under community detention arrangements and 28,738 in the community on Bridging Visa E. Of those in closed detention facilities in Australia, 798 people had been detained for more than one year, of whom 454 had been detained for over two years. There were 65 children held in closed detention facilities in Australia, 289 in community detention arrangements and 4,043 in the community on Bridging Visa E. In addition, 1,600 asylum seekers were detained in Australian-funded Offshore Processing Centres – 470 in Nauru and 909 on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea. They included 50 children detained in Nauru.
- ♦ As at 31 March 2016, the Governments of Nauru and Papua New Guinea had completed initial refugee assessments for 2,028 asylum seekers transferred from Australia. Of these 1,367 (67.4%) were found to be in need of refugee protection. On Nauru, 866 (76.5%) of the 1,131 refugee determinations have been positive. On Manus Island (PNG), the refugee recognition rate is 55.8% (501 out of 897). While all refugees recognised on Nauru have been released from detention into community arrangements, on Manus Island only 59 recognised refugees had been released from detention as at 31 March 2016. There have been 752 voluntary returns and 224 forced returns since October 2013.
- ♦ On 4 April 2016 Immigration Minister Peter Dutton confirmed that of the 30,037 asylum seeker who are awaiting processing onshore after arriving by boat, 28,290 people are yet to have their cases processed, while about 1,700 have been forced to leave or have left voluntarily.

SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to Mr Greg Tyszkiewicz on the recent passing of his grandmother. Please keep the Tyszkiewicz family in your prayers.

NEW SIGN IN SYSTEM FOR VISITORS

All visitors and parent volunteers are now required to use the new sign in system which is located in the office foyer (**Daking Street entrance**). ***Any parent who intends volunteering at school is asked to use this entrance.*** It is also advised to allow an extra 15 minutes when initially signing in as you are required to enter information which takes time. You will receive a printed label which must be worn while you are on the school grounds. All visitors/parent volunteers must sign out before leaving the school. This system is in keeping with Child Protection Legislation.



SEMESTER ONE REPORTS

Reports will be sent home on Thursday 16 June. This year we will be adopting the new online CEDP FACES report. There will be a comment for Literacy, Numeracy and Religious Education and a final comment. Please ensure that you have booked a Parent Teacher interview with your child's teacher.

SCHOOL INTERVIEWS—Online Bookings for Parent/Teacher/Student interviews

As advised, online bookings for Parent/Teacher/Student interviews opened on Monday 6 June. Please visit www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the code **55nb8** to make your bookings.

Bookings will CLOSE on Thursday 16 June at 9am. An instruction sheet was sent home to each family and can be found on page 6 of the newsletter and also under School Notes—Whole School on the website.

KISS AND DROP

Unfortunately we still have parents who are not adhering to the guidelines. Our children and their safety is our main priority. Children are especially vulnerable around vehicles and roads due to their size and capabilities.

For the safety of all our students please observe the following;

- Students must always exit the car **via the driver's side only** to allow other cars to pass on the left.
- **Parents are not to get out of the car** to get bags out of the boot or to farewell children. Bags should be with the children ready to exit the car. Children are to farewell parents **before** getting out of the car.
- Children walk into the school grounds via the gate.
- Parents are always welcome to park their car and walk their child/children into the school grounds if they are not able to comply with the safety requests in the "Kiss and Drop" zone.



Thank you to the parents who obey these guidelines every day.

Working With Children Information (Private Tutors or Coach)

Parents or carers who engage the services of a private tutor or coach have an important role to play in helping to keep their children safe. The Certificate for Self Employed People will no longer be valid after their expiry date and the certificate holders will need to apply for a new Working With Children Check. From 1st April 2016, adults who provide private tuition or coaching services to children are required to have a Working With Children Check. There are some **exemptions**, including volunteering by a parent or close relative with a team, program or other activity in which their child usually participates in or is a team member.

Parents or carers should ask their child's tutor or coach for their name, date of birth and their Working With Children Check number. They must then go online and verify the tutor or coach is not barred from working with children in NSW. Verifying that a tutor or coach can work with children is quick and easy – just follow the simple steps at www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/parentscheckthecheck. If a person is barred, interim barred or not found then you cannot engage them in child-related work.

PARRAMATTA COUNCIL

Please be advised that Parramatta Council are currently undertaking a blitz around school zones. Please obey all signage to avoid a parking infringement. Parents are also advised that it is against the law for children under 12 years of age to be travelling in the front seat of a vehicle.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School photographs were sent home with your child this week.

Parents also have the opportunity of purchasing the **Whole School Photo** and **Leadership Team/School Ambassadors' photos** at a cost of **\$17 each**. The photos are on display outside the school office or you can visit www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the code **FEF 88K ZMQ** to view and purchase the photos. Orders may be placed online or you can collect an order form/envelope from the school office.

This offer is available until Wednesday 22 June 2016.

WHOOPING COUGH

There have been reported cases of Whooping Cough in **Stage 2**. Please visit the website link below. If your child is showing any of the listed symptoms please see your doctor *immediately*.

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/whoopingcough/Pages/default.aspx>

ANNUAL SCHOOL FINANCIAL AUDIT—this Friday 10 June

The Annual School Financial Audit will take place this Friday 10 June. Your patience is appreciated as *limited office services will be available on the day*.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

A reminder that **Monday 13 June** is a public holiday. Students do not attend school on this day. School resumes on Tuesday 14 June.

MORNING PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

Parents are reminded that supervision on the playground commences at **8:20am daily**. Students should not be arriving at school before this time unless they are enrolled at the Catholic Out of School Hours Care facility. *Supervision after school ceases at 3:30pm.*

LATE ARRIVALS

The morning school bell is at **8:50am**. Students arriving at school after this time must be signed in by a parent/guardian at the school office. Please note the school gates in the car park are closed at **9:00am** each morning.

SPARE CHANGE OF CLOTHING

It is advised that parents supply a spare pair of underwear in their child's schoolbag in case of an accident at school. Please be advised we only keep a small supply of infants underwear in the office. If your child is loaned underwear or clothing, could you please ensure it is laundered and returned to the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

STAGE 2 SOCCER GALA DAY

Thursday 30 June (Week 10) Students will return by 2:30pm. More details to follow.

STAGE 2 AND STAGE 3 PRODUCT LAUNCH

Stage 2 and Stage 3 will be holding their Product Launches on **Thursday 30 June (Week 10)** in their Stage Learning Space between 2pm and 4pm. Parents invited to attend.

PYJAMA / TRACKSUIT DAY

Pyjama/Tracksuit Day on **Friday 1 July** (last day of Term 2). More details to follow.

TALENT QUEST

Term 3, Week 4—**Thursday 11 August**. More details to follow.



Merit Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received Merit Awards.

Early Stage One:	Georgia Fernandes, Manda Lu
Year One:	Kristian Romic, Siria Mondinelli
Year Two:	Tina Kiaiefar, Ahmad El Merhabi
Stage 2:	Jake Chapman, Manraj Kahlon, Joshua North, Zac Michael, Jessica Dib, Kayla Grzelak, Alex Azar, Leonardo Macorig, Laetitia Hossack
Stage 3	Patrick Crowle, Chanel Azar, Andy Haddad, Ann-Marie Boujandy



Dance Fever Interschool Challenge (Years 3—6)

Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush

Please be reminded that the Dance Fever Showcase is coming up on **Thursday 23rd June (Week 9)** at Homebush. The theme for the costume for the show dance is 'School Rebels'. Dance Fever have suggested 'untidy' school uniforms. Further details will be provided to the students at the Dance Fever practice this Friday (week 7).

Please go to our school website—News & Events—School Notes—then choose Stage 2 or Stage 3 for the original note.

Dance Fever

Parents of students in ES1-Year 2 are invited to attend their Dance Fever lesson on Friday 24 June.

(Week 9)

11:50am—12:20pm (ES1 & Year 1)
12:20pm—12:50pm (Year 2)



Congratulations Storyteller Winner!

Our Year 5 student, Alexis Chang, was one of six finalists for the *2016 Weaving Stories Together—Sydney International Storytelling Conference*. All finalists were invited to tell their stories on Sunday 29th May, along with professional Adult Storytellers who also attended and presented at this event. Alexis had to submit a 2-6 minute video storytelling performance of a published or well-crafted original story. The students were encouraged to tell the story in their own words, to capture the essence of the story, rather than retell the story word for word. Alexis did a great job sharing her story against five other very capable writers and story tellers from around NSW. The winners were announced at the end of the day and we are very proud to announce that Alexis was the overall winner!

Staff Development Days

Monday 18 July (Term 3, Week 1)

Monday 10 October (Term 4, Week 1)

Monday 19 December (Term 4, Week 11)

Tuesday 20 December (Term 4 Week 11)

Soccer Gala Day

Thank you to all of the students and parents who attended the Stage Three Soccer Gala Day at Penrith last Thursday 2nd June.

A great day was had by all and the sportsmanship that was demonstrated by our representatives was outstanding. Thank you to Mrs Paley who organised and supervised teams on the day. Thank you also to Mr Tyszkiewicz for all the training and preparation of the teams leading up to the day.

A special thank you to Mr Sciacca for coordinating one of the teams and to Joshua Albayeh for displaying great leadership.



Friday 3 June 2016



THE EASY WAY TO BOOK SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held in **Week 9, Term 2, 2016**.

- *Students in ES1 and Year 1 **are not required** to attend the interviews with their parents.*
- *Students in Stages 2 and 3 **are required** to attend the interviews with their parents.*
- *Unfortunately at this time our Year 2 teachers will not be available for interviews. Parents will be notified once arrangements have been made.*

Bookings will OPEN on Monday 6 June 2016 at 9:00am.

Please use the code below. Do not use your last event's code.

For parents that do not have internet access, please contact the School Office for assistance with the bookings. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 9630 3697.

Interviews are strictly 15 minutes and spaces are limited.

Bookings must be finalised by **9:00am on Thursday 16 June 2016** when bookings for this event will **CLOSE**.

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit *your family*.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

55nb8

Go

Simply enter the code and press "Go"
**THIS CODE CHANGES – DO NOT USE
YOUR LAST EVENT'S CODE**



Enter your details



Select the teachers you wish to see



Select the appointment times that suit your family best



When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately – **Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly**

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close at **9:00am on Thursday 16 June 2016**.

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents who need to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9630 3697

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.

Term 2—Upcoming Events

Week 7

- Wednesday 8 June * 7pm POSMS Meeting—Literacy Focus: Reading & Writing
- Friday 10 June * Dance Fever (sport uniform)
- * School Financial Audit (Limited Office services today)

Week 8

- Monday 13 June * **Queen's Birthday—Public Holiday**
- Tuesday 14 June * Uniform Shop (8:30am-9:30am)
- * 7pm First Communion Meeting—Parents only
- Wednesday 15 June * ICAS Spelling (Stages 2 & 3)
- Thursday 16 June * 9am Online Parent/Teacher interviews bookings CLOSE
- * Semester One reports sent home.
- * 9:15am Stage 3 Parish Mass
- Friday 17 June * Dance Fever (sport uniform)
- Saturday 18 June * 5pm Commitment Mass—First Communion
- Sunday 19 June * 9am Commitment Mass— First Communion

Week 9

Parent / Teacher Interview Week

- Thursday 23 June * 9:15am Stage 2 Parish Mass
- * Dance Fever Challenge—Homebush (Years 3-6)
- 4:30pm for 5:30pm start
- Friday 24 June * Dance Fever
- (Parents of students in ES1-Year 2 are invited to attend their lesson
- 11:50am—12:20pm (ES1 & Year 1)** **12:20pm—12:50pm (Year 2)**

Week 10

- Thursday 30 June * 9:15am ES1 Parish Mass
- * **Stage 2** Soccer Gala Day (will be back by 2:30pm)
- * **Stages 2 & 3** Product Launch (2pm-4pm) Learning Space
- Friday 1 July * Dance Fever
- * Pyjama/ Tracksuit Day—more details to follow
- * Term 2 ends at 3:00pm

Term 3 - Week 1

- Monday 18 July * **Staff Development Day** (students do not attend school)
- Tuesday 19 July * School resumes for Term 3



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

PARTNERS IN
AUSTRALIA'S
FUTURE



In 2014, Catholic
school parents paid
\$3.1 billion in fees
to support their
children's education

764,000 students
attend **1,730** Catholic
schools, which
employ more than
91,000 staff

In 2014,
governments provided
\$7.5 billion
in funding
to support students in
Catholic schools

**Catholic
schools**
provide a balanced
and holistic
education



To meet growing demand
more than **100** new
Catholic schools
are planned for the
next five years

Catholic schools have
been part of Australia's
education story for
200 years

Find out more at
SchoolFundingFacts.com

Source: Funding data from My School data 2014. Other data from
Australian Government Department of Education and Training.
Authorised by Ross Fox, National Catholic Education Commission,
Level 2, 158 Gloucester St, Sydney

Catholic schools are
committed to
**creating safe
environments**
for all students,
teachers and families

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

PARTNERS IN

AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE



Understanding the facts on funding for Catholic schools

For 200 years, Catholic schools have educated children in Australia. Today, Catholic schools enrol more than 760,000 students in 1,730 schools across Australia.

It is important to understand the facts on funding for Catholic schools, which educate one in five Australian students across the country.

Catholic schools have a strong social justice mission to form well-rounded individuals who make a positive contribution to their local communities.

A strong Catholic education system contributes to a strong Australian community. All governments provide important funding for Catholic schools along with families who contribute to the costs of Catholic education through fees and fundraising.

According to the Australian Government's My School website, Catholic students receive, on average, 17 per cent less government funding than students in government schools.

Even when parent fees are taken into consideration, Catholic schools operate with roughly the same level of recurrent funding as government schools.

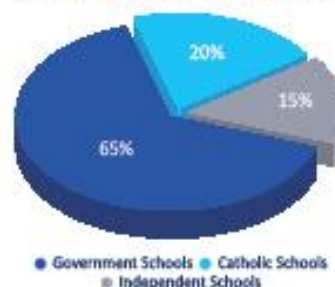
With similar resources per student, the Australian Catholic school system is among the best in the world, compared to Shanghai, Finland and Singapore on international tests in 2009, for student performance across all socioeconomic backgrounds.

Catholic schools save the taxpayer \$1.6 billion each year in recurrent funding and take the pressure off government schools.

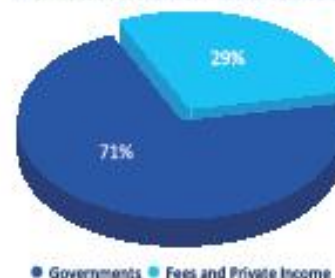
Catholic school parents also provide the majority of funding for capital works to build schools the government would otherwise have to fund – creating additional savings for governments and taxpayers.



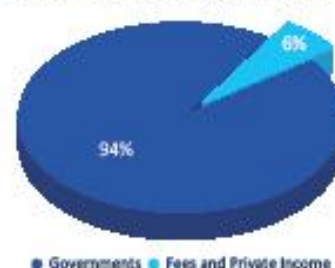
Percentage of students per schooling sector



How schools are funded - Catholic Schools



How schools are funded - Government Schools



Find out more at SchoolFundingFacts.com

Sources: My School funding data 2014;
Australian Bureau of Statistics, Schools, 2015.
Authorised by Ross Fox, National Catholic Education
Commission, Level 3, 156 Gloucester St, Sydney

Photos from the Stage 2 Lego PBL Incursion held on Tuesday 7 June



More photos are available on the website

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The Junior Science Academy is a program offered at Macquarie University 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 and our activities are fun and engaging.

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

Topics include;

- **The Science of Ancient Greece** (for children in years 4-6)
- **Crime Scene Investigation** (for children in years 5-6)
- **Chemistry: Change, Mixtures and Pure Substances** (for children in years 3-6)
- **Incredible Forces** (for children in years 2-3)
- **The Human Circulatory System** (for children in years 2-3)
- **Design and Build** (for children in years 3-4)
- **Rube Goldberg Machines** (for children in years 3-4)
- **The Earth and Solar System** (for children in years 2-4)

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.

Cost is \$120 per child per day.



www.juniorscienceacademy.com.au

The Junior Science Academy aims to encourage children to develop their understanding of how our world works. Supported by science experts at Macquarie University, the activities are designed to suit all primary school aged children.

Children are introduced to science concepts, participate in science based experiments and make friends in a safe and supervised environment at Macquarie University where they have access to its learning facilities.

Our programs run four times a year in the school holidays and we add and rotate topics each offering.

Drop-off: 8.30am to 9.30am (children are supervised)
Pick-up: 4.30pm to 5.30pm (children are supervised)
Cost: \$120 per child per day, including GST



ENROL ONLINE TODAY!

www.juniorscienceacademy.com.au/enrol

CONTACT DETAILS
Email: juniorscienceacademy@qu.edu.au
Phone: 02 9855 3130



ARIA MUSIC

Quality investment in your child's future

Would your child like to learn Guitar or Keyboard?

Please email: ariamusicschool@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

Music Lessons have the Power!

Develops musical talent
Develops self discipline
Encourages self esteem
Enhances co-ordination & concentration
Is lots of fun!!

Keyboard Classes!

Day: **Tuesday** lunchtime
Time: 12:30pm—1:30pm
Location: The Community Room

www.ariamusic.com.au

