

DIARY DATES

Term 4

Week 1

Thursday 12 October

- S2 Excursion

Friday 13 October

- Lucky Draw for Fete
- Dance Fever—Skipping
- 2pm Church Cleaning

Monday 16 October

- Pow Wow 9am-10:30am

Tuesday 17 October

- S1 Excursion

Friday 20 October

- Dance Fever—Skipping
- Lucky Draw for Fete

Monday 23 October

- Pow Wow 9am-10:30am

Friday 27 October

- World Teachers Day
- Dance Fever-Skipping
- Set up for the Fete
- Lucky Draw for Fete

Saturday 28 October

- St Monica's Fete

Monday 30 October

- Pow Wow 9am-10:30am

Wednesday 1 November

- All Saints Day

Thursday 2 November

- All Souls Day
- S3 Incursion

Friday 3 November

- Dance Fever—Skipping

Monday 6 November

- Pow Wow 9am-10:30am

Tuesday 7 November

- Melbourne Cup

School timetable

8:20am	Morning supervision
8:50am	Morning bell
10:40am—11:10am	Recess
12:50pm-1:30pm	Lunch
3:00pm	Dismissal
3:00pm—3:30pm	Afternoon supervision



# Monica's Matters

Web: [www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au)  
Email: [stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Phone: 8832 4100  
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Welcome back to you all as you return for the final term of the year. I have no doubt that the two week break, while all too short, was nevertheless an opportunity to relax and clear the mind of the previous term and regain some energy needed to get us through, what is typically, a very busy time of the year.

Term 4 looks set to be an action packed and exciting one, with plenty to keep us on our toes. We have a number of stages attending incursions and excursions over the next two weeks and we will commence the Dance Fever Skipping program this Friday. This program will be funded by the school partly through a grant.

Of course, the end of the school year is when students and teachers are working to achieve learning goals, consolidate their understanding of new concepts learnt and look ahead to new challenges, whether it be starting high school or moving to another year level. Teachers will be preparing school reports for the end of the term by observing student progress and assessing how each child has progressed throughout the semester. Everyone needs to persist to achieve goals and finish what they have set out to do at the beginning of the year. The ability to persist at a task and to see it through is one of the most important success skills that you can teach a child.

Every day, each of us faces times when we must persist, rather than take the easy option to just give in. In every stage, students must persevere in the face of frustration, when learning doesn't come straight away. When learning any new skill, we must be determined to carry on even when things get difficult or when it seems as if we are getting nowhere.

Parent expert, Michael Grose, has some important words of wisdom on the topic of persistence and explains that children need to be able to persist when school work gets hard or life gets tough. He says that children need what he calls the 'stickability' to work through difficulties and keep going when things don't go their way. He states that some children are more naturally predisposed to persistence than others. They have a determined, even competitive streak in their temperament, that doesn't allow them to give in. These children and young people can drive themselves very hard to succeed.

The good news is that parents and teachers can help to develop persistence in children. Research suggests that persistence is a temperamental factor that can be improved over time. Just as adults can promote persistence, they can also impede its development by making life too easy for children, so that they don't have opportunities to persist or hang in there.

Parents who allow children to stop work when it gets too hard, stay home from school for a minor reason or give up on a sport because they are not succeeding straight away are not doing their children any favours. They are depriving children of opportunities to develop persistence. Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty.

Parents can be a sounding board for children's gripes but they should show confidence in their ability to cope and get through difficulties. "You can do it!" is far more powerful in terms of promoting an attitude of persistence rather than "If it gets too hard you can try something easier".

Michael Grose suggests that the following four strategies will promote persistence in your children:

Develop a vocabulary of persistence - words like 'Hang tough', 'Work hard' and 'Hang in there' need to be part of their everyday vocabulary.

Point out to children when they stick at a task. Persistence generally pays off.

Help children to recall times when they experienced success by 'hanging in' when they were younger.

Talk about hard work with your children. To be successful they need to do things that are NOT fun or easy. While it would be good if all work and learning was fun, in reality, this is not always the case.

## St Monica's Parish Fete

Our Parish Fete is in three weeks time on **Saturday 28 October** and there are still many things to do in the lead up to the day. We need everyone in the community's support so that it is a successful day.

**Every family is expected to assist in some way in any of the following tasks:**

- **Collecting and returning stalls and poles from Christ the King School**, North Rocks (truck required & volunteers to load and unload). Any parent who is able to assist Mr Bill Unver next **Monday 16 October at 3:20pm** is asked to contact the office on 8832 4100.
- **Selling raffle tickets at Winston Hills Shopping Centre on Saturday 14 October / 21 October** (an hour or two) People can't say no to a child selling a raffle ticket!
- **Baking a slice or cake for the Country Kitchen**. Thank you to the ten volunteers so far.
- **Setting up stalls** on Friday 27 October (morning tea & lunch will be provided)
- **Packing away stalls** after 2:00pm on Fete day.

Please contact the Office if you can assist with any of the tasks listed

Trish Forsyth has created an online form to volunteer to work on a stall on the day of the fete. Instructions can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. Year 6 students may volunteer to work too, with parent permission, and we will assign them to a stall. The students complete a volunteer form too.

Thank you to Brett and Donna Bird (Zoe & Trinity Stage 3) for all their magnificent signage and for the fete pamphlets.

## Staffing News

Welcome back to Mrs Erin Turner after her maternity leave, Mrs Mary-Jo Mason and Mrs Cath Ungsuprasert after their Long Service Leave and Mrs Emily Harrison after her recent marriage.

Mrs Sharon Boulous has informed me that she is resigning from her position as Teacher Librarian at the end of this year. Sharon has been working at St Monica's for more than 25 years. Later on in the term we will formally farewell Mrs Boulous to thank her for her huge contribution to our school.

Miss Michelle Rosewell is on Long Service Leave for the next two weeks and Miss Catherine Shaw is replacing her.

Yours sincerely,

**Louise O'Donnell**  
Principal

### Term 4 Staff Development Days

Friday 17 November (Term 4, Week 6)  
Monday 18 December (Term 4, Week 11)  
Tuesday 19 December (Term 4 Week 11)

## School Fees

Any families who have not yet completed their 2017 School Fees payments and are not on a payment plan or arrangement are asked to contact the school office **immediately —8832 4100**.

## Have you returned your Raffle Tickets?

A reminder that all raffle tickets (**sold/unsold**) are due back at school this Friday 13 October.

## Tennis Lessons - Term 4

Mr Davidson has advised that Tennis Lessons will resume in **Week 2 of Term 4** (Tuesday 17 October).

## Lucky Draw

Congratulations to Mia Siemsen who was the winner of the second Lucky Draw for the Fete.

Next Lucky Draw—Friday 13 October.

**Congratulations** to the Alley family (Iryssa, ES1) on the birth of their baby daughter Kaliyah born on 7 September.

## Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the Kandalaft family (Christian S3 and Jacob S2A) on the recent passing of their grandmother (Mr Kandalaft's mother). Please keep the Kandalaft family in your prayers at this sad time.

### School Uniform Requirements

GIRLS	BOYS
<b>Summer</b> Polo Short-sleeved shirt Culottes Navy socks Black school shoes	<b>Summer</b> Polo Short-sleeved shirt Navy blue shorts Navy socks Black school shoes
<b>Sport</b> Short-Sleeved Shirt Sports Shorts Tracksuit Pants/School Jacket White socks Joggers (predominantly white)	<b>Sport</b> Short-Sleeved Shirt Sports Shorts Tracksuit pants/School Jacket White socks Joggers (predominantly white)
The <b>School Jacket</b> with crest may be worn at any time throughout the year The <b>School Hat</b> with crest is a <b>compulsory school item to be worn every day</b>	

Please ensure that **every article of your child's uniform is labelled** to avoid lost property.

School uniform items are available from  
**Oz Fashions,**  
 115-127 Parramatta Road  
 Granville  
 9897 3121.

On site parking available.

every learner every day

## When is sick too sick for school

If I am sick please call the school or write me a note to let the school know why I am not at school.

<p><b>Send me to school if ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ I have the symptoms of a cold or hayfever</li> <li>✓ I have a sprain, strain or pain and I can function (walk, talk and eat)</li> <li>✓ If I have asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc - school personnel are trained to manage my condition. Talk to the school about my health plan</li> <li>✓ I haven't vomited or had diarrhoea for 24 hours</li> </ul>	<p><b>Keep me home if ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ I have a temperature higher than 37 degrees</li> <li>✓ I am vomiting or have diarrhoea</li> <li>✓ My eyes are red, and crusty (conjunctivitis)</li> <li>✓ I have influenza (flu) - combination fever, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches</li> <li>✓ I have the symptoms of an infectious disease. Go to NSW Health - A-2 of infectious diseases for more information</li> </ul>
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 Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

## **Fete Volunteer Commitment Sign Up – Att: All Families**

This year, to make things easier, we have set up an online sign-up program (SignUp.com) for you, the volunteers, to be able to enter your own details and select the stall and time slot(s) to assist with on the day of the Fete.

We need assistance from every parent in the school - even just 1 hr of your time - to ensure a successful School and Parish Fete.

### **Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:**

1. **Click this link** to go to the invitation page on SignUp.com:  
<http://signup.com/login/entry/656982168582748042>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com and SignUp.com **does not share your email address with anyone.**
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders.

**Remember you can sign up for more than one stall as the day is broken in 1hr timeslots.**

**Tip: Get in early to make sure you get your preferred stall and timeslot!**

Please contact Trish Forsyth 0402 337 075 if you have any problems or questions about the process.

## Raffle Tickets

Our raffle tickets are a big money spinner for our fete and I know you would agree that the prizes are worthwhile and the tickets affordable at **just \$1:00 each**. Thank you to the families that have returned their sold tickets and to the parents who have taken more than one booklet. We still have more booklets available at the office.

**So far we have sold:**

NUMBER OF BOOKS Sold and returned	NUMBER OF BOOKS To be returned
<b>63</b>	<b>87</b>

**Please do not dispose of unsold raffle tickets/books** as the school is to account for every booklet. Raffle tickets have been assigned to each family who has given consent to receive raffle tickets. If any families would like to receive an extra book, please contact the school office.

Thank you to those families who have returned their Raffle Ticket Books and money.

**A reminder to families that all raffle ticket books must be returned to the school office sold/unsold by Friday 13 October 2017.**

In the lead up to the fete I have secured dates for raffle tickets to be sold at Winston Hills Shopping Centre on **Saturday 14 October & Saturday 21 October**. Northmead Shopping Centre has been covered but we are in **desperate need of assistance for Winston Hills**.

In previous years the families that have been able to assist with this activity have been very successful selling lots of books and at the same time promoting our fete day. **If any family is able to assist for a few hours at Winston Hill Shopping Centre, please contact the Office or complete the form below.**



### Extra Stalls

If any parent knows of anyone that would like a stall at the fete to sell their product, we would be happy for them to join us. **A \$50 donation is required to secure a site**. Please contact the office.

### Lucky Draws

There will be a lucky draw each week in the lead up to the fete. **Any family who has sent in their sold raffle tickets (complete book) is in the running to win a prize just because you have returned your raffle tickets.** Lucky Draws will be held on **13 October, 20 October and 27 October**.

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## Raffle Ticket Selling Volunteers

### Winston Hills Shopping Centre (9:00am – 1:00pm)

Saturday 14 October	Time Available:	Family Name:
Saturday 21 October	Time Available:	Family Name:



## Bragging rights .....

Congratulations to Madeline and Chelsea Lewis who received MVP (Most Valuable Player) for their first year in representative basketball playing for Hills Hornets.

Abbi Lewis (ex-student) auditioned and has received a place as an Associate or Invitee with the Australian Ballet School, allowing her access to many future training opportunities and the possibility of full-time classical ballet training in Melbourne.

Congratulations to Chelsea Lewis who attained 11th place in the 11yr Girls 800m at the MacKillop Trials on 18th September.



### Important message from Busways—School Opal Card

An important requirement of School Opal card is the need for students to **Tap On and Tap Off** when they travel to and from school.

Opal data gathered by tapping on and off is used to determine demand for bus services. **If students don't Tap On and Tap Off, services may be cancelled due to the lack of recorded patronage.**

With this in mind, we ask for your assistance in reminding your students that tapping on and off at the beginning and end of each trip is one of the conditions of using a School Opal card. This in turn helps us ensure we are able to provide the appropriate level of service to your students.

To further promote the use of School Opal, **Busways will also be conducting checks on School Opal cards over the coming months. All students travelling on buses to and from school will be required to show their card and ensure they Tap On and Tap Off every time they catch the bus.** Students without an Opal Card will be provided with a brochure to take home identifying how they can get an Opal Card.



### Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolments for Year 7 2019

**Catherine McAuley Westmead is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2019. The closing date for Year 7 2019 applications 1<sup>st</sup> round offers is Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018.**

Parents and their daughters have the opportunity to tour the school campus at one of our upcoming school tours specifically for Year 7 2019 applicants, but open to any year group.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 9.15 – 11am**

These mornings will provide parents and students with the opportunity to tour our school on a normal school day. You will be able to view our school grounds and facilities, go into classrooms and meet our students and teachers. Enrolment packs will be available on the day.

Please contact our School Reception on 9849 9100 to book a place on a school tour.

**Save The Date** – The Catherine McAuley Westmead School Open Afternoon will be held from 4.00pm – 7.00pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

## Tennis Lessons are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings

1st Group 8am–8:30am    2nd Group 8:30am–9am

Mr Davidson advises that there are **available spaces**.

If your child is interested in tennis lessons, please see Mr Davidson on the playground on Tuesday/Thursday mornings. Thankyou.

## 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:        **Tuesday** lunchtime  
Time:        12:30pm-1:30pm  
Location:    The Community Room

### ***Keyboard Classes!***

Day:         **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!!

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

## Notice of Intention to Remove a Student from St Monica's School

The Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta Office has developed a Policy relating to the notice required from parents to terminate their children's enrolment in the schools of the Parramatta Diocese. In part this states :

**"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 any time during the term for the next term."**

**This means that unless the school receives a term's notice no pro rata adjustment will be given for part term tuition.**

## Child Protection Requirements

*All Parent Volunteers / Helpers are required to complete the following Child Protection requirements **prior** to assisting in the classroom or on excursions  
(*'Building Child Safe Communities—Undertaking for Volunteers'*)*

These can be accessed by visiting the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta homepage  
<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au> then scroll down to '**Volunteers and Contractors – click here**'

- **Volunteer Form**
- **Online Training Module (every two years)**

(Links are also available on the homepage of our school website [www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au))  
Please contact the school if you require any assistance.

***We thank all volunteers for their continued support.***