

### DIARY DATES

#### Term 4

#### Week 7

##### Friday 24 November

- Dance Fever—skipping
- Theme Lunch—sausage sizzle

#### Week 8

##### Monday 27 November

- 9:00am-10:30am Pow Wow

##### Tuesday 28 November

- 7pm Christmas Celebration with Michael Mangan

##### Wednesday 29 November

- Stage 3 Billy Cart incursion

##### Thursday 30 November

- 9:15am S2 Parish Mass

##### Friday 1 December

- Dance Fever—skipping
- Spider Ice Cream Sundaes
- 7pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

#### Week 9

##### Monday 4 December

- 9am-10:30am Pow Wow

##### Tuesday 5 December

- 9:30-2:30pm New students 2018 Orientation Day
- S1 Parish Mass

##### Wednesday 6 December

- 8:00am-9:00am PBL Launch S2/S3—Learning Space
- 9:10-9:30am Aria Music Performance—Hall

##### Thursday 7 December

- 9:15am S3 Parish Mass
- Semester 2 Reports go home.

##### Friday 8 December

- Dance Fever—skipping

### 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,

Last Tuesday, all the St Monica's staff had the privilege of hosting 90 educators from schools around our Diocese. The purpose of the meeting was to showcase quality examples of the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBS4L) framework that schools, like ours, are using to support their behaviour management.

Mrs Harrison, Miss Rosewell and Mrs Gardoni shared our journey towards the implementation of PBS4L at St Monica's. Then all the remaining teachers on staff took all the educators on a tour of our school showcasing our school rules, our reward system, bee mascots, signage, lesson plans, student videos and our focus for the week at our assembly area.

We then were able to listen to 6 other schools as they shared exemplar PBS4L practices at their school.

### Staffing News

Last Monday interviews were held for a temporary position at St Monica's for 2018. I am very pleased to announce that Miss Catherine Shaw was the successful candidate.

Yesterday Miss Emily Farrelly informed me that she was successful in obtaining a teaching position in the Sydney Diocese. Congratulations Emily!

At this stage class teachers have not been finalised for 2018 but I anticipate that classes will be finalised and published in the next newsletter.

### Staff Development Day - Formation & Religious Education

Last Friday our staff participated in a Formation and Religious Education Day held at St Monica's. We began our day with a meditative and spiritual prayer. This provided the teachers with an opportunity to reflect on the important things in life and have quiet time to contemplate their priorities. Following prayer, the teachers were engaged in developing learning activities focusing on our school goal: *To develop a deeper understanding of Scripture and its application to Catholic life, using the sense of Scripture. Throughout the year teachers have been working on using the Three Senses when teaching Religious Education, with a specific focus on the Literal Sense. On Friday, everyone participated in extending their knowledge and skills around the Spiritual and Application Senses. It was an opportunity for teachers to continue their learning to use in their Religious Education units.*

Yours sincerely,

**Louise O'Donnell**  
Principal



## St Monica's News



28 years    27 years

*Thank you Mrs Boulous and Mrs Cattermole for your love, dedication and support of the students, teachers and parents at St Monica's.*

*"I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go"*  
Genesis 28:15





### St Monica's 2017 Christmas Concert

## 'Peace on Earth'

This year, our Christmas Concert will be hosted by Michael Mangan. On the night Michael will be performing with our students and presenting **Peace on Earth**.

**Details:**

**When:** Tuesday 28 November  
**Time:** 7:00pm  
**Where:** Undercroft Area  
**What to wear:**

- ES1: Christmas clothing
- Year 1: White and Red
- Year 2: Christmas clothing & Santa hats
- Year 3: Christmas clothing & Santa hats
- Year 4: Australian Theme Clothing eg flannelette shirt
- Year 5: White t-shirts and sunglasses
- Year 6: White t-shirts and tinsel

**We are looking forward to celebrating with you!**

## Staff Development Days (*students do not attend school*)

Please note that **Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 December** (Week 11) are Staff Development Days.

## Outstanding School Fees

Thank you to those families who have paid their school fees. There are still some families who have outstanding school fees for 2017. Families who are not on approved arrangements are requested to contact Mrs Maryanne Grewcock **immediately** to arrange an interview—**8832 4100**.

## Thank you

Thank you to Mr Richard Forsyth (Simon S2A) and Mr Dennis Cheung for returning the stalls to Christ the King School after the Fete.



Thank you also to Mr & Mrs Chandra (Jessica S2B) for kindly printing our Parent Handbooks for ES1 2018.

## Tennis

Mr Davidson wishes to remind students who attend the **8:30am tennis lessons** that they will be having an **extra lesson tomorrow (Friday 24 November)** to practise Stroke Production. **The lesson will commence at 8:30am** and students are asked to **bring their tennis racquet**.



## Spider Ice Cream Sundaes—Year 6 Fundraiser - Friday 1 December

All funds raised will be going towards the Year 6 Fun Day so any Year 6 parents available to help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Stage 3 teachers if you can help. A note has been sent home today for each family and is also available on the website. Money to be brought on the day.

## Mathematical Assessment Interviews

The first two days of school in 2018 will be **Staff Development Days Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 January**.

Staff will be using these days to assess children using a one-on-one numeracy interview (MAI). For the past five years we have found that this is time well used as the teachers complete the majority of their class interviews and are able to use the data to plan the mathematics starting point for their students.

Online bookings for the interviews will open once reports have been sent home. Parents who know in advance that they will be away for the MAI's are asked to let their child's teacher know as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made. A note will be sent home to each family informing them of the online booking procedure.

## Aria Music Performance—Wednesday 6 December

There will be a presentation by students who attend **Aria Music School** on **Wednesday 6 December between 9:10am-9:30am in the Hall**. All welcome to attend.



## MERIT AWARDS

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

Early Stage One: Dominick Macorig, Sienna Acosta, Olivia Szymanski

Year One: Oskar Grzelak, Theresa Wong

Year Two: Siria Mondinelli, William Paterson, Sophie Phan, Dominic Scurtu, Lola Sloane, Sara Younes, Alicia Youssef

Stage 2: Ruby Knight, Zachary Kassis, Nika Naeme, Jesse Maffina, Alexander Azar, Ashley Roberts,

Stage 3: Jessica Stoker, Riwarz Bhattachan, Chloe Pearson, Christian Bouassi



# Social Justice @ St Monica's

*'Be the change you wish to see in the world' Gandhi*

Social Justice exists when all people share a common goal of humanity and therefore have the right to equal treatment and support of basic human rights by promoting a just society.

The Social Justice Team are working on projects to implement throughout the month of December to support people in our local area. The first project is called Mission Tree. The team have created Christmas tags, each with a different gender and age on them. Each family will have the opportunity to select a tag from the Mission Tree and prepare a Christmas gift for this child. You will wrap and return your gift and place it, with the Christmas tag, under the Mission Tree. These gifts will be donated to the refugees at Arrupe Place.

**'Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much'**  
Helen Keller

Thank you to everyone in our St Monica's community for your ongoing support and generosity.

Kind regards,

Miss Michelle Rosewell  
Religious Education Coordinator



## ***Term 4 Important Dates***

***Please make a note of the important upcoming dates and events for this term.***

Friday 24 November		Theme Lunch—Sausage Sizzle
Tuesday 28 November	<b>7:00pm</b>	Christmas Celebration with Michael Mangan
Friday 1 December	<b>7:00pm</b>	Spider Ice Cream Sundaes—Yr 6 Fundraiser Sacrament of Reconciliation
Wednesday 6 December	8am-9am 9:10-9:30am	PBL Launch S2/S3— Learning Space Aria Music Performance—Hall
Saturday 9 December	<b>7am-11am</b>	Working Bee
Monday 11 December		Year 6 Fun Day (Vision Valley)
Wednesday 13 December		Scrub Day
Thursday 14 December	<b>9:15am</b>	Awards Assembly followed by Morning Tea in the Hall
	<b>11:15am</b>	End of Year Mass & Year 6 Graduation
Friday 15 December		Last day for students
Monday 18 December & Tuesday 19 December		<b>Staff Development Days</b> <i>(Students do not attend school)</i>

## ***2018 Dates***

<i>Monday 29 January 2018</i>	<b>Staff Return</b>
<i>Monday 29 January &amp; Tuesday 30 January</i>	<b>Staff Development Day (MAI testing)</b> <b>Staff Development Day (MAI Testing)</b>
<i>Wednesday 31 January</i>	<b>Years 1—6 (Stages 1-3) return</b>
<i>Thursday 1 February</i>	<b>ES1 (Kindergarten) commence 9:00am—2:30pm</b> Early finish time is so that new families can become familiar with the afternoon drive through procedure.
<i>Friday 13 April 2018</i>	<b>Term 1 concludes</b>

**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 in both groups.**

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.***



**ChiFUNese**  
Fun and Easy Mandarin Chinese

ChiFUNese awarded  
Best Language Program – Australia




**Facts:** Mandarin Chinese is the most spoken language in the world (1 in every 5 people in the world speak it) and Australia's second most spoken language after English; Chinese is the most commonly taught language in NSW primary schools; China is Australia's largest trading partner and the world's second largest economy; learning Chinese also enhances cognitive abilities by using both sides of the brain! ***Are you preparing your child for success in the 'Asian Century' by learning Chinese?***

ChiFUNese is one of the most innovative and popular Chinese language programs held at 40+ schools and centres around Sydney. Our students feel happy and inspired to learn because it's fun and easy!


If you are interested for your child to attend a weekly 1-hour before/after-school Mandarin Chinese class at your school, please **complete the Expression of Interest form at [www.chifunese.com/eoi](http://www.chifunese.com/eoi) by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017**. Lesson fee depends on student numbers. Get FREE access to online learning for a year simply by expressing interest!

**The ChiFUNese difference:**


- Multi-sensory learning through games, crafts, and fun activities;
- Small sized classes for maximum engagement and participation;
- Cultural enrichment through Chinese festival celebrations;
- Multimedia online learning for additional practice at home;
- Feedback and support to parents including student reports;
- Team of professional teachers who are experienced and passionate.



Fun games



Arts and crafts



Cultural activities

[admin@chifunese.com](mailto:admin@chifunese.com) | [www.chifunese.com](http://www.chifunese.com) | [www.facebook.com/chifunese](http://www.facebook.com/chifunese)

## *Certificate of Participation—Community Language School*

*Students in Kindergarten to Year 12 who attend an out-of-school hours' Community Language School for four terms of the year receive a Certificate of Participation from their Community Language School. The Certificate of Participation is one of the initiatives in the Communities United Through Language reform of the Department of Education.*

*Parents are requested to please notify our school office if any of your children meet the requirements so that a Certificate of Participation may be organised for your child.*

*Thank you.*

*Louise O'Donnell  
Principal*