

TERM 4, WEEK 9  
Wednesday 6 December 2017

### DIARY DATES

#### Week 9

##### Wednesday 6 December

- 4pm MAI online bookings open

##### Thursday 7 December

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

##### Friday 8 December

- Dance Fever—skipping

#### Week 10

##### Monday 11 December

- Year 6 Fun Day

##### Tuesday 12 December

- Tennis Stroke Production at morning assembly

##### Wednesday 13 December

- Scrub Day
- 9am MAI Online bookings close

##### Thursday 14 December

- 9:15am Awards
- Morning Tea
- 11:15am End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation
- Graduation Luncheon for Year 6 / parents.
- 1:30pm Farewell Guard of Honour

##### Friday 15 December

- Last day of school for students



### 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: [stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Phone: 8832 4100  
Fax: 9683 4984

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

This is the final newsletter for the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole community for your support and involvement in the school throughout 2017. It is hard to believe in our busyness that we will soon be celebrating another Christmas with loved ones and friends.

It has been an exciting and challenging year for all involved in the school community. It has been inspiring to watch your children grow in so many ways and see them respond to the challenges presented to them. The children's achievements have been a reflection of their love of learning, the value you place on providing an excellent opportunity for them to learn at St Monica's and the commitment our staff in responding to the children's individual learning needs and circumstances.

Thank you to all the staff. We are blessed to have a great team of teachers, support staff in the office and in the learning space. Our staff go above and beyond their duty and your children are fortunate to be in the care of this special team. I would like to acknowledge the staff that are leaving this year—Mrs Cattermole, Mrs Boulous, Miss Emily Farrelly and Mrs Loretta Farrelly. We thank them for their contributions to our school and we ask God to continue to guide them as they move to new adventures.

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who will celebrate their graduation next Thursday 14 December at our End of Year Mass at 11:15 am. My best wishes to all of you as you go to high school and continue your lifelong learning journey.

Farewell and thank you to the families leaving St Monica's, in some cases after many years of association with St Monica's. We thank each and every one of our families for the contribution that they have made to our community. Please know how valued and welcome you are to come back on special occasions to your primary school community.

Farewell to the following families: **Boujandy, Chang, Chirchir, Clancy, French, Furjanic, Gaddi, Gomez, Grey, Griffin-Hall, Lewis, Mitchell, Newey, Panopio, Pearson, Prasath, Romero and Santos.**

### Student Leaders for 2018

Today we announced our Ambassadors and Student Representatives for 2018.

#### Congratulations to:

- ♦ Emma Halamkova and Raymond Khadi (Ambassadors)
- ♦ Trinity Bird and Gabriel Bucur (SRC).

Thank you to Alexis Chang and Mateo Soriano (Ambassadors) and Ainsley Mitchell and Christian Dib (SRC) for all their wonderful leadership in carrying out their roles throughout 2017.

### Staffing News

I am pleased to announce that Irma Cruz Dawinan will be joining our community in 2018 as the Finance Manager. I know that you will make Irma very welcome in the new year.

Welcome to our new IT Trainee—Jacob Abboud. Thank you to Jonah Deller for his wonderful support over the last two years.

### St Vincent de Paul and Arrupe Place Appeals

We are very overwhelmed with the generosity of our St Monica's families supporting St Vincent de Paul with food donations for the Parish Hampers and for the children's gifts for Arrupe Place. We are so fortunate to have such a compassionate and generous community at St Monica's who respond to help those in need.

*May you all receive the gift of Christmas which is **PEACE**  
May share the joy of Christmas which is **HOPE**  
May you all discover the heart of Christmas which is **LOVE***



### Class Teachers 2018

Kindergarten	Miss Catherine Shaw
Stage 1- Year 1	Mrs Erin Turner
Stage 1- Year 2	Ms Kellee Bagnall
Stage 2 A	Mr Greg Tyszkiewicz
Stage 2 B	Mrs Denelle Gardoni
Stage 3 A	Miss Michelle Rosewell
Stage 3 B	Mrs Emily Harrison
Stage 3 C	Mrs Angela Wedesweiler
Teacher Support/RFF	Mrs Cath Ungsuprasert
Learning Support/Reading Recovery	Ms Tracie Hope
Japanese	Ms Kiyoka Kubo

### Thank You

Thank you to Mrs French for assisting at the Year 6 Spider Ice Cream Sundaes fundraiser last Friday.

### Working Bee

Thank you to all the families that have responded and are able to attend our Working Bee this Saturday. I know that it is a very busy time of the year for everyone. Any time that you can volunteer for on Saturday will be gratefully accepted. We start at 7:00am and finish promptly at 11:00am.

### Semester Two Reports

Tomorrow all families will receive their child's Semester Two Report. **Remember to refer to the statements of achievement in your child's report** that describes your child's level of success for each Key Learning Area. In reading your child's report I was very impressed with the effort that the students have made with their learning this semester and the improved work habits. Another highlight was the individual growth of so many students that teachers identified. The students are to be congratulated on their fine efforts.

Parents, when you view your child's report look for strengths first. Focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs. Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort needs attention, then your child has a goal to work towards in 2018. If your child is putting in the required effort, speak to him/her about how pleasing this is and how it has a positive impact on learning. Broaden your focus to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child interacts with his/her peers will influence their happiness and well-being as well as give an indicator to his/her future.

Discuss the report with your child, talk about strengths first before looking at areas of improvement. Together, share opinions on performance levels and concerns felt.

## Swimming Carnival

Just a reminder that all students in Stage 2 and Stage 3 in 2018 (and Year 2 students who turn 8 in 2018) need to have their swimming carnival note returned by **Friday 8 December**. Any parent that is able to volunteer to assist at the carnival will be gratefully accepted. No previous experience necessary!

## Skiping Presentation - Friday 8 December

We would like to showcase the children's skill development with skiping on Friday 8 December from 9:00am - 10:00am. We realise that many parents may not be able to attend and so we will ensure that videos of each class will be available on the school website for you to view.

## Tennis Stroke Production—Tuesday 12 December

Students who attend lessons with Mr Davidson will present 'stroke production' at the morning assembly.

## Scrub Day – Wednesday 13 December

Scrub Day is when students and staff clean and tidy the Learning Space in readiness for next year. Students may wear **mufti (suitable for cleaning) and joggers** to school as there are many jobs to do!

## Awards / End of Year Mass / Year 6 Graduation – Thursday 14 December

Our End of Year celebrations are as follows:

- **9:15am** Awards Assembly followed by our Thank You Morning Tea for all parents in the Hall.
- **11:15am** End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation
- Following Mass Year 6 students will cut their Graduation Cake and then proceed to the Hall for a luncheon with their parents.
- **1:30pm** Guard of Honour - Farewell to Year 6 and families/students/staff who are leaving the school.

## Year 6 Graduation Luncheon – Thursday 14 December

Thank you to those Year 6 families who have returned their notes for the Graduation Luncheon. Please note that RSVPS are due for catering purposes **by Monday 11 December**.

**In preparation for the 2018 school year, I would like to inform you of some important information and key events that have been planned for Term 1.**



## Mathematical Assessment Interviews

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

**A booking is required for all students who will be in Years 1—6 in 2018.**

**Online bookings for the interviews will open today (Wednesday 6 December) at 4pm.**

Parents who know in advance that they will be away for the MAIs are asked to inform their child's teacher as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made.

The instruction sheet can be found on page 5 and has also been sent home with your child. The form is also available on the school website.

If you are unable to book an interview with your child's teacher please book with one of the Assistant Teachers - Mrs Mason and Miss Shaw. **Bookings close on Wednesday 13 December at 9:00 am.**

To book interviews: [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)  
Code: csz8k

## Class Information Nights

Please mark your diary for the **Parent Information Nights** next year:

**Wednesday 7 February** Stage 1 and Stage 2 both commencing at 6:00pm  
Stage 3 commencing at 6:45pm

**Wednesday 21 February** Early Stage One commencing at 6:00pm



## Sports Uniform—Term 1

All students will wear their sports uniform every **Friday** as we will have the Dance Fever Athletics program in Term 1.

## ***A Christmas Creed***

**I believe** that Christmas is a time for remembering Christ and the incarnation of God's love in human flesh.  
**I believe** that the important gifts of Christmas are the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the generosity and commitment we give to building a better world in our time.  
**I believe** that the finest carols are often sung by the poorest voices; from hearts made warm by the wonder of the season.  
**I believe** in the angel's message that we should not be afraid—that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.  
**I believe** in prayer and quietness and that if I wait in stillness and silence I will experience the presence of the one born in the manger, for he lives today as surely as he lived then.  
**I believe** in going away from Christmas as the wise men went: "another way". I want to be different when these days are past—more centred, more thoughtful, more caring.  
**And I believe** God will help me. Amen

Yours sincerely,

**Louise O'Donnell**  
Principal

### **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**.

### **Sympathy**

St Monica's community extends sympathy to the Sciacca family (Garbhan, Kael, Liam and Neave) on the passing of Mr Sciacca's grandmother. Please keep the Sciacca family in your prayers during this sad time.

### **Student Banking**

Next week (Week 10) will be the last week for student banking. Please note that student banking will resume in **Week 3**, Term 1 next year.

### **School Opal Card**

To be eligible for a School Opal card, students need to be NSW residents and may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:

- Years K-2 (Infants) there's no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 (Primary) 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking or further.
- Years 7-12 (Secondary) 2.0km straight line distance or 2.9km walking or further.



A School Opal card is provided to eligible students who need to travel within the Opal network. Paper travel passes are issued to eligible students who need to travel outside the Opal network.

Visit **[www.opal.com.au](http://www.opal.com.au)** for more information

**Step 1:** Parents (or students aged 16 and over) complete the online application form

**Step 2:** The application will be submitted to the school for endorsement.

**Step 3:** The school will then forward the application to Transport for NSW for processing.

Once approved, Transport for NSW sends the School Opal card to the home address given in the application.

The application may take several weeks. Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by email.



## AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received their awards ahead of our Awards Ceremony next week. Congratulations to Laura Emphield (Year 4 Most Improved) and Yuna Shin (ES1 Academic Achievement).



## MERIT AWARDS

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



Early Stage One: Isabella Younes, Cadence Metierre

Year One: Ava Cong, Calista Soriano

Year Two: Andrew Clark, Roger Corcoran, Aimee Loof, Abbi Meale, Pranaya Prasath

Stage 2: Maria Nour, Emma O'Rourke, Samuel Nassif, Yiannis Keranis, Matilda Cooper

Stage 3: Vinayak Sharma, Veronica Sadek, Christian Kandalaft, Matilda-Rose Hall, Sandra Chirchir, Pinar Helena Unver, Rafael Noonan, Manraj Kahlon, Merna El Merhabi, Jericho Crame



## Urgent request from Fr Regie

Any students from St Monica's who would be interested in singing in the choir at the Christmas Eve Mass at St Monica's Church on Sunday 24 December at 6:00pm are asked to contact the Presbytery—9630 1951.

## Mathematical Assessment Interviews for 2018 (Years 1-6)

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

**Online bookings for the interviews will open today (Wednesday 6 December) at 4pm.**

Parents who know in advance that they will be away for the MAIs are asked to inform their child's teacher as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made.

The instruction sheet can be found below and has also been sent home with your child.  
The form is also available on the school website.

**A booking is required for all students who will be in Years 1—6 in 2018.**

If you are unable to book an interview with your child's teacher please book with one of the Assistant Teachers - Mrs Mason and Miss Shaw.

**Bookings close on Wednesday 13 December at 9:00am.**

**[www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)  
Code: csz8k**



THE EASY WAY TO BOOK

## SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Dear Parents,

[2018 Mathematical Assessment Interviews \(MAI\)](#) will be held on  
**Monday 29 January and Tuesday 30 January 2018. (Term 1, Week 1)**

**Bookings will open on Wednesday 6 December 2017 at 4:00pm  
and close on Wednesday 13 December 2017 at 9:00am**

For parents who do not have internet access, an iPad will be available in the School Office for you to make interview bookings. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require or phone the school on 8832 4100.

Interview duration for each child is **30 minutes** and spaces are limited.

Parents with more than one child may select one of the extra teachers available for the interviews if they are unable to co-ordinate times with the stage teachers.

**Parents are reminded to book their children in to the Stage that they will be going into in 2018.**

**BOOKINGS CLOSE Wednesday 13 December 2017 at 9:00am**

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit *your family*.  
Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**csz8k**

**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](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews  
- until the bookings close on **Wednesday 13 December 2017 at 9:00am**

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://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: **8832 4100**

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](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.



## PBS4L: Positive Behaviour Support For Learning

**Congratulations** to the St Monica's *Platinum Award* recipients for 2017!

Each of these students has received 40 full bee cards, that is 400 bee stings!



They have upheld the school rules:

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

ES1	Year 1	Year 3	Year 4
Yuna Shin Cody Wylie Jared David Ruby Elias Zachary Dy Lydia Sun Allegra Jammo	Barry Zhang Helen Elias	Jose Bernardo Enciso Llamas Ashleigh North Kobe Puyat Simon Forsyth Ruby Knight	Gabrielle Nassif Alexandra Santos Zachariah Kassis Jayden Albayeh Samira Hekeik Charles Sentas Galia Evangelista Dacian Scurtu Giselle Mondinelli Emma Sadek Laura Emphield



Bronze & Silver Awards



Gold Awards



Platinum Awards

# **NEW** St. Monica's eLibrary

We are very excited to announce that St. Monica's has a new eLibrary!

There are extensive resources available including online databases for St. Monica's and all CEDP resources, research tools, ebooks, audiobooks articles and much, much more!

The eLibrary website was only officially launched on Monday, but we couldn't wait until next year to share all of the fantastic resources for you all to explore!

## **Holiday Reading:**

The ebook library has many titles that are available to 'borrow' online. Simply login to Classm8 using the student login details and click on the 'eLibrary' link.



All login instructions are located on the ebook homepage.

Also, the Summer Reading Challenge has begun. Please visit <http://summerreadingchallenge.scholastic.com.au/for-parents.aspx> for your chance to win a prize pack valued at \$800!

If you would like any further information, please contact Mrs. Erin Turner.

The link for our eLibrary is [https://ceop.ent.sirsiidynix.net.au/client/en\\_GB/1894/?](https://ceop.ent.sirsiidynix.net.au/client/en_GB/1894/?)

Add the link to your bookmarks and/or desktop for some extra holiday reading and research!

Happy reading!

Mrs. Erin Turner  
Literacy Coordinator



**CITY OF PARRAMATTA LIBRARY**

# **READING, LITERACY & YOUR CHILD**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AUSTRALIAN LITERACY ACADEMY**

**FOR PARENTS OF  
PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN**

**PARENTS! BE INFORMED ON WHAT  
YOU NEED TO KNOW TO HELP  
YOUR CHILD BECOME A BETTER  
READER.**

**Parramatta Library**

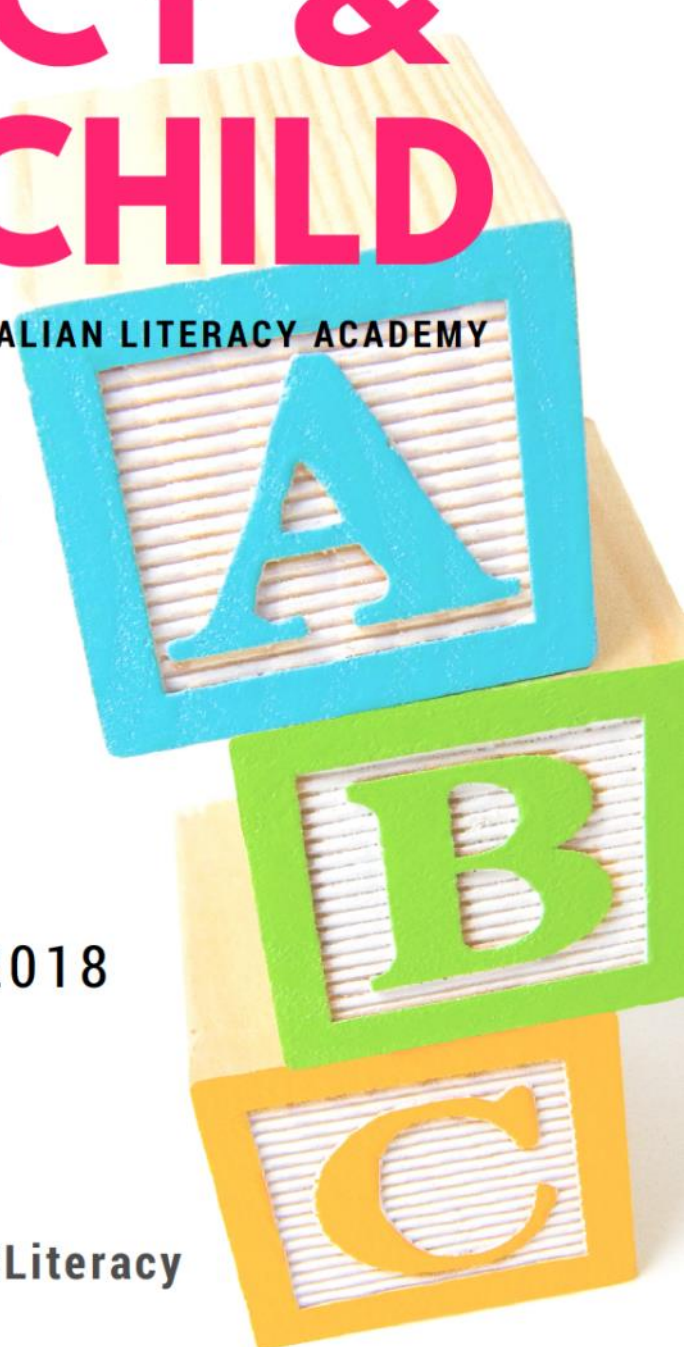
**Saturday 13 January 2018**

**10am - 12pm**

**FREE**

**book online - <http://bit.ly/PCLiteracy>**

**CITY OF PARRAMATTA LIBRARY**  
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## ***Term 4 Important Dates***

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

Wednesday 6 December	<b>4:00 pm</b>	MAI Online bookings open (Years 1-6 in 2018)
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 Graduation Luncheon Year 6 / parents
	<b>1:30pm</b>	Farewell Guard of Honour for Year 6 and families/students/staff who are leaving the school.
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>

# CHRISTMAS FAMILY NIGHT

**FREE**



**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 6–8pm**

**Bring the family along for a great night of fun**

- Santa's little helper workshops
- Gift wrapping service
- Meet Santa in-store
- Light refreshments will be provided



*Give the gift of choice with a Bunnings Gift Card*

**Bookings recommended.** For more information or to book ask one of our team in-store or visit [www.bunnings.com.au](http://www.bunnings.com.au)

**BUNNINGS warehouse**

**LOWEST PRICES ARE JUST THE BEGINNING...**

This is a free event for everyone to enjoy so invite your friends and family out for a night of fun and to also visit Santa of course.

Our entertainment for the night: Live Christmas musical band, laser tag game, circus workshop, jumping castle, craft arcade games and much more.

Bookings essential.

For more information or to book please contact 02 9873 8000 or visit [www.bunnings.com.au/northparramatta](http://www.bunnings.com.au/northparramatta)



**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: **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: **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**

### **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.***