

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

8:20am
Morning supervision
8:30am-8:45am
Bag Unpacking upstairs
8:50am
Morning bell
8:50am-10:50am
Learning
10:50am-11:20am
Recess
11:20am-1:20pm
Learning
1:20pm- 2:00pm
Lunch
2:00pm - 3:00pm
Learning
3:00pm
Dismissal
3:00pm - 3:30pm
Afternoon supervision

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Term 2

Monday 4 May

Term 3

to be advised

Term 4

Thursday 17 December

Friday 18 December



Monica's Matters

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

Phone: 8832 4100
Fax: 8832 4199

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends,

As you are aware, the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) has serious health complications for everyone. At St Monica's, we are guided by the Australian Government, NSW Health and Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and we are continually re-evaluating our practices to ensure our staff and students' safety and wellbeing. Therefore, we are already planning and preparing online and other resources for our students to continue learning from home, in the event we are advised to close.

Some of the resources that will be available to your child/ren in the event of a school closure are:

- Learning Booklets and Resource Packs (Years K-1)
- Access to Google Classroom (Years 2-6)
- Access to E-Library
- Communication with teachers via email and Zoom online workshops
- Dedicated home learning workbooks
- Access to online learning platforms, including Matific

To enable our teachers to plan and prepare to support all students, please email or phone the school office if your child **DOES NOT** have a computer/iPad and/or access to the internet.

At this stage, our school remains open and we will continue to focus on delivering quality teaching and learning for all students.

We will continue to communicate any changes and/or updates through Skoolbag, so please ensure you have access to this application on your phone or other device. Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding during this time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Angela Wedesweiler for her commitment to St Monica's over the last three years and particularly for the support personally she has offered me this year. Angela has been an outstanding role model for our students and has modelled the charism of the Sisters of Mercy: compassion, justice, dignity, excellence, hospitality and stewardship. We will miss her greatly but wish her all the best at St Canice's.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Howell
Principal



2021 Kindergarten Enrolments - NOW OPEN



Enrolment applications have now commenced. Enrolment application forms may be downloaded from our school website or you may collect a package from the school office. Enrolments will remain open, however, first round applications will close on **Tuesday 31 March 2020**.

Please provide **original supporting documentation** (together with photocopies) when lodging your enrolment application.

Current families who have a child starting school in 2021 are reminded to submit their enrolment application prior to Tuesday 31 March 2020.

School Gates—closed at 9:00am

Parents are advised that the school gates will be closed at 9:00am each morning. **Students arriving after this time must be brought to the school office, by their parents, to be signed in to school.** Student who arrive late will be given a red Late Arrival slip which is to be given to their teacher to advise that they have been signed in to school.

School Fees

A reminder that unless you have an arrangement with the school, the **first school fee instalment is due today Wednesday 18 March 2020**. **Thank you to those families who have paid their fees.**

Families who have not received their statement are requested to contact the school office immediately on 8832 4100.

As advised by the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, **cash as a form of payment for school fees will no longer be accepted at St Monica's**. Payment can still be made by EFTPOS, Bpay, BPoint and Post BillPay. Thank you for your co-operation.



Student birthdays at St Monica's

At St Monica's Primary School, every child's birthday is acknowledged at the morning school assembly.

We strongly discourage food being sent to school to celebrate your child's birthday.

As an alternative, the tradition at St Monica's is to **donate a book to the school library**. We thank you for supporting this policy.

Skoolbag

Parents are reminded that **Skoolbag** is the primary communication tool used by the school. Skoolbag is a free app available for all parents to download.

Notes will only be sent home if there is a need for parents to complete and return information for theme lunches, permission, excursions etc. These notes will also be uploaded to the school website for your convenience.

New Bell Times

Please be advised that our bell times have been changed to allow for a two-hour literacy block for all grades. *The new bell times are listed below:*

8:50am - 10:50am Learning Time
10:50am - 11:20am Recess
11:20am - 1:20pm Learning Time
1:20pm - 2:00pm Lunch
2:00pm - 3:00pm Learning Time



Please note that morning supervision commences at 8:20am and afternoon supervision ends at 3:30pm each day.



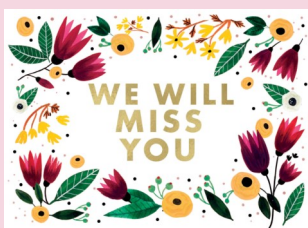
Farewell Mrs Angela Wedesweiler

Angela Wedesweiler first joined our school community in 2017. She brought with her a cheerful zest for teaching and a love for her students and their well being. Through her time here with us she has been a Mathematics Coordinator, current Religious Education Coordinator, mentor and friend. We are all so grateful for her time and commitment to our school community and she will be very missed. We wish her all the best as she ventures forth into the mountains where she will continue to flourish in her role as REC.

We will miss Mrs Wedesweiler because she's always there when we're having down times - she always knows how to put a smile on our faces! She never gives up, she always supports us and she's a great teacher (Simon and Liam).

Mrs Wedesweiler will be missed because her personality is bright and colourful and she's always positive (Charli and Lola).

We will miss Mrs Wedesweiler because she's supportive, she's always there when we need her and she gives equal effort and attention to everyone. She's a great role model and she follows in Jesus' footsteps by being understanding and forgiving (Sanoy, Ruby and Tiara).



WELCOME

Miss Therese Coutinho

We welcome to St Monica's school community Miss Coutinho who will be the Acting Religious Education Co-ordinator and Stage 3 Teacher for the remainder of 2020. Miss Coutinho will commence at St Monica's on Monday 23 March. We know you will warmly welcome Miss Coutinho into our school community.

SCHOOL BANKING

Notice from CommBank School Banking

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people is our first priority. Due to the rapidly developing situation with coronavirus, School Banking has been temporarily paused from **20 March 2020** until the start of **Term 2**.

Please don't bring your deposit book with your weekly banking into school and we will notify you when banking will recommence.

WELCOME BBQ

Thank you to the many families who braved the weather and attended our Welcome BBQ held on Thursday 5 March. Thank you also to the parent helpers and staff members who cooked and served the sausages. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet new families and make new friends.



NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy And Numeracy) Years 3 and 5 (Term 2, Week 3)

NAPLAN Online testing will commence on **Tuesday 12 May 2020**

It is important that all students in Years 3 and 5 attend school during NAPLAN testing.

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy – important skills that each child needs to succeed in school and life. The NAPLAN tests are designed to help us make sure students are on track with their literacy and numeracy development. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in NAPLAN tests for reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Students do not need to be computer experts to take the NAPLAN test online. Making sure students have computer skills is part of our school curriculum, and our teachers will ensure your child is familiar with the online format.

To see the types of questions and interactive features of NAPLAN Online, visit [the public demonstration site](#).

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

For more info:

[How to support your child during NAPLAN information for parents and carers](#)

[Watch a video that explains NAPLAN Online](#)

[Subscribe to ACARA's monthly parent newsletter, Parent Update](#)

Mrs Lauren Hartz
Stage 2 Teacher



Change of Details

Have you recently changed your address, mobile phone number, work phone number, email address?

Have you let the school office know?

Change of address needs to be advised in writing.

School Office—8832 4100



2nd Hand Uniform Sale **CASH SALES ONLY**

Monday 30 March 2020

2:45pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday 31 March 2020

8:20am - 8:50am

\$5 per item (2nd hand)
\$10 per item (new item)



NO GLASS WATER BOTTLES!

**Parents are requested
NOT TO SEND GLASS WATER BOTTLES
TO SCHOOL.**

Thank you for your co-operation.

Cross Country 2020





MERIT AWARDS



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

- ES1:** Sofia Arbulu Caycho, Olivia Brooke, Jasper Corin, Noah Doolan
- Year 1:** Sophia Cerda, Oceann Gan, Archie Levins, Caesar Metierre, Mason Nader, Elyse Paterson, Margarita San Juan, Tahlia Brohier, Aryana Erskine, Angela Li, Mia Romey, Parinika Thamiseti, Sarah Triantis, Bai He (Bella) Zhang, Michael Godfrey
- Year 2:** Pranvee Basu, Angus Graham, Madalena Sarantakos, Atticus Sloane, Czermielle Sarah Talampas, Victoria Youssef,
- Stage 2:** Iryssa Alley, Mathew Dretvic, Ethan Gan, Eva Sentas, William Stewart, Theresa Wong, Marley Austin, Juo Choi, Olivia Hekeik, Lukas Lozancic Babic, Pare Nader, Selini Tissatheja
- Stage 3:** Ashton Dardagos, Ruby Knight, Manson Lu, Siria Mondinelli, Kenzh Munda Cruz, Kobe Puyat, Monica Salic, Elizabeth Toman, Sara Younes, Gabriela Andrade, Tiara Arredondo, Charlize Cooper, Menuk Gunawardena, Yiannis Keranis, Kristian Romic, Liam Sciacca, Lola Sloane, Deihl Peter Talampas

PRC News

At the beginning of the term you would have seen the Parents Representative Council (PRC) notice in our newsletter and may have wondered what the PRC is all about.

The PRC are the elected parent representatives who work collaboratively with the Catholic schools and parents in the Diocese of Parramatta to provide opportunities for all parents and guardians to become involved with their child's educational journey. For further information visit www.prc.catholic.edu.au

PRC meetings are held once a term, on Monday night in week 6, which all parents and guardians are encouraged to attend. These meetings include guest speakers covering a range of topics that can support the needs of your child. It is also an excellent opportunity to share ideas, network with other parents and keep in touch with current education and social issues.

A PRC delegate is a parent who represents their school and attends the meeting each term. I've had the privilege of being the PRC delegate for St Monica's for the past few years, but unfortunately, this will be my last year.

If you are interested in becoming our new delegate, please contact the school office .

Gen Smith (Madeline Yr 6)

SUMMARY OF PRC MEETING TERM 1

The topic of this term's PRC, which was held on 2nd March, was **Understanding Mental Health**. The guest speaker was Jane Armstrong, Mental Health First Aid Instructor.

Mental Health First Aid is the help provided to a person who might be developing or experiencing a worsening of a mental health problem or is in a mental health crisis. First aid is given until appropriate support of professional treatment is received or the crisis resolved.

Welcome BBQ





**LIBRARY TIMES: Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-8:50am
(OPEN TO ALL CLASSES)**

Extra Borrowing Times:

Monday: YEAR 2 Recess

Tuesday: YEAR 1 Lunch

Wednesday: STAGE 2 & YEAR 5 Recess

Thursday: ES1 & YEAR 6 Lunch (storytime)

Please encourage your children to come & visit the library.

We have a great range of books to borrow and a "bee sting" is given when books are borrowed and then returned!

Our library monitors & Mrs Davino are in the library during these times to help any students.

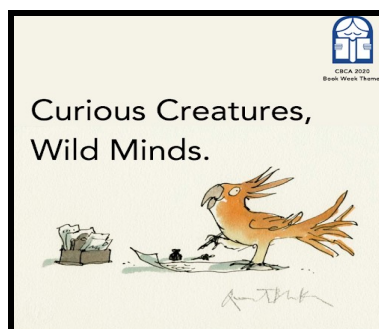
The St Monica's message bag or a material/cloth bag can be used to protect borrowed books.

CBCA Book Week (Term 3 Week 6)

August 24th - 28th

This year's theme: "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds"

There will be lots of exciting events for our students to enjoy...
more details to follow!





As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card.

All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare.

Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses.

This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear under utilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go online to www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/

Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

Term 1 Important Dates

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

Week 8

Friday 20 March Dance Fever Athletics

Week 9

Monday 23 March **Harmony Day**
2:00pm - 3:00pm In class activities (students only)

Friday 27 March Dance Fever Athletics

Week 10

Monday 30 March **2nd hand uniform sale (cash only)**
2:45pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday 31 March ES1 2021 Enrolment applications due

2nd hand uniform sale (cash only)
8:20am-8:50am

Friday 3 April Sushi Day

Week 11

Thursday 9 April Holy Thursday
Term 1 ends at 3:00pm

Friday 10 April **GOOD FRIDAY**

Sunday 12 April **EASTER SUNDAY**

Term 2

Week 1

Monday 27 April School commences for Term 2



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents are required to purchase all school clothing items through **Oz Fashions**.

Oz Fashions is located at:
115-127 Parramatta Road, Granville
Phone: 9897 3121

Opening Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00am - 5:30pm
Saturday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Parking is available on site.

<http://www.ozfashions.com.au>



A new school jacket
will be available soon!

\$60

Parents will be able to
purchase the jacket
through Oz Fashions.

Child Protection Requirements 'Building Child Safe Communities'

*All Parent Volunteers / Helpers are required to complete the following Child Protection requirements **prior** to assisting in the classroom or on excursions*

These can be accessed by visiting the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta homepage

<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>

Click on
Our Schools
Parents and Partners
Building Child Safe Communities
Volunteers & Contractor Training
Volunteers

Step 1: Volunteer Form

Step 2: Training Module (needs to be completed every two years)

(Links are also available via our school website stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au)
(Enrol—Parental Involvement— Volunteer Training)
Please contact the school if you require any assistance.

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

