



Term 2 Week 9 2023

Important Dates

**Assembly 2ML 2
pm**
Monday 3 July

Reports sent home
Wednesday 5 July

**Year 6 OLSH
performance**
Wednesday 5 July

**Years 3-6 Netball
Carnival**
Thursday 6 July

**Hot Chocolate & PJ
Day**
Friday 7 July

Last Day Term 2
Friday 7 July

First Day Term 3
Tuesday 25 July

Principal's Report

We have come to the end of another busy term. I want to acknowledge all the hard work that has been undertaken by the students and staff at St Monica's this term. At the start of the term each child names a goal that they wish to achieve in ten weeks. For some students, there was a focus on learning or skills in Maths or English. For others it was improving another skill in areas such as PE, Art, or Music. I congratulate all those who achieved their personal goal and to those who haven't quite made it yet. You will with persistence, perseverance, and patience. Never give up! Thank you to the staff who have worked tirelessly to make learning meaningful, interesting

and fun for their students.

Front of school redevelopment

During the holidays, the start of the redevelopment of the front of school entrance and playground will be commencing. The entry to the school office area is the first stage as there needs to be some significant machinery used and it is safest to do this during school holidays. The second stage will be the playground space and will follow on from Stage 1. Vacation Care will still operate as per usual but if there needs to be any changes, we will inform families via an email and signage at the entry point.

Crossing

I would like to thank families for their patience and support as we have reintroduced our Crossing Monitors this week. I think that they are doing an amazing job and have learnt so much already and improved in their skills and knowledge of their responsibility.

If there is a solid yellow line painted on the road, you must not park or stand there. You can park to allow passengers to alight from a car or get into a car on the yellow dashed line, but the driver must stay in the car and the time limit is two minutes. Please do not give your hard earned money to the council by parking incorrectly.

Outreach - Vinnies Winter Sleep Out

Last night 14 very brave Year 6 students, along with Ms Morris, Ms Monaghan and Mrs Ridley, spent some time outside trying to “stand in the shoes” of another. The goal of this evening was to experience what it might be like to someone who must live on the streets and only have minimal protection from the very cold temperatures and have limited food choice. I congratulate them on their commitment to stepping out of their comfort zone. Their comments in the debriefing section of the night were very insightful and powerful. Well done and thank you to all those involved.

Transition visits and 2024 enrolments

Today was the last transition visit for our Term 3 Reception students. In this year’s group we have 10 siblings and 5 brand new students to St Monica’s. We are so excited to have these young learners be a part of our community. We will be having a coffee for families on Tuesday 25 July at the back of the school. All are most welcome to stay and have a catch up with each other.

We are finalising our enrolments for 2024 in the next month. If you have any younger siblings who could start in Term 1, 2024, please email Annette for further information.

Semester Reports

End of Semester 1 Reports will be sent home on Wednesday 5 July. Please check your child/ren’s bag so that you can read about how your child’s learning journey is progressing.

Have a wonderful week ahead and a relaxing holiday time together.

Emily Sayer

Vinnies Winter Sleepout

Last night our year 6 class participated in the Vinnies Winter Sleep Out. Please enjoy reading the reflections of students, and the impact the Sleep Out had on them. **We are still taking Winter Appeal donations of non-perishable food and blankets until the end of the term.**

"I was extremely cold and very lonely, it really made me feel bad for anyone who is homeless. I could barely fall to sleep and had a really rough night." Jacob

"I was bored, lonely, and felt horrible for the people that have to sleep like this every single night always finding a place to sleep. As well as you have nothing to do, except just sit there or lay down and just do absolutely nothing." Gabriel

"I was getting really emotional because homeless people live like this 24/7 and I could barely stand 1 hour so it was really tough, and it was cold." Evan

"It was very cold and we were super lonely, it was just us and our thoughts. " Aadvick

"I felt tired lonely and sad that these people have to do this every day for eight hours. They must be really strong to put up with that. I felt like I was going crazy, and I couldn't sit still. I feel great sympathy for these people. Hrishi

"When cold and alone you really realise how much you are grateful for." Ella

"I am grateful that we have a house, a blanket, sleeping bags and a roof over our head, it was really hard for me to sleep." Shaziya

"Sleeping in the cold and alone is not fun, it's very sad because it is very hard to sleep in the dark, alone when they're most vulnerable, which makes them feel very scared because someone might harm them." Hanz

"You never know what they go through when they sleep, unless you try it." Megan

"Last night I found it very emotional I started crying but then I remembered that people have to do this every day." Annabelle Hickson

"For me it was very emotional when we had to sleep by ourselves alone and cold." ALEXIA

"It was kind of comfortable, probably because I had a gym mat under me. Homeless people wouldn't even have some sort of mattress when they are sleeping rough." Adela

"It was hard. I was cold, I would normally be home and I thought what are the people doing in other houses in a nice warm bed inside, not outside, like so many other Australians are having to live rough." Xavier.

"It was very cold, I had my oodie and it still wasn't very warm, so I had to put my pillow under my oodie to make me feel more warm. It is just sad because it was still very cold for us even if we had a jumper etc, but for the homeless people, they might only have ripped clothes, some don't even have any jumpers." Hellen



Term 3 Reception Transition Program

Today we celebrated the final transition visit with our term 3 receptions class. Our families came for a liturgy and the students performed a song they have been learning in prayer. Each family was gifted with a fruit tree, just as these students have been gifted to us, we look forward to nurturing them and watching them share their gifts and talents. We have enjoyed watching them grow in confidence and are excited to journey with them as they begin their schooling at St Monica's.



Library News

Premier's Reading Challenge 2023 / Premier's Be Active Challenge 2023

Congratulations to all the students in classes R/1J and 2ML who have completed the 2023 PRC Challenge. PRC Reading Records and Premier's Be Active Challenge forms can be returned to the library at any time. Further information about the Premier's Reading Challenge can be found at www.prc.sa.edu.au

Voting for PRC 2024 posters

Voting for the PRC 2024 posters is now open for primary students to choose the official posters for 2024! Our students can participate by casting their votes. They can visit the Poster Voting page on the PRC website at www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/poster-voting/. Students can choose either the 2024 primary or secondary poster that resonates with them the most. Voting closes on Tuesday 8th August.

Overdue Library Books and Readers

Could you please check at home and in school bags and return any books found as soon as possible. Thank you.

2023 Book Week

The CBCA Children's Book Week takes place annually in August with the Winner and Honour Books announced on 18 August 2023. This year's theme is **Read, Grow, Inspire**.

Out of Hours School Care

In after school care we have been discussing Our Strengths, Our Interests and Our Challenges. We have made a display showing these. There are many things we are good at and interested in. We do a lot of those things in OSHC – like soccer, art and playing games. There are people at OSHC who can help us get better at lots of things too – like our schoolwork, reading and sports.



ICAS

ICAS is an online academic competition that is designed to assess students' higher order thinking and problem-solving skills. St Monica's will be offering supervision of: English, Mathematics, Science and Writing for any Year 4-6 students wanting to participate.

How to participate in ICAS

If you wish for your child to participate in ICAS this year, please:

Read about ICAS subjects and prices [here: \(icasassessments.com/products-icas\)](https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas)

Read the terms and conditions [here: \(icasassessments.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2023-ICAS-Assessments-Parents-PPS-TsCs_final.pdf\)](https://www.icasassessments.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2023-ICAS-Assessments-Parents-PPS-TsCs_final.pdf)

Go to Parent Portal to purchase tests [here: \(shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps\)](https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps)

Enter our school's access code – **YQB948**

Enter your child's details, select the tests you would like to purchase, then proceed to payment.

After payment is made via the Parent Payment System, you will receive an order confirmation email, please keep this for your records.

Test Dates:

Writing: Thursday 10th August, 9am

English: Thursday 17th August, 9am

Science: Thursday 24th August, 9am

Mathematics: Thursday 31st August, 9am

Closing date for parent portal: 28th July, 2023

Regards

Sarah Morris

Second-hand Uniforms

The parent community has established a private group on Facebook that facilitates the trading of second-hand uniform items.

Please visit www.facebook.com/groups/stmonicasbuyswapsell and request to join the group if you are interested.

The page is ideal for selling items in good condition that your child has outgrown, or to sell items if your child is moving on. Simply post images and your contact details. Alternatively, you can join the group to take advantage of the pre-loved items that become available.

For those of you who are not on Facebook, please contact the P&F pandf.stmonicas@gmail.com and they will assist you with the sale of items.

Please note the sale of old-style uniform items is not allowed. St Monica's Parish School does not manage this page and takes no responsibility for any private sales.

We have joined Instagram

ST MONICA'S
IS NOW ON
INSTAGRAM!



Follow us
[@stmonicawalkerville](https://www.instagram.com/stmonicawalkerville)

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which St Monica's learn, work and play.

May we walk gently on this land acknowledging the Kurna people's deep spiritual connection with their country.

We pay our respects to Kurna elders past and present and commit to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.



ST MONICA'S

Winter Appeal

This year St Monica's will be supporting two of our favourite Catholic Charities



The Adelaide Day Centre
for Homeless Persons Inc.



To show your support, we are asking families for donations of grocery store gift vouchers or non-perishable pantry items. Donations of blankets or sleeping bags are also desperately needed to be distributed to many people sleeping on the streets this winter.

Our Winter Appeal will conclude on Friday 7 July with a 'Hot Chocolate, Muffin & PJ Day'. Order forms and more information for this day to follow.



Mary MacKillop College
Kensington

Year 7 2024 Transition Visits start soon

Contact us for
more information

8333 6300
marymackillop.sa.edu.au