



## Term 4 Week 3

### Important Dates

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Dance Program All  
Year Levels  
Friday 29 October

Children's  
University  
Graduation  
Wednesday 3 November

Athletics Carnival  
Wednesday 3 November

Early Years  
Excursion Road  
Safety School  
Monday 8 November

Year 6 Reflection  
Day  
Friday 19 November

Community Concert  
Friday 3 December

End of Year  
Community Concert  
Friday 3 December

End of Year Mass  
and Graduation  
Tuesday 7 December

Year 6 End of Year  
Excursion Beach  
House  
Wednesday 8 December

Last Day Term 4  
Thursday 9 December

# Upcoming Events

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## Principal's Report

### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

#### **End of Year Community Celebration – Friday 3 December 6:30pm for a 7.00pm start.**

We are moving forward in planning for a long-awaited community gathering for our End of Year Community Celebration. Whilst we still have some details to work out, I would love each family to put the above date into your calendars and join us for a night of entertainment, conversation, and sheer enjoyment. Our plan is to hold the evening on the basketball courts at the back of the school, but we are finalising Plan B for inclement weather. A note with all the final details will be sent home early next week.

#### **New Students at St Monica's**

We have much to celebrate at St Monica's school with all our new students since the start of Term 3.

This year we had 15 wonderful new students commence at the start of Term 3 but sadly their experience was a bit unique as we had to go straight into lock down. Now as they continue in their second term at school, I can see the growth in confidence, independence and learning in each of them. We are all so very proud of you and look forward to watching you continue to grow as a person and learner.

On the 20 October, we held our Parent Transition Information Evening for all the families of our new Reception students who will begin with us at the start of 2022. The Early Years educators presented information to the families about how they can support their little one settling into school both academically and socially. I would like to acknowledge each of these educators and Annette Giacomelli for their preparation and organisation in the lead up to this event. One of the special highlights was having one of our current families share their experience of being a part of the St Monica's family and what to expect in the first few weeks of school for their little ones. Thank you to Carmel, Dale and Ethan (past scholar) for sharing your reflections with the families.

On Friday 23 October we welcomed the Term 1 2022 Receptions to St Monica's for their first day of Transition visits. Some were a bit nervous and apprehensive whilst others were confident and waved goodbye to Mum and Dad straight away. Each child is very unique in how they handle new experiences but we know that with time that they will all feel very confident and ready to take on all the new challenges presented. Welcome to you all, we are so happy you and your family are with us.

Finally, we also welcome Isaac into Reception CB this term and Hanz in Year 3MG. We hope that you both feel welcome and included in this wonderful community.

#### **World Teacher's Day – Friday 29 November.**

Today we acknowledge and celebrate those who have chosen teaching as their vocation. Over my many many years of working in education, I have seen many changes to the profession. For most part they are positive, but at times some have left me wondering. What I do know about being a teacher is that to be in this profession you have to want to make a difference in the life of a child. You want them to be the best they can possibly be. You want to work with the family to support and nurture a child.

I have only been in this role as Principal of St Monica's for a short time, but my experience of the staff at St Monica's (and I include the ESO's and OSHC staff in this), is that they are an amazingly devoted and hard-working group of educators who constantly strive to improve in their pedagogies, skills and knowledge. They want the best for each child that they engage with.

Perhaps you might spare a moment to send a message to your child's teacher to tell them what a great job they are doing and share a moment of gratitude. I remember the teacher who had the greatest impact on my life, Mr Campbell and wish that I had taken the time to tell him the difference that he made to me and my education.

God's blessings,

Emily Sayer



# 2021/22 Sacramental Program

The 2021/22 Sacramental Program got underway this week. Students began preparing to celebrate the healing sacrament of Reconciliation. This sacrament celebrates our human ability to make choices, the wisdom to ask for forgiveness and God's grace that loves us unconditionally. We wish all students and the families enrolled in this years program every blessing on their journey.

## After School Activities

At St Monica's we are committed to offering a range of activities for children. Over the last few years, we have built our after-school activities offered to include a range of interests. We have accessed sports clinics such as basketball, football, hockey, cricket and soccer and activities such as chess club, art club and robotics.

This term the students are enjoying Robotics (Thursday nights) and Basketball (Tuesday nights). The take up for both were extremely popular.

We are always on the lookout for other sports/activities that may interest children. If you have a suggestion that we could investigate or a company/ group who you think would fit well at St Monica's please email through your suggestions to either myself or Annette.

Erin Gentile

After School Activities Co-Ordinator

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## Tennis Carnival

The Tennis Carnival was a fun and enjoyable experience. There were many courts to play on and many schools to play against.

The people we played against were very nice and fair. The court supervisor would put on music every game and at the end of the game they would stop the music and that's when we knew when to stop playing.

Our school played 6 games and enjoyed them all. We were put in 7 teams for example Walkerville 6 was one of the teams and Walkerville 7 was another and so on. After a game we would go up to our home base to enjoy a snack and drink before going up again to play.

We enjoyed this very much because of the sportsmanship there, we liked getting to know some other people from other schools, as well as getting to play tennis with them!

Congratulations to Evan for winning the sportsmanship award which was a tennis racket.

Overall, this was a very good carnival and everyone enjoyed playing tennis at the Tennis!

From Mia and Sienna

Year 4



## Thriving People

Niina Marni (Hello) everyone!

On Monday the 25 October Mrs Barber and Jacob Kelly set out with our friends from St Martin's Catholic School to celebrate Aboriginal culture. We explored the theme, 'we are living, learning and playing on Kurna Land,' at the Living Kurna Cultural Centre at Warriparinga Wetlands.

We had a fabulous day learning about Kurna Culture. We were warmly welcomed in a smoking ceremony, and we were adorned with some beautiful white ochre on our foreheads.

Our first activity was to build a traditional shelter using the resources around us. Together we collected items such as big branches, and clusters of leaves. The children worked together in teams to build shelters called Wodli, meaning house in Kauna. It was so much fun building our wodlis and then sitting inside them! At the end of this activity, the children learnt the valuable lesson of showing respect for the land and leaving the land as they found it, returning all the resources back to where they came from.

Our next two activities explored story telling using Aboriginal symbols. In one of these activities the children learnt about ochre and the different types used in Aboriginal art. For this activity the children used white ochre. We learnt how to prepare it by grinding it between stones before adding water to make a paste for painting. This special paint was then used to paint the stories that the children created using the Aboriginal symbols. In the final activity we listened to traditional Dreaming Stories. The children created and shared their own Dreaming Stories which were drawn on boomerangs.

It was wonderful to come together as a community to learn about the Kurna Culture and connect with nature. A big thank you to Corey Turner and all the people who welcomed us to the Living Kurna Cultural Centre.

Nakutha (Goodbye)

Michelle Barber and Jacob



A man and a woman follow the emu tracks then they find 2 big streams and set up camp there for the night. The next morning they walk over a sand hill. They find lots of witchetty grub and set up camp and finally they hunt a kangaroo.

I enjoyed making the ochre and painting and I loved the food, especially the kangaroo sausage.

Jacob



## LIBRARY NEWS

### Scholastic Book Fair

The Book Fair was a great success, providing students with examples of the latest in picture books, quality fiction and graphic novels. Many exciting stories and adventures will be found within their pages.

Popular books sold out quickly and additional orders have been placed and will be given to your children as soon as they arrive.

Many thanks to the Parents for their generous support and investment in their children's education. Every purchase helps provide learning and literacy resources for St Monica's.

*'So Matilda's strong young mind continued to grow, nurtured by the voices of all those authors who had sent their books out into the world like ships on the sea. These books gave Matilda a hopeful and comforting message: You are not alone.'* Roald Dahl, *Matilda*

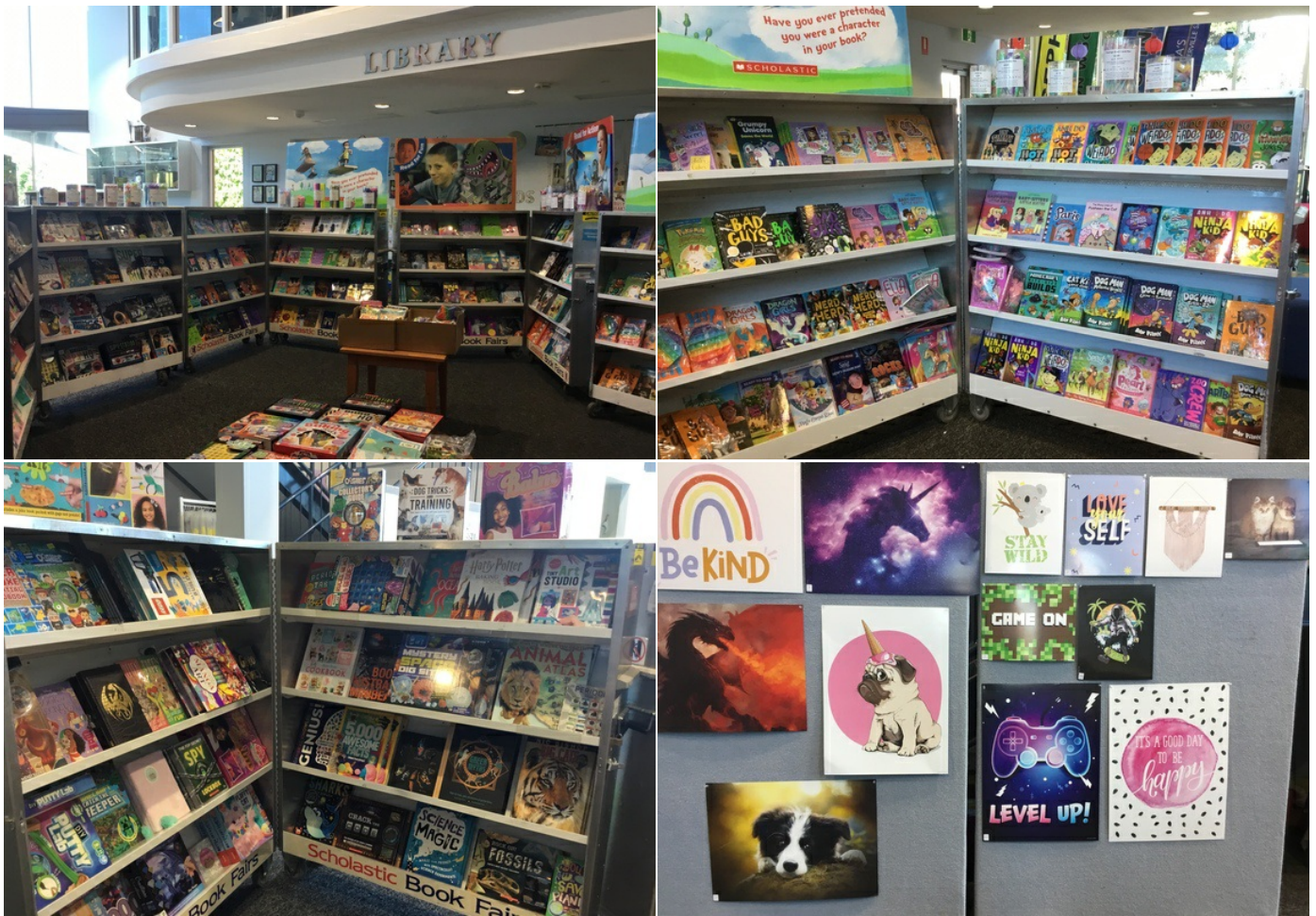
### Premier's Reading Challenge

The Certificates and Medals have arrived and will be distributed next week. Congratulations to all our students who completed the Challenge.

### Overdue Library Books – a friendly reminder

Please check at home for any overdue library books and return them as soon as possible. Thank you.





## Vacation Care

During the school holidays the children at Vacation Care did a number of activities.

We had a yoga session with Tammy where we made our own relaxing eye masks. There was a virtual zoo day where we watched animals in zoos around the world.

There were lots of opportunities to do art and craft activities, free play and cooking. There was an excursion to The Lights Sports Centre - indoor sports, a bouncy castle and a lacrosse session - a lot of fun!

We finished the program with a Talent Show and a Carnival day.

The next vacation care program will be available from week 7.

It is \$55/day (\$60 excursion days). Bookings can be made directly with OSHC staff or the school office.

Jodie Byrne

OSHC Director.





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