



## Important Dates

---

Last day Vacation  
Care 2022

Thursday 22 December

Vacation Care  
Reopens

Monday 9 January

Front Office  
Reopen

Monday 23 January

Meet the Teacher  
Conversations

Wednesday 25 January

Book Collection

Wednesday 25 January

Term 1 Commences

Monday 30 January

Welcome Picnic

Sunday 19 February

Pupil Free Day

Friday 10 March

---

## Principal's Report

This year has been one of many interesting and challenging moments. We started the year coming back with a staggered beginning of the different year levels and it wasn't until Week 3 that we finally came together as a whole school community. Term 1 and 2 were both times when we experienced many absences due to COVID but it has only been this the last few weeks of Term 3 and this term that we have come back to a closer sense of 'normal' and being able to be together and celebrate those important events in a school year.

Yesterday we had a wonderful graduation celebration for our amazing Year 6 students. Each student was presented with a copy of Dr Seuss' book, "The Places You'll Go". The life lessons that you can learn from a picture book should never be underestimated. We say farewell and thank you to these 26 wonderful young people who have led our community with respect, integrity and pride. They have left an amazing example for the next cohort of senior students to follow.

Each year staff and the Year 6 class select the recipient of the Mary MacKillop Graduate Award. This student is someone who follows the values of Mary Mackillop and the recipient is Rianne Dy. Thank you to Lily Allison, the recipient of this award in 2021, who presented the award to Rianne. Congratulaton Rianne!

This year the Volunteer's Award for outstanding service to St Monica's Parish School was awarded to Vince and Vicki Musolino. Congratulations and our heartfelt thanks.



As mentioned in an earlier email we sadly say goodbye and thank you to some staff.

Jade Ryan has been successful in winning a permanent position at Xavier Campus, Evanston next year. Jade has brought an energy and passion to her work in welcoming and educating our youngest cohort, the Term 4 Reception class. She was even courageous enough to teach the staff the dance medley for our community event last week.

Donna Harrison who stepped in seamlessly when Maddalena Eden needed to take leave ensured that the engaging and exciting Italian program continued. We thank her for her commitment to our student's education and their love of Italian.

Donna will still be a part of our community as a mum to one of our students whilst also working at a Department for Education school. We welcome Maddalena back to our community in 2023.

Maisie Henderson has been our much loved chaplain for the last 3 years. Every child knows and loves Maisie for her genuine care and connection that she has with them. Her offer of leading the Pokémon club at recess times on a Friday was very popular and appreciated. Maisie has been successful in winning a teaching position at Cabra College in 2023.

Katie Pederick who has been working as a classroom ESO, with specialist support for our Term 3 Reception class will complete her time with us. It is not good bye to Katie as we will still have her in our community as a parent and member of the Parents and Friends group.

The final farewell is for a quiet achiever. Our groundsperson, Joe has been with us for the last year and goes about making our school look tidy and neat, fixing and mending things quietly and helping all who ask. Joe will be increasing his hours at his 'other' school Rosary and sadly is unable to work across both sites. We are truly grateful for his positive attitude and the hard work that he undertaken at St Monica's.

To all these staff, we offer a heart felt thank you for not only your work in our community but for who you are. We are a blessed community to have had you as a part of our story.

I would also like to say thank you and farewell to a number of students and families who leave us at the end of the year. We wish you all every blessing at your new school and hope that you leave us with many fond and special memories.

Thank you to all those who were able to attend our End of Year Community Celebration last Friday night at Kildare. I know I left there with feelings of joy and pride in our students and the courage they displayed in performing to such a large but very supportive audience. We thank Kildare again for their support of our community in allowing us to use their facilities. Not sure how we can top the final item but we will give it our best shot in 2023.



The new student leaders for 2023 have been selected and it is pride that I share their names and roles with you. Congratulations to each student and I look forward to working with you next year.

### Student Voice

Nithara, Sienna, Ayla, Mia & Jacob

### House Captain

Hellen and Hanz (Tennison Woods)

Om and Xavier (Mackillop)

Gabriel and Aadvick (Joseph)

Ella and Hrishu (Augustine)

### Liturgy Leaders

Annabelle, Megan, Ellie, Tawanda, Shaziya, Adela, Natalie, Alexia & Evan



Reports are going home today and there is quite a bit of important information about 2023 included in the envelope especially about book collection day and making an appointment for our Meet the Teacher Day on Wednesday 25 January. Administration staff will be back onsite on Monday 23 January if you are requiring further information.

Our front of playground redevelopment is going further along the process of planning and construction. We have had an arborist in to check the health of our mature trees and now we are getting the soil tested to ensure that we don't need to address and issues that we can't see due to the bark chips. Images of the concept plan for the play space will be printed these holidays and displayed in the library for your perusal. The Student Voice have been very much involved in the development of the design and we have enjoyed working with Dirt Works. They have listened carefully to the voice of the students and incorporated their suggestions into the end design including a ramp to enter this play and learning space for all community members.

As this school year draws to a close, I want to thank all the students, staff, and families of St Monica's for their wonderful sense of community and welcome to all who come here. I hope that each family has the opportunity to gather together to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and spend some very special time together.

God's blessings and peace during this blessed season and I look forward to reconnecting with you all in 2023.

Emily Sayer

## Sport

On Tuesday 29 November the following students, Mahlie , Aria , Sophie , Charlotte, Liam , Hitansh , Naksh , Ricky , Chloe and Artin participated in the State Hot Shots Tennis Finals. We played against the top sixteen schools in the state, there were catholic, independent and state schools at the carnival. It was heaps fun, and we came 8th out of 16 schools. We were very proud of ourselves and we think we were good today. We played lots of doubles games against other schools. We almost came 7th but we ended up coming 8<sup>th</sup> on a count back on points. Everyone had lots of fun and we got delicious sausages that were free. At the end of the day everyone had a fun time and really enjoyed the experience.

Thank you to Mr M for taking us 😊

By Aria Higgins, Charlotte Goonan and Chloe Bolzon



## LIBRARY NEWS

As there are still unreturned Library books, could you please search at home over the holidays and return any found when school returns next year. Thank you.

## Parents and Friends

### SAVE THE DATE

The P&F would like to invite all St Monica's students and their families to the 2023 Welcome Picnic. The picnic is an occasion to welcome new families to the school as well as welcome in the new school year together as a community. Grab a blanket and bring a picnic and drinks. There will be a BBQ and activities for the children. Come and catch up with friends, old and new.

Date: Sunday 19th February, 2023

Time: 1pm

Location: Bennett Reserve, Manningham

P&F Committee

## Vinnies Toy and Hamper Appeal

Thank you for the wonderful support for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. The enormous amount of donations was amazing and heart-warming. Many families in our Community will have a much happier Christmas this year because of your kindness and will know that they are loved and supported by others. Vinnies motto is 'Good Works' and the whole St Monica's community, the students, parents and staff have done this.

God bless you and your families and may you have a Happy Christmas.



## Vinnies – School Uniform Shop

As Christmas approaches I would like to advise you of the Vinnies Store Closures

Vinnies will be closed from close of business **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of December until Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of January.**

During the Christmas and back to school period we would appreciate if customers could please book in for uniform fittings.

Thank you

Kind regards

Kirsty Suckling

School Uniform Co-ordinator

## Student Achievements

Madeleine Sok participated in the national cheer and dance competition over the weekend. She was part of the Adelaide All Star Cheerleading club (changing to Outlaws Cheerleading next year) and her teams came second nationally in the junior year 1 division, and they came first in the youth novice division. Her teams trained very hard and performed amazingly.



## Acknowledgment of Country

St Monica's acknowledge the Kurna People as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we live, learn and work. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual connection and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to this country and commit to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

All Content Copyright 2022 ©