

St. Monica's Newsletter



2022: Term 3 - Week 6



St. Monica's acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land, the Wurunjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders both past, present and emerging



Important Dates

Term 3

Monday 22nd August

Whole School Assembly - 2.40pm

Catherine Cumming MP - Special Guest

Tuesday 23rd August

First Aid in School

Wednesday 24th August

Now we're talking - Languages information session 6pm (highly recommended for parent engagement)

Thursday 25th August

Book Week Parade (9.15am) and celebrations

Friday 26th August

School Closure Day - Staff Faith Formation

Monday 29th August

St Monica's Feast Day celebrations

- Whole School Mass at 12pm

No Assembly today

Friday 2nd September

Father's Day Family BBQ - Starts at 5pm onwards before the disco

'Bop till you drop' Family Engagement Disco 6pm -8pm

Monday 5th September

Whole School Assembly - 2.40pm

Monday 12th September

Whole School Assembly - Final for Term 3

Thursday 15th September - Last day of Term 3 for students (normal dismissal time)

Friday 16th September

- **School Closure Day - Additional Pupil Free Day Teacher professional Practice Time**

St Monica's promotes and supports healthy eating as much as possible. Vegetable and fruit snacks are strongly encouraged on a daily basis. When celebrating a child's birthday, families are not permitted to bring lollie bags to hand out. If you have a query relating to this matter, please contact the principal.



Prayer

On Monday, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of Mary in a whole school Mass. On this day, we remember how Mary was taken to heaven not only with her soul, but also with her body. Fr Philip also reminded us of the importance of our own Mothers and how we need to continue to show them our love and appreciation.

Father in heaven,
all creation rightly gives you praise,
for all life and all holiness come from you.
in the plan of your wisdom
she who bore Christ in her womb
was raised body and soul in glory to be with him in heaven
May we follow her example in reflecting in your holiness
and join in her hymn of endless love and praise.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen



Principal's Message

Dear Families,

Week 6 has absolutely flown by as we head towards the end of winter. Celebrating the Feast of the Assumption on Monday 15th August as a whole school with Fr Phillip was real highlight reminding us all of the importance of Mary - the mother of Jesus in our lives as Christians.

It was very pleasing this week to see that many families chose to support our school lunch orders on Wednesday. Let's try and maintain this as we continue to use this terrific service.

Please note we have decided to change our Father's Day school celebrations. We will now be having a family sausage sizzle prior to our 'Bop til ya Drop' Family disco on Friday 2nd September. We cannot wait to see lots of you there for this fun and friendly family engagement night, where parents, students and staff can dance and mingle together in our exciting and colourful school hall. Tickets are selling fast at the school office.

A **BIG REMINDER** that St Monica's has a school closure day next Friday 26th August as has been listed in our important dates all term.

In Partnership,
Nathan

Reminders

- Please report **student absences** before 9:15am on the day of absence via Skoolbag OR by calling 9689-4548 OR emailing: office@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au
- Lunch order day is Wednesday
- Our school gate is open at 8.30am every morning for student arrival
- Children eat lunch at 1.40pm every day before going out to play

Lunch orders on Wednesday - If children are going to be absent and orders are placed, they can be cancelled up to 8.30am that morning.

Parents & Friends opportunity

St Monica's is in the early stages of reimagining the Parents & Friends, or P&F to encourage family engagement and promote St Monica's Primary School's values and objectives.

'Progress, partnership and teamwork is possible when contributions are valued and involvement is encouraged'

Throughout the year, the committee hopes to raise funds, host social events and support students and teachers – joining is an excellent way to make new friends and be involved in your child's school life.

The P&F hopes to establish an annual fundraising target to contribute towards the development of school facilities and new equipment. For example, a new multi-age playground, outdoor furniture and financial support for wellbeing for learning initiatives and school concert performances.

We aim to establish a P&F that consists an executive committee, general committee members, staff representatives and the Principal. We are seeking all interested parents who wish to join us in making a difference for our community. We welcome and encourage all parents to contribute towards school life. We look forward to organising our foundation meeting and setting a direction moving forward.

To express your interest, email principal@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au

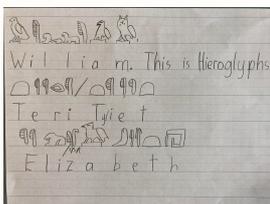
This week in the Juniors

Mathematics

This week in Maths, the Juniors have been practising addition and subtraction strategies including, counting on, counting back and using number lines. We are learning that the = symbols means 'the same as' and not 'the answer is.' We made equivalence chains to show expressions that are equal.

Literacy

This week in the Juniors we have been imagining going back in time to learn about Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt. We have explored what farming, cities, writing, religion and leaders were like during these times through listening to stories from this era.



Social Emotional Learning

On Wednesday this week, we participated in the Bully Zero incursion. We learnt about what bullying means, how we can identify the signs of bullying and what we can do if we see or experience bullying. Congratulations to William for winning the colouring in competition!



Student Awards

Each week, students who embody our values, and apply the school learning powers are awarded a class award. The students who earned an award in the past week are:

JB	Piper K
JJ	Mezmur G
MAH	Jonah R
MAS	Chloe Ph
SG	Nobel M
SI	Hannah S

Principal
Award

Zach X

Specialist
Award

Sonny K



Bully Zero Presentation

Wednesday 11th August



On Wednesday we welcomed Katie from Bully Zero to St Monica's. Katie presented engaging and informative sessions to our students.

Topics covered included:

Definition of bullying
Types of bullying
Being safe online

Strategies and supports available to respond to bullying situations and
The role of bystanders

Our student participated enthusiastically and asked some great questions.

Below are some key take-aways from some of our students.

Bullying means some is mean to you every single day, doing it more than once.

It is important to take care of others. I take care of others by saying thank you and being nice -

William, Junior J

Katie taught us not to be bullies. We need to be nice to each other and kind. If someone is not nice to us we need to tell a teacher.

I am glad Katie came to our school, she taught me lots -

Nissa, Junior B

Cyber bullying is when a friend does not want to be friends anymore online -

Sophia, Middle AS

Bullying is when you target someone and you keep doing it again and again. Being mean to someone once is not bullying, but it is not nice -

Micaela, Middle AS

The Bully Zero presentation was interesting because we learnt about the different types of bullying. I found out that during Covid cyber bullying increased by 83% and it is now the most common type of bullying around the world -

Zach, Senior G



The Bully Zero presentation was informative because it taught me about what to do if I am being bullied.

So I know that the first thing I need to do is tell a trusted adult -

Kalvin, Senior G

Katie from Bully Zero told us about blue light. Did you know that even when your device is off, it is still active and emitting blue light.

There is research that tells us how harmful blue light is for our eyes and our sleep -

Zac, Calvin and Allen, Senior G

The Bully Zero presentation talked about a serious topic but Katie kept it positive, informative and engaging. She used funny videos, shared interesting stories and made sure we felt safe -

Allen, Senior G

I was surprised to know that when I click "I confirm" on any App, it allows it to use my microphone and camera and access my information. So I will now not download Apps that ask me to click on 'I confirm' -

Sasha, Senior I

The presentation was very informative. I now understand how dangerous cyber bullying is and ways to avoid it. I was surprised to learn that even if you have your device in private anyone can still access your photos and information -

Asta, Senior I

St Monica's Day Celebrations 2022



St Monica's

Monday 29th August

Feast Day

Whole School Mass at 12:00pm in our Parish Church



Kaboom Sports
9:00am - 11:00 am



A sensational sausage sizzle for lunch.

Saint Monica was born in North Africa in 332 and died in Italy in 387. She was a good Christian who cared for family and other people. She especially prayed for her son Augustine who did not believe in God. Her prayers helped her son to share in his mother's faith and he baptised and became a Bishop, Priest and Saint. His feast day is celebrated the day after Saint Monica's. Saint Monica is the patron saint of mothers, wives, married women and widows.

Book Week 2022

BOOK WEEK

PARADE AT 9.15AM IN THE HALL

FAMILIES ARE VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND

DRESS UP AS A CHARACTER FROM A BOOK YOU LOVE

AUGUST 25TH, 2022

Children are strongly encouraged to join with teachers and come dressed in their favourite book character costume. It will be a fun with many house points up for grabs on the day.



ST MONICA'S Catholic Primary School
Footscray
We're here to make a difference

Bop till you Drop
IT'S DISCO TIME WITH

★ **Date:** Friday 2nd September '22
★ **Time:** 6.00 – 8.00pm
★ **Location:** School Hall
★ **Tickets:** \$10 per family
★ You can stay as little or as long as you like!
★ **Can't wait to see you there!**

www.boptillyoudrop.com.au

1300 13 03 13

Change of plans everyone

Family friendly sausage sizzle

To acknowledge Father's Day we would like to invite all families to come along a little early and enjoy a family sausage sizzle and community mingle prior to disco starting

What a great way to engage as a community. We encourage as many families as possible to come along and have a heap of fun! Come dressed in your favourite dancing costume if you like.

Look out for the Dad's Dance OFF during the disco!