

St. Monica's Newsletter



2023: Term 2 - Week 1



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 2

Term dates are subject to modification

Friday 28th - ANZAC Day incursion - Guest Speaker and presentation: **Kris Wozniak**

Mon 1st May - Friday 5th May Nathan away Western Zone Principal's Conference - Hobart

Mon 8th May Thurs 11th May - Open Week and school tours available. **Please pass the word around**

Fri 12 May - Mother's Day Breakfast (See Flyer)

Mon 15th May - First Eucharist Family Evening

Tues 16y May - School Advisory Meeting 7pm

Wed 24th May - PNF meeting 3.45pm

Fri 26th May - Fire Ed Visit: Year 5/6

Thurs 1st June - MACS language coach at St Monica's today

Thurs 8th June - First Aid for Schools Program

Mon 12th June - King's birthday holiday

Long Weekend & school closed today

Tues 13th June - School Advisory Meeting 7pm

Tues 20th June - PNF meeting 3.45pm

Fri 23rd June - Last day of Term 2 (**Dismissal 1pm**)

Reconciliation

Date and time to be confirmed with Fr Philip (Oct T 4)

First Eucharist

Thursday 8th June - time to be confirmed

Confirmation

Has recently been set for Saturday 9th September 2023 at 6pm.

Joke from the principal: I recently bought a very interesting book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.

Reminders

- Lunch order day: Every Monday
- Our school gate is open at 8.30am every morning for student arrival
- Children eat lunch at 11.40am (after first play)



St Monica's website

Prayer

God of hope, God of love, And God of Peace, in this season of Easter we rejoice in New Life, your son the risen Jesus gives us. You offer us hope. You offer us peace. We thank you for these treasured lands of ours, Australia and New Zealand.

On Tuesday we remembered the ANZAC soldiers who fought to protect our countries. Help us to strive for peace in all we do.

Principal's Message

'Everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. Everyone who knocks, the door will be opened' **Luke 11:9-10**

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

Welcome back to school for another exciting term! I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are ready to dive back into learning. As we embark on this new term, I want to take a moment to remind everyone of the importance arriving to school on time ready for learning to commence by 9.00am. Every day counts in learning journey's of each and every student. We have achieved so much together and I have no doubt that we will continue to do so.

To our students, I encourage you to approach this term with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn. Set goals for yourself and work hard to achieve them. Remember that your teachers and support staff are here to help you every step of the way.

To our parents and guardians, I want to thank you for your ongoing support of our school community. Your involvement and encouragement are crucial to the success of our students and we appreciate everything you do.

To our staff, I want to thank you for your dedication and hard work. Your commitment to our students is inspiring and I am grateful for all that you do.

Let's work together to make this term a success. I am looking forward to seeing all the great things that we will achieve together. Next week I am away for the week on Principal's Network Conference in Hobart. Andrea will be Acting Principal.

Nathan

PBL VALUES

P Positive B Behaviours for L Learning

This year we have been working with the support of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) to implement Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) at St Monica's.

PBL is a whole-school framework that promotes positive behaviour and helps schools develop safe and supportive learning environments. Explicitly teaching the expected behaviours and acknowledging students who display these positive behaviours is a major component of the PBL framework.

At St Monica's the first step in our PBL journey was identifying the core values we wanted to focus on as a school community. Earlier this term we invited all members of the school community (students, parents and teachers) to vote for the 3 core values.

We are pleased to announce that the school community has chosen the values of RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND RESILIENCE. Under the 'umbrella' of our three values are our Expected Behaviours for Learning that are explicitly taught across all year levels. We will share the Expected Behaviours for Learning matrix with you early in Term 2.

Whilst the values of kindness and safety were not chosen as our core values, kindness and safety will be represented in the Expected Behaviours for Learning matrix.

Our next step in our PBL journey is to gather student voices in branding our values. We look forward to tapping into the creativity of our students and we will share this with you in Term 2.

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

RESILIENCE

'We're here to make a difference'

During Term 2 St Monica's be will developing a Matrix to help us all learn in our best ways. Before we start our PBL journey as a whole school community we need to create a mascot(s) which represents our school community and the values of respect, responsibility and resilience.

What are Mascots?

A mascot is a person, animal, or object adopted by a group as a symbolic figure.

Wheelchair Basketball

On Wednesday, Peter from Wheel Talk came to St Monica's to run a wheelchair basketball session with our senior students. Peter was an Olympic powerlifter and currently plays for the Richmond Tigers in the AFL Wheelchair Competition.

Peter is an inspirational person who always said to appreciate yourself and focus on what you can do and achieve, not what you can't do. He had a tough upbringing, but always tried to improve himself and become a better person. It was amazing to hear what he has achieved so far in life and he isn't finished yet!

He also provided our students with the opportunity to play wheelchair basketball and the students had an absolutely fantastic time. Thanks Peter!

'I felt inspired by Peter because he is very motivational. He said to always keep trying and follow your dreams. We were all new to the sport and didn't know what we were doing and Peter made us feel like could all do it if we just gave it a shot.' - Nobel, Year 6

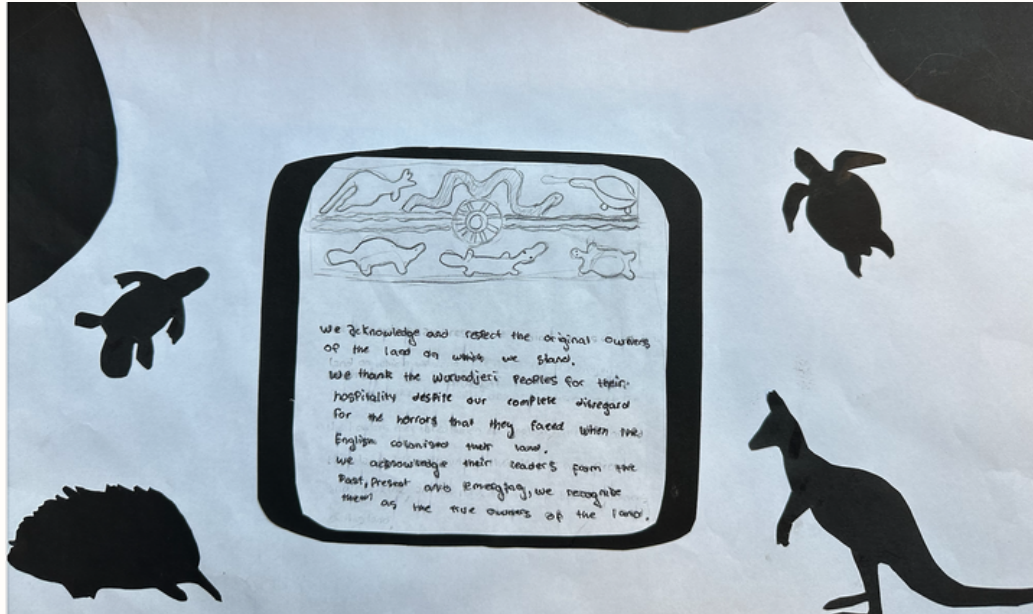


Celebration of Learning

Acknowledgement of Country

The Senior students read the picture story book 'Welcome to Country'. As part of their response, they worked in groups to create their own Acknowledgment of Country to demonstrate their understanding of the text and the importance of acknowledging and respecting the traditional owners of our land.

Thank you Brigid and Sasha for their example below.



ANZAC Incursion

On Friday the St Monica's staff and students were lucky enough to have Kris Wozniak visit us to speak about the significance of Anzac Day. Kris Wozniak is an Australian Defence Force veteran who served in Afghanistan. For the junior school Kris read the story 'Anzac Ted' and answered some fantastic questions from our inquisitive students. For the senior school he prepared a video which shared stories of his experiences and provided an opportunity for students to ask questions about his experience.

Kris brought his duffle bag, badges and uniforms. Some lucky students were able to try on Kris' uniform.

The children at our school were impacted and touched by the stories that Kris had told us about his experiences in war and the army. The way he explained why he chose to make sacrifices and the bonds that he made with his comrades put war into perspective for the children at our school. We thank Kris for his time and effort to prepare for the presentation and we look forward to seeing him next year!

Zach and Brigid - School Captains



ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NATE
MELBOURNE MANAGER



SCHOOL

2

Starting in Term 2, Sports X will be running a 6 week
Soccer program at St Monica's Catholic Primary School every Tuesday
from **7.30am - 8.30am** beginning **May 9th (week 3)**.

The program is available to students from **Prep - Year 6**
On arrival children will be split into groups according to age.
All sessions will be run by **qualified coaches** who hold WWCC.
The sessions will be **fully inclusive & fun-based**, catering for all abilities.

Cost: \$105 / 6-weeks.

For more information and online registrations please visit sports-x.com.au
Please contact us via email for further enquiries: semel@soccer-x.com

We are gauging interest for a 6 week soccer program at St Monica's in Term 2. Soccer X is keen to partner with our school to provide fully inclusive and fun-based soccer sessions.

These sessions would run every Tuesday from 7:30-8.30am starting on Tuesday May 9th (Week 3).

The program is suitable for all students from Foundation - Year 6.

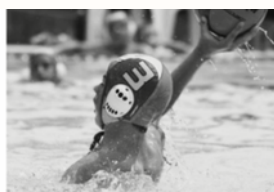
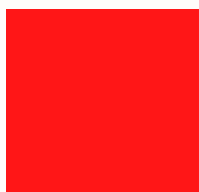
The cost is \$105 for 6 weeks.

Please note we will need a minimum number for this program to run.

Please email Liz if you would like your child to participate in this program.

elizabeth.clements@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au

Please see the attached flyer for more information.



JUNIOR WATER POLO TRAINING

Calling all kids aged 8 - 16 years BRING A FRIEND

Come along and give it a go - learn the basics, then put your skills into action in a game!

THE DETAILS:

Where: Victorian University Pool Footscray

When: Sundays commencing 30 April 2023

Time: 1:00pm to 2:00pm

Cost: First 2 sessions FREE
\$50 per term

More info: info@footscraywaterpolo.com
FOLLOW US
Insta @footscraywaterpolo
Facebook /footscraywaterpolo



Dear Families,

We wanted to take a moment to thank those who have utilised Kelly Club's **before school care service** during Term 1. Unfortunately, due to low booking numbers, it has meant that it is no longer financially viable for Kelly Club to continue to provide before school care.

We understand that before school care can be a crucial resource for some families, and we would love to begin to offer it again if we receive enough interest. If you would like to register your interest, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at stmonicas@kellycluboshc.com.au. We are more than happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support.

Carson Strobel

Kelly Club Schools Partnerships and Relationships Manager

E carson@kellycluboshc.com.au

W www.kellyclub.com.au



DISCOVER OUR HIDDEN GEM IN THE HEART OF FOOTSCRAY

Everyone is welcome at
St Monica's Primary School



Everyday is open day at St Monica's.

We invite you to visit and see our students in
and around the school and to meet our staff too.

Please email our principal Nathan Owen at
principal@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au or ring the
school on **9689 4548** to organise a visit.



2 Wingfield Street Footscray VIC 3011
(03) 9687 8444
principal@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au



Please pass the word around

Open Week

Monday to Thursday

8th-11th May 2023

Our School open tours are an excellent opportunity for you
to explore St Monica's, meet teachers, and see what your
child's educational journey may look like.

Open tours allow you to see the school environment first
hand, meet staff, and learn more about our
culture and values.

Tours available from

9:30am - 10:30am & 2:00pm - 3:00pm



ST MONICA'S
Catholic Primary School
Footscray

We're here to make a difference

SAVE THE DATE

Mother's Day

BREAKFAST

FRIDAY 12TH MAY

8:30 - 9:15 AM

ALL MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS AND
SIGNIFICANT WOMEN ARE WELCOME TO JOIN
US FOR BREAKFAST IN THE HALL

SHOUT TO ALL THE DADS
- PLEASE CONTACT
ANDREA IF YOUR
AVAILABLE TO HELP ON
THE DAY