

# St. Monica's Newsletter



2023: Term 2 - Week 3



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

**Fri 12 May** - Mother's Day Breakfast

(See photos)

**Mon 15th May** - **Whole School Assembly 2.55pm**

First Eucharist Family Evening 6pm

**Tues 16th May** - School Advisory Meeting 7pm

Soccer X Before School 7.30am

**Thurs 18th May** - Year 1/2 Scienceworks excursion

**Thurs 19th May** - Walk to safely to School Day  
8.15am

**Mon 22nd May** - Seda Basketball clinics for PE

**Tues 23rd May** - Soccer X Before School 7.30am

**Wed 24th May** - Seda AFL Clinics

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

**Mon 29th May** - Seda Basketball clinics for PE

**Tues 30th May** - **Soccer X Before School 7.30am**

**Wed 31st May** - Footscray Division Cross Country  
Seda AFL Clinics

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

**Mon 5th June** - Seda Basketball clinics for PE

**Tues 6th June** - Soccer X Before School 7.30am  
PNF morning meeting

**Thurs 8th June** - First Aid for Schools Program

**First Eucharist - 6pm with Fr Philip**

**Mon 12th June** - King's birthday holiday

Long Weekend & school closed today

**Tues 13th June** - Soccer X Before School 7.30am

School Advisory Meeting 7pm

**Mon 19th June** - Seda Basketball clinics for PE

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

## 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 blessing, God of life,  
We thank you for the gift of our mothers,  
And all those who are like mothers to us.  
We place them in your loving care  
And trust that you will give them all that  
they need for life.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your  
Risen Son.

Amen



## Principal's Message

*'More than ever, we should be humble and patient, charitable and forgiving'*  
**Mary MacKillop**

Dear students and parents,

We have now entered into May - the month often dedicated to the Mary, the mother of Jesus. Today as a school community we celebrated all the great ways that mothers help us every day by gathering for our annual Mother's Day Breakfast. What a tremendous way to finish our third week of term 3. Please view the photos contained at the end of our newsletter.

Walking around the classrooms this week I have been reminded how wonderful and inspired by the dedication of our students and teachers both inside the classrooms and outside on the yard. Every day, I witness their hard work and commitment to learning and growing, and it fills me with pride and joy.

In the classrooms, I see our students engaged in their learning, asking questions, and challenging themselves to be the best they can be. I see our teachers going above and beyond to provide the best possible learning experience for their students, constantly seeking new and innovative ways to support and inspire young minds.

Outside on the yard, I witness our students supporting and encouraging one another, whether it's during sports games, in the sandpit, singing in the library or just hanging out with friends. I also see our teachers fostering a sense of community and inclusivity, creating a safe and welcoming environment for all. St Monica's is clearly a happy place to be!

In Partnership,  
Nathan

# Wellbeing in Year 1/2

In SEL Lessons, we have been learning about our emotions and feelings. We learned about all of the different emotions that we might feel such as happy, scared, bored, tired, excited and sad. We learnt about different things we can do to help us cope with our emotions. We also have learned about kindness and being a good friend.

Check out what we have been learning:

I feel scared when a snake comes. When I am scared I like to pat my dog to help me feel less scared - Nissa

When I feel sad, I like to go into the calm corner in the classroom - Nephthalim



Learning about our fears

I like learning about my feelings - Cyrus

I like being a kind friend and being helpful - Kalysha



Reading in the calm corner to calm down

## AFL CLINICS IN PE

The last two weeks, students from Foundation to Grade 6 have participated in different AFL skills and activities during their P.E. sessions. It was great to see all students having a good time, we definitely have some budding footballers at St Monica's!

Please see the flyer about Auskick, if your child from Foundation to Grade 2 would like to join.



**BRING A FRIEND!**

West Footscray Auskick  
Centre

**Saturday 13th May**  
**9.30am-10.30am**  
Shorten Reserve, West  
Footscray

[play.afl/auskick](http://play.afl/auskick)



# STUDENT LEADER VOICES

This week our year six leaders led tours for open week. They showed them around the school and told them about all of the benefits and amazing things our school has to offer.

This Term we want a safer environment for the students on the yard. This means softer equipment, not bringing equipment from home and earning house points for collecting equipment after recess and lunch.

So far in this term we have had two clinics, wheelchair basketball where we got to have the experience of trying basketball but in a wheelchair, we all wheeled around with big smiles on our faces, and AFL where Josh from the Bulldogs team taught us the basics of AFL including handballing, kicking and many different ways to mark!

This term there is a new program every morning on Tuesday at 7:30am, once a week where kids can learn how to play soccer, and students that have signed up for the program participate in soccer lessons.

Mothers day breakfast this morning was a blast! We had so much fun celebrating the amazing things that our mothers do with plenty of food and laughter.

Let us all remember that a mother's arms are more comforting than anyone else's and that a mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend.

Huge Happy Mother's Day for Sunday to all our incredible Mum's, Step mum's and Grandmother's.

## St Monica's Student Leaders





# Mother's Day Breakfast

We just wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for all of you who made our Mother's Day breakfast this morning a huge success. Seeing so many families come together to celebrate the important role of mothers in our lives was truly heartwarming. It was wonderful to see the joy and love that filled our school hall this morning as we shared a delicious croissants tea and coffee and spent time together.

We also want to give a special shoutout to our amazing staff and student volunteers who worked hard with enthusiasm to make this event happen. Their hard work and dedication truly made a difference in creating a memorable morning experience for all of us.

To all the mothers out there, we hope you had a wonderful time and felt appreciated and loved. You are the backbone of our families and our school community, and we are so grateful for all that you do. Thank you again for coming out to our Mother's Day breakfast. We look forward to seeing you at our next event.

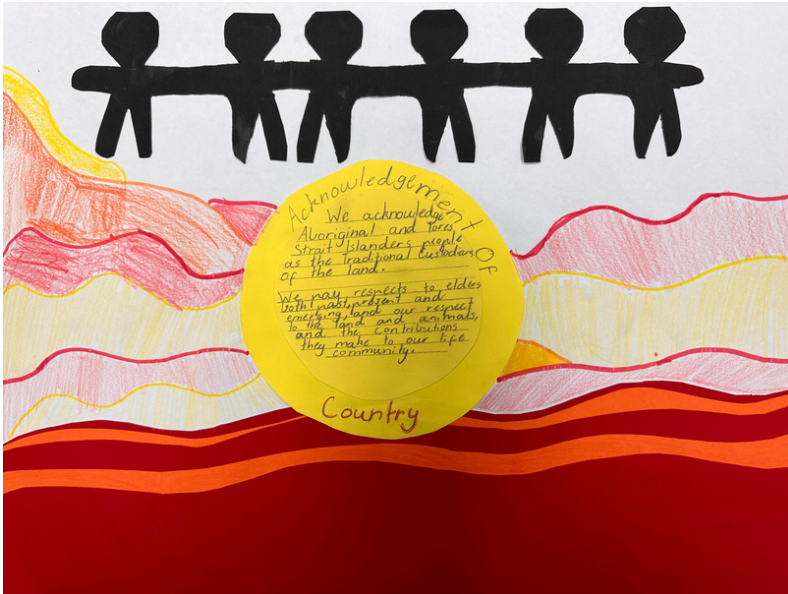


# Celebration of Learning

## Acknowledgement of Country

Senior students are learning more about aboriginal culture through their indigenous perspective inquiry unit. Again in our newsletter we share a created Acknowledgment of Country to demonstrate their understanding and the importance of acknowledging and respecting the traditional owners of our land.

Thank you Katie and Sienna



## Italian

Put simply, learning a language involves actively learning new words, and knowing how to put them together for the purpose of communicating.

Ciao a tutti,

It has been a great start to term 2. The children have all come back to school very enthusiastic for more learning. We have been doing lots of new learning about how to formally and in formally greet others and spoke about our families and made connections about how we might do this at home with our families. We have also learnt how to say how are you and played games either role playing or in pairs playing finish my word. In the next 2 weeks our focus will be learning about what your name is and also how to express likes and dislikes.

Last Wednesday afternoon our staff went to St Brendan's School in Flemington and together with Linton our MACS Languages coach we had an afternoon playing icebreaker games, learning new gestures for example: come ti chiami and engaged in wonderful conversations with their staff. We walked away really enthusiastic to continue to enhance the learning of our students.

Arriverderci  
Signorina Danni





### Soccer X Before School Program.



Students who participated in the Soccer X Before School program on really enjoyed their session with Cian. In Miesha's words, "We learnt how to do different turns with the ball and played different games. It was really fun!"

When: 7:30am-8:30am Tuesday mornings (come to the front office)

It isn't too late to join. Here is a link to the booking page on the website.



**[St Monica's Catholic Primary School | Sports X \(sports-x.com.au\)](https://sports-x.com.au)**



**Walk Safely to School Day  
Friday 19 May 2023**

National Road Safety Week is an annual initiative from the Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH) Group, partnering road safety organisations and Government. The week highlights the impact of road trauma and ways to reduce it.

National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) 2023 is on **Friday 19 May**. Now in its 24th year, the annual campaign encourages all primary school children, their parents and carers to walk safely and regularly to school. The initiative aims to raise awareness of the health, road safety, transport and environmental benefits that regular walking or alternative active transport (especially to and from school) can provide for the long term wellbeing of our children, not just on 19 May, but every day. Apart from the physical benefits, regular walking (or similar) also has a favourable impact on children's cognitive and academic performance.

### National Walk Safely to School Day - Key Messages

- To encourage parents and carers to walk regularly to school with primary school age children
- To promote the health benefits of walking and create regular walking habits
- To help children develop vital road crossing skills and ensure children up to the age of 10 years hold an adult's hand when crossing the road
- To reduce car dependency and traffic congestion
- To reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles
- To promote the use of public transport

St Monica's School invites all parents and children who wish to participate in walking to school safely on Friday 19th May to meet down at Footscray wharf out the front of the Footscray Arts Centre at 8.15am and walk safely to school together. We hope to see many families join us we collectively promote National Walk Safely to school day 2023.



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:principal@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au)



Parents are asked to help spread the word about how  
amazing our school is.....

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

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