

# St. Monica's Newsletter



2023: Term 4 - Week 6: November Edition



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 4

**Tuesday 14th November** - Andrew Chinn concert. **Families are invited to attend the concert at 2:15pm.**

**Wednesday 15th November** F/1/2 Lego Discovery excursion

**Tuesday 21st November**

School Advisory Meeting 5pm - 6pm

**Monday 27th November**

Foundation & Year 3-6 Swimming Program at MAC commences **(2 week program)**

**Sunday 3rd December**

Bunnings sausage sizzle **8am - 4pm**

**Thursday 7th December** Community Event Showcase of Christmas Sing - a - long **(more information coming...)**

**Tuesday 12th December** - End of Year 6 celebration evening

**Wednesday 13th December** - Step Up session for 2024

**Thursday 14th December** - Year 6 celebration Day: Luna Park

**Key Date:** Last day for Students is **Friday 15th December**. Regular daily dismissal time at **3.15pm**

- **Monday 18th December** - Whole Staff Professional Learning Day
- **Tuesday 19th December** - Time in Lieu (TIL) as per Teacher Agreement

### REMINDERS

- Please ensure your child arrives at school on time and is prepared for each day's lessons.
- If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please notify the school office as soon as possible.

**office@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au**

- Stay updated with school news through our website and school facebook page
- Weekly overview is sent out via **Operoo** and is posted on our **Facebook page** on Sunday ready for the next week

**St Monica's website**



## Remembrance Day Prayer



### Principal's Message

Dear students and families,

I hope this message finds you all well as we enter week 7 and continue to embark on the exciting journey that is Term 4!

As we head into the middle of November, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible sense of community and dedication that defines our school. Attending Year 3/4 camp this week at Portsea Camp allowed me to witness first hand the collective effort of our students and teachers in creating an environment that fosters learning, growth, and positive teamwork. A huge shout out to Miss Liz, Miss Andrea and Miss Ida for helping make this year's middles camp such a memorable experience.

Please note that we have an exciting array of events planned for the remainder of the year. All important events and dates are listed and I encourage each of you to check on these dates regularly.

Let us all continue to demonstrate kindness and respect in all that we do. Gratitude spreads happiness - I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such a dedicated and supportive community.

In Partnership,  
Nathan

# Class Structures and Staff for 2024

We are thrilled to announce the dedicated and talented staff members who will make up our team for the upcoming 2024 school year at St Monica's. Our commitment to providing the best education for our students remains steadfast, and we believe these individuals will contribute greatly to our school's ongoing success.

Principal	Nathan Owen	Foundation/ Year 1	Anna Scarmozzino
Deputy Principal - Learning Diversity/Mental Health in Primary Schools Leader	Andrea Willberger	Year 1/2	Helen Power & Sandra Di Vita (Fri)
Learning and Teaching/ Mathematics Leader	Amy Horan	Year 3/4	Kira Young
Literacy Intervention Leader	Melissa Cumming	Year 3/4	Melissa Cumming (previously intervention)
Student Wellbeing Leader	Helen Power	Year 5/6	Sami Tighe
Religious Education Leader	Anna Scarmozzino	Year 5/6	TBC (new)
School Administration	Anna Trainor and Ha Le	STEM	Amy Horan
Learning Support Officers	Danni Scarmozzino Ash Marshall (new) Tobee Bugeja	Arts	Maryanne Phelan (new)
Speech Pathologist	Cecilia Pham	Physical Education / Sports Coordinator	Liz Clements
ICT Technology Support	Joey Santos	Kitchen Garden / Science	Jodie Donaghey (new)
		Daily Languages Assistant (TCL)	Danni Scarmozzino
		Library Assistant	Mary Skidmore (Thurs)

2024 Staff

ST MONICA'S  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

New



Ash Marshall



Jodie Donaghey



Maryanne Phelan

We are confident that our new staff members will contribute to a positive and productive learning environment at St Monica's. Their expertise, dedication, and passion for education will undoubtedly enhance the overall educational experience for our students.

We look forward to next year with great enthusiasm and optimism. Together, as a school community, we can achieve remarkable things. We're here to learn and we're here to make a difference.



## Farewell Miss Grace

It is with a mixture of excitement and sadness that I will be saying farewell to the St Monica's community at the end of the year.

I began my teaching at St Monica's as a graduate, eager to learn and grow as a teacher. I have been fortunate to work alongside supportive colleagues who have guided me in my teaching career. I feel privileged to have worked in partnership with so many wonderful families and students during my time at St Monica's.

I have many memories that I will cherish from my time at St Monica's. It has been a joy to be part of the amazing school community, and I thank you for allowing me to be part of it.

I wish you all the very best for the future.

Grace

## Farewell Miss Ida

During my time as a teacher I have worked in many settings and the small, vibrant and welcoming community here at St. Monica's is exceptional.

Sadly, I won't be here in a full time capacity next year but you will see me around as a casual relief teacher.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the students, staff and the wider community of St. Monica's for the special memories I have made here over the last two years.

Ida

Miss Ida

## Farewell Miss Katherine

We farewell Miss Katherine who has worked as a Music teacher at St Monica's for four years.

We thank Katherine for her dedication to music education at St Monica's and wish her well in her well in her future endeavours.

## Farewell Mr Gareth

We farewell Mr Gareth who has worked as a Learning Support Officer in the middles and seniors.

We thank Mr Gareth for his positive contribution to our school community and wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

# Middles Camp

Portsea Middles Camp 2023

***By Lucia Narsilio***

On Wednesday all the Middles went to camp in Portsea. It was a long drive and it took two hours to get to Portsea on the bus! After we were done with the TWO HOUR DRIVE we went straight to the activities but my favourite was the giant swing! One by one everyone went high up in the sky and had a turn on the big swing! The amazing part was when Nero and Jessica went up to the top of the gigantic swing and they did not scream one bit. When we were done at the giant swing we went to eat some lunch and it was yummy. Then we headed to ride scooters and it was very fun. Later that night we went to the beach and searched for shells and we roasted marshmallows over the firepit. We also got to play gaga ball which was really fun.

On Thursday morning we worked in teams to build huts. It was challenging but we were risk takers and we found a solution and in the end we built the best hut! Then we headed to the flying fox and it was no ordinary flying fox, it was a long giant flying fox onto the oval! It was so much fun but sadly we had to leave to go back to Footscray. I had the best time at Portsea Camp and I would recommend it to everyone! Maybe you will go there one day? Who knows, maybe you will.



# Andrew Chinn Concert Day

## We cannot wait....

On November 14, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow", "An African Blessing" and "Rise Up!" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada. The concert will take place in the school hall, at 2:15. We look forward to seeing you there.



St Monica's on Tuesday, November 14.  
Parents invited to attend the concert  
at 2:15pm.



# 2nd Bunnings BBQ



St Monica's has another Bunnings sausage sizzle this year on **Sunday 3rd December** and we require plenty of volunteers on the day to ensure another successful school fundraiser.

- Donations of soft drinks and bottled water only would be very much appreciated. These can be dropped off at the school office in lead up to this date
- We already have some volunteers. An **Operoo** will be sent home next week asking for more volunteers. It is a great fun day so please consider.

