

# St. Monica's Newsletter



2024 Term 1 - March edition (End of Term 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.



## Holy Thursday

Servant Jesus, at the Last Supper, you got on your knees, wrapped an apron around yourself, and washed the feet of your disciples. It was an act of service and unconditional love. On this sacred day, we are surrounded by signs, symbols, and images emphasising the value of service. We pray that our own desires and needs never overshadow the dignity and integrity of those around us. May we follow your example at the Last Supper and learn to be true servants for others.



Amen.

### Principal's Message

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

As we reach the end of Term 1, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've had together so far this year. It has been a time of growth, learning, and community building, and I am immensely proud of each and every one of you for your dedication and hard work.

To our students, I commend you for your resilience and commitment to your education. You have shown determination all term and have continuously strived to present your best efforts. Your enthusiasm and passion inspire us all, and I have no doubt that you will continue to achieve great things as our year at SMF unfolds.

As we look ahead to the start of Term 2, let us carry forward the lessons we have learned and the friendships we have forged during this term. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence, embrace new challenges, and celebrate our successes as a school community of learners.

Wishing you all a restful and rejuvenating Easter holiday break, and I look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready to tackle the opportunities that await us in the next term.

In Partnership, Nathan

# Learning and Teaching

Over the past couple of weeks our Year 3 and Year 5 students have completed a total of 112 NAPLAN tests. These tests focussed on assessing Writing, Reading, Language Conventions and Numeracy skills. It was fantastic to see our students tackle these tests with both poise and resilience.

Thank you to our Grade 3 and 5 teachers and Learning Support Officers for working hard to prepare our students for success by fostering a calm and predictable learning environment in the lead up to and during the testing period. The results from NAPLAN help us as a school to celebrate our successes and identify key focus areas for future learning. Families can expect student results to be sent home from school later in the year.



- ▼ Please be aware that little Rockers is currently working on and preparing a timetable to support our musical instrument lessons. Commencement dates will be provided early Term 2.



Guitar



Piano



Singing



Drums

# PROJECT COMPASSION

On the 27th of March we had a Crazy Clothes Day to raise money for Project Compassion. The students were very creative dressing up in lots of different crazy and colourful costumes. The children entered the school exhilarated, ready for a happy and fun day. We would like to thank the community for putting in all the effort to create crazy costumes and more importantly the wonderful donation of \$81.70 that will go towards helping people in need through Project Compassion.



Missy and Janelle  
Social Justice Leaders



Crazy  
clothes  
day

# Assemblies

In Term 2 we will be trialing a different format to our whole school assemblies. In order to promote parent engagement in student learning we will be inviting parents to Open Classroom Afternoons. There will be five scheduled Open Classroom Afternoons in Term Two. Parents will be invited to spend 15 minutes in their child's classroom fortnightly on **Mondays from 3:00- 3:15 pm**. The format of the Open Classroom Afternoon will vary depending on the year level. In essence, teachers and students will share aspects of their learning with parents.

There will be two scheduled whole school assemblies in Term 2. This will provide an opportunity to gather as a whole school community.

We warmly encourage parents to participate in both the Open Classroom Afternoons and whole school assemblies.





**OPEN CLASSROOM  
AFTERNOONS &  
WHOLE  
SCHOOL  
ASSEMBLIES  
2024 Term 2**

**Monday  
22nd APRIL 3:00** Open Classroom Afternoon

**Monday  
6 MAY 3:00** Open Classroom Afternoon

**Monday  
13 MAY 2:45** Whole School Assembly

**Monday  
20 MAY 3:00** Open Classroom Afternoon

**Monday  
3 JUNE 3:00** Open Classroom Afternoon

**Monday  
17 JUNE 3:00** Open Classroom Afternoon

**Monday  
24 JUNE 2:45** Whole School Assembly

## Open Classroom Afternoon

At 3pm parents/guardians/grandparents are invited into their child's classroom.

We kindly request that toddlers do not enter classrooms in order to minimise distractions for students and teachers.

At 3:15pm parents leave the classroom followed by students and teacher.

If you have multiple students, we suggest alternating the classroom you visit.

## Whole School Assembly

At 2:45 parents/guardians/grandparents gather in the school hall. The whole school assembly will begin with a Welcome to Country, National Anthem followed by a Prayer.

The school choir will perform for the school community.



**ST MONICA'S**  
Catholic Primary School

We're here to make a difference

# IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 2 2024

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>15th April (Monday)</b>   | <b>First day of Term 2</b>         |
| <b>22nd April (Monday)</b>   | Open Classroom afternoon 3:00-3:15 |
| <b>23rd April (Tuesday)</b>  | School Photos                      |
| <b>25th April (Thursday)</b> | ANZAC Day                          |
| <b>26th April (Friday)</b>   | School Closure                     |
| <b>3rd May (Friday)</b>      | Picasso and Trivia Night           |
| <b>6th May (Monday)</b>      | Open Classroom afternoon 3:00-3:15 |
| <b>13th May (Monday)</b>     | Whole school assembly 2:45-3:15    |



**ST MONICA'S**  
Catholic Primary School

We're here to make a difference

# IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 2 2024

- 20th May (Monday)** Open Classroom afternoon 3:00-3:15
- 30th May (Thursday)** First Holy Communion
- 3rd June (Monday)** Open Classroom afternoon 3:00-3:15
- 10th June (Monday)** Public Holiday
- 17th June (Monday)** Open Classroom afternoon 3:00-3:15
- 24th June (Monday)** Whole school assembly 2:45-3:15
- 28th June (Friday)** Last Day of Term 2 1pm finish



**ST MONICA'S**  
Catholic Primary School

We're here to make a difference



# PROVISIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

My name is **Monica** and I am a Provisional Psychologist currently completing my Master of Educational and Developmental Psychology at the University of Melbourne. I am thrilled to be joining and working collaboratively with the team and community at St Monica's this year to support the wellbeing of its students. As a Registered Provisional Psychologist, my role is to support the mental health, emotional, and social development of students. My role also involves working individually with students and with groups to address a range of social, emotional, and behavioural needs, as well as working collaboratively with teachers, school staff, and parents to ensure that the students receive the support they need to reach their full potential.

If you have any questions or would like to have a chat, you can find me in the front office on Wednesdays and Thursdays or send me an email at **[school.counsellor@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au](mailto:school.counsellor@smfootscray.catholic.edu.au)**.

I look forward to working closely with the students, parents/guardians, and the school staff team at St Monica's Primary School.



**This week we surveyed all the grades to see what they wanted for the Term 2 Friday treats (instead of Zooper Doopers because it's getting cold).**

**The choices were, gummy bears, cookies, gummy snakes and popcorn.**

**The results were...butter popcorn with 26 votes!  
From term 2 we will be selling popcorn every Friday.**

**Hannah and Jaden  
School Captains**



SOSU is celebrating it's first year on Yewers St!

## ALL SEWN UP[CYCLED]

**BRING THE FAMILY AND COME  
AND CREATE WITH US!**

**Sunday 7th April**

**The Line, Yewers St, Footscray**

Chill-out Sensory-friendly Craft time from **12pm**

Razz will switch on the disco lights from **2pm**

in time for the **Student Runway!**

Interactive textile art installations

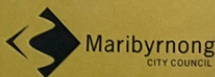
Open Studios @ SOSU

FREE Face-painting

FREE take-home crafts

DJ Razzberry Beret from 2pm!

Supported by



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL

A reminder that due to very low attendance at our after school program, Kelly Club will be finishing there program on Thursday 28th March (last day of Term 1). We sincerely thank Kelly Club for there service and all our families who were able to access it.

Kelly Club Schools Partnerships and Relationships Manager

