

# St. Monica's Newsletter

2025 Term 2 - End of May 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.



## We're here to learn. We're here to make a difference.

*I can be safe.  
I can be respectful.  
I can be responsible.  
I can be resilient.*

### Principal's Message

Dear Families,

With the cooler weather setting in and frosty mornings upon us, it's a good time to remind families that St Monica's school beanies are available for purchase. These are the only beanies permitted to be worn at school, so if your child needs one, please see Anna in the office to buy yours. Let's keep warm and uniform-ready this winter!

Do you know a teacher or school leader who goes above and beyond for our students? The National Education Summit Teacher Awards 2025 are now open for nominations! These awards celebrate excellence in two categories: Innovation in Teaching and Outstanding Leadership. If you've seen a staff member making a real difference in our school community, now's your chance to help recognise their incredible work. Winners will be announced at special events in Brisbane and Melbourne next year. Nominations close 30th June – let's help shine a light on our amazing educators at St Monica's! Submit your nomination today at <https://www.nationaleducationsummit.com.au/teacher-awards>

The Parent Engagement Group has organised a Bingo Night that promises plenty of excitement, great prizes and the chance to enjoy each other's company in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. More details are included in the flyer below.

Together, making a difference

Andrea

## Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Faithful God,

You guide us on the path of life  
and your goodness is our constant companion.

Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV,  
in his service of the Church.

Fill him with the power of your Spirit,  
the peace of your presence  
and the compassion of Christ.

May he walk with you,  
in wisdom and humility,  
and lead us, together with all God's people,  
to embody your love for the world.

Amen



# Science Fair Launch

## A Celebration of Curiosity and Discovery

On Wednesday 28th May, St Monica's was buzzing with excitement as we officially launched our 2025 Science Fair and what a launch it was!

From thought-provoking experiments and innovative designs to captivating explanations and scientific inquiry, our students demonstrated just how curious, creative and capable they are as young scientists.

Visitors were treated to an incredible range of projects, including experiments investigating non-irritating deodorants, working models that captured complex scientific processes and engaging videos explaining everything from why ants walk in straight lines to how we see colour.

Lucia and Jonah's collaboration with La Trobe University's Molecular Science department added an extra layer of depth and excitement, inspiring students to connect their learning with real-world science.

The level of thinking, research and presentation from our students was truly outstanding. Their ability to ask questions, explore possibilities and communicate their discoveries shows just how powerful student-led learning can be.

A big thank you to Miss Jodie for her passionate leadership of the Science Fair program and for supporting students and families throughout the process.

We're incredibly proud of what our students have achieved and look forward to seeing how their scientific thinking continues to grow.

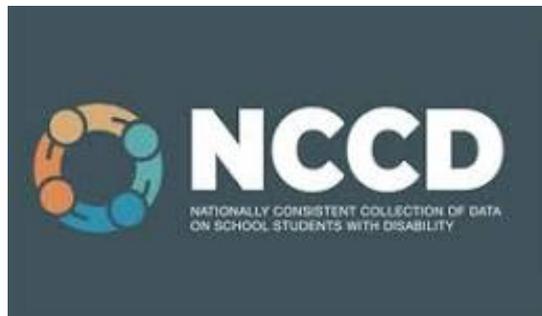
**Science is alive  
and thriving at  
St Monica's!**



On Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, Khai (Year 6), competed in the Division Cross Country at Keilor Park. In cold and windy conditions Khai did himself and the school proud, coming 19<sup>th</sup> overall.

Well done Khai!





## Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD)

Early next term, **St Monica's Catholic Primary School**, along with all schools across Australia, will take part in the **Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD)** on students with a disability.

The **NCCD** gathers information about students who are receiving adjustments or additional support at school due to their individual learning needs. This national data collection ensures a consistent, reliable and systematic approach to understanding how students with disabilities are supported in Australian schools.

At St Monica's, this means we count the number of students who receive extra support and the types of adjustments we make to help them learn.

The data helps schools, education authorities and governments to:

Better understand and support students with disability, and

Plan for their future needs in education settings.

Please note:

There is **no testing involved**, and

Your child will **not be affected or identified** in any way.

All information is **confidential** and no individual student will be named or identified in the data submission.

To learn more, please see the **Fact Sheet for Parents, Guardians and Carers** below.

We thank you for your support as we continue to ensure every student receives the adjustments they need to thrive at school.

If you have any questions, please make a time to meet with me.

Andrea

# FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CARERS

## WHAT IS THE NCCD?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) takes place every year.

The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- the number of school students receiving an adjustment or 'help' due to disability
- the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This 'help' allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#).

Schools provide this information to education authorities.

Go to *What is a reasonable adjustment?* below to learn about adjustments.

## WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools in Australia must collect information about students with disability.

The NCCD:

- ensures that the information collected is transparent, consistent and reliable
- provides better information that improves understanding of students with disability
- allows parents, guardians, carers, teachers, principals, education authorities and government to better support students with disability.

## Student with disability loading

Funding from the Australian Government for students with disability is based on the NCCD through the student with disability loading.

Students with disability who are counted in the top three levels of the NCCD (extensive, substantial and supplementary) attract the loading. Funding is based on a per-student amount at each of the three levels of additional support. The amount of the loading reflects the level of support students with disability need to participate fully in school, with higher funding for those who need higher levels of support.

Australian Government recurrent school funding is provided as a lump sum to school authorities including state and territory governments, which can then distribute the funding to their member schools according to their own needs-based arrangements.

The Government expects schools and school systems to consider their funding from all sources (ie Australian Government, state and territory and private) and prioritise their spending to meet the educational needs of all of their students, including students with disability.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE NCCD FOR STUDENTS?

The information collected by the NCCD helps teachers, principals, education authorities and governments to better support students with disability at school.

The NCCD encourages schools to review their learning and support systems and processes. This helps schools to continually improve education outcomes for all students.

## WHAT MUST SCHOOLS DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students have the right to a quality learning experience at school.

Students with disability must be able to take part in education without discrimination and on the same basis as other students. To ensure this, schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed for students with disability. Educators, students, parents, guardians, carers and others (eg health professionals) must work together to ensure that students with disability can take part in education.

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005* describe schools' responsibilities.

## WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is an action to help a student with disability take part in education on the same basis as other students.

Adjustments can be made across the whole school (eg ramps into school buildings). They can be in the classroom (eg adapting teaching methods). They can also be for individual student need (eg providing personal care support).

The school assesses the needs of each student with disability. The school provides adjustments in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers.

Schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed.

The Disability Standards for Education 2005 define 'reasonable adjustment' as an adjustment that balances the interests of all parties affected.

## WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NCCD?

The definition of disability for the NCCD is based on the broad definition under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

The following students are examples of those who may be included in the NCCD if they need monitoring and adjustments:

- students with learning difficulties (such as dyslexia)
- students with chronic health conditions (such as epilepsy or diabetes).

## WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NCCD?

Schools identify which students will be counted in the NCCD. They base their decisions on the following:

- adjustments provided for the student (after consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers)
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnoses
- other relevant information.

School principals must ensure that information for the NCCD is accurate.

## WHAT INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

A student is counted in the NCCD if they receive reasonable adjustments at school due to disability.

Each year, schools collect the following information about the student, including:

- their year of schooling
- the level of adjustment received
- the broad type of disability.

For students who have more than one disability, the school uses professional judgement to choose one category of disability. They choose the category that most affects the student's access to education and for which adjustments are being provided.

A high level summary of the NCCD data is available to all Australian state and territory governments to improve policies and programs for students with disability.

## HOW IS THIS DATA USED?

The NCCD data informs funding and work by schools and sectors. It ensures that support for students with disability becomes routine in the day-to-day practice of schools. The NCCD also supports students in the following ways.

- The NCCD helps schools better understand their legislative obligations and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.
- Schools focus on the individual adjustments that support students with disability. This encourages them to reflect on students' needs and to better support students.
- The NCCD facilitates a collaborative and coordinated approach to supporting students with disability. It also encourages improvements in school documentation.
- The NCCD improves communication about students' needs between schools, parents, guardians, carers and the community.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) annually publishes high-level, non-identifying NCCD data.

## WHEN DOES THE NCCD TAKE PLACE?

The NCCD takes place in August each year.

## IS THE NCCD COMPULSORY?

Yes. All schools must collect and submit information each year for the NCCD. This is detailed in the *Australian Education Regulation 2013*. For more information, ask your school principal or the relevant education authority.

## HOW IS STUDENTS' PRIVACY PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students is an essential part of the NCCD.

Data is collected within each school. Personal details, such as student names or student identifiers, are not provided to federal education authorities. Learn more about privacy in the [Public information notice](#).

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your school if you have questions about the NCCD. You can also visit the [NCCD Portal](#).

There is also a free [e-learning resource](#) about the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and Disability Standards for Education 2005.

This document must be attributed as *Fact sheet for parents, guardians and carers*.



# 2024

## Annual Report to the School Community

We're pleased to share the **2024 Annual Report** with our school community. A digital copy is available on our website and printed copies can be found in the school foyer.

**Tickets go on sale in June!**

**ST MONICA'S**  
**BINGO**  
**NIGHT**

**7 SAVE THE DATE**  
**JUNE 13**

**TIME**

DOORS OPEN 6 FOR 6:30PM START  
FINISH AT 9:30PM

**LOCATION**

ST MONICA'S SCHOOL HALL

**BOOK BABY SITTERS NOW**

**STRICTLY NO CHILDREN**



## Academic excellence: St Monica's NAPLAN success

St Monica's is proud to share its recent NAPLAN results, which highlight the exceptional education and supportive environment the school offers.

With 100 per cent participation from students, these results showcase St Monica's commitment to inclusivity and the value we place on every child's progress. For parents seeking a school where their child can thrive academically and personally, St Monica's stands out as the ideal choice.

**Year 3 Highlights: Building a Strong Foundation:** St Monica's Year 3 students have excelled across key areas, setting them up for lifelong success:

- **Writing:** An impressive 80 per cent of students achieved strong or exceeding levels, reflecting their ability to communicate with creativity and confidence.
- **Spelling:** Several students ranked in the top 10 per cent nationally, a testament to St Monica's outstanding literacy program.
- **Reading:** A remarkable 75 per cent were identified as strong or exceeding, demonstrating their advanced comprehension skills and love for learning.
- **Numeracy:** Half of St Monica's Year 3 students excelled in numeracy, showing their growing ability to tackle mathematical challenges.
- **Grammar and Punctuation:** Nearly half

displayed strong or exceeding proficiency, highlighting their mastery of language fundamentals.

**Year 5 Highlights: Ready for the Future:** St Monica's Year 5 students are shining brightly, with results that reflect their readiness for the next steps in their educational journey:

- **Reading:** An exceptional 75 per cent achieved strong or exceeding levels, showcasing their sharp critical thinking and literacy skills.
- **Numeracy:** A commendable 70 per cent were rated strong or exceeding, proving their confidence and competence in applying mathematical concepts.

**Why St Monica's is the Right Choice for Your Child:** These impressive NAPLAN results are more than just statistics - they represent the dedication of St Monica's students, the expertise of the school's passionate teachers, and the nurturing environment that defines St Monica's. We are committed to helping every child reach their full potential, offering:

- A holistic education that balances academic excellence with social and emotional growth. Personalised support to ensure that each student's unique strengths are recognised and developed.
- A vibrant, inclusive community where children feel inspired, valued, and motivated to succeed.

# Small school, big heart.

We are currently accepting enrolment applications for Prep 2026.

St Monica's welcomes families of other Christian traditions and other faiths.

We offer family friendly fee policies.

Discounts are available for holders of a current Health Care Card.

**PRINCIPAL:**  
**ANDREA WILBERGER**  
 TEL: 9689 4548  
 2 Wingfield St, Footscray  
[smfootscray.catholic.edu.au](http://smfootscray.catholic.edu.au)



**ST MONICA'S**  
 Catholic Primary School  
 Footscray

We're here to make a difference



# Outside School Hours Care Newsletter



## St Monica's, Footscray

Term 2, May

### A message from the team

Hello Everybody!

What a beautiful start to term 2. With the weather cooling down we have begun to use more of the inside space. The students are getting out all of their energy with lots of physical activities.

- Soccer
- Obstacle courses
- Basketball

In the near future we hope to have a designated quiet area for our students that need a little more calm after a long day. As always, our creative juices are flowing with arts and crafts. OSHC is full of little Picasso's.

See you soon!

**Bryanni H-M**  
Coordinator

### Check out the fun!



### Important Dates

- National Sorry Day  
26th May
- Science Fair  
28th and 29th May
- Reconciliation Week  
27th May to 3rd June
- Kings Birthday  
10th June

### Our Current Goals

- Emotional Regulation
- Respectful Relationships
- Integrating design thinking into our arts and crafts

### Term Dates

Monday 24 April –  
Friday 4 July 2025

### Make a booking!

Experience the fun of MACSEYE's OSHC program at St Monica's Footscray today!

**Call our friendly team:** 0439 949 356 or 1300 501 029

**Visit us:** The Art Room at St Monica's from 3:15pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday

**Email:** [enrolments@macseye.vic.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@macseye.vic.edu.au) | **Website:** [www.macseye.vic.edu.au](http://www.macseye.vic.edu.au)

# Important dates

## Updated 4/3/25

### School Closure Days in 2025

These dates are aligned with the MACS Vision for Instruction and our School Improvement Plan and Annual Action Plan

Flourishing Learners West Conference	<b>Term 1</b> Tuesday March 11th ( <b>revised date</b> )
Professional Learning	<del><b>Term 2</b></del> <del>Friday 16th May</del> <b>NEW DATE</b> <b>TERM 2</b> ✓ <b>Friday 6th June</b>
Professional Learning	<b>Term 3</b> Friday 15th August
Time in lieu for staff	<b>Term 4</b> Monday 3rd November (the following day is also the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday - school is closed)

**Last day of school for students**

Tuesday 16th December

**Last day for staff** - Wednesday 17th December

**Time in lieu days** - Thursday 18th Dec and Friday 19th December



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools



**ST MONICA'S**  
Catholic Primary School  
Footscray

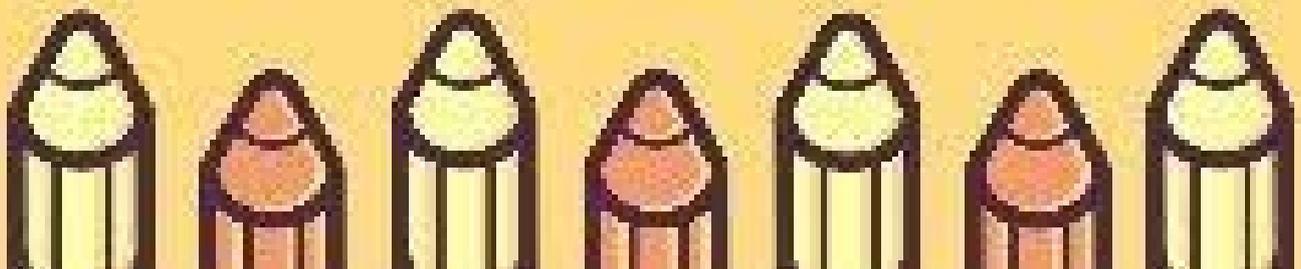
We're here to make a difference

# NO SCHOOL

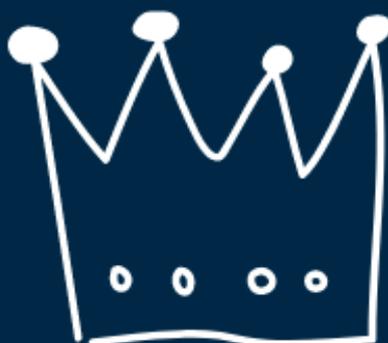
## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Teacher  
Professional Development Day

# NO SCHOOL



**NO SCHOOL**  
**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June**



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King's Birthday  
Public Holiday

# Save the dates

## Sacramental Dates 2025 for Catholic students

Sacrament	Year Level	Date
<b>First Reconciliation</b> 	3	<b>Term 2, Week 5</b> <u>Monday 23rd June</u> <b>Time: 2:30pm</b> <b>Venue: St Monica's Church</b>
<b>First Eucharist</b> 	4	<b>Term 3, Week 7</b> <u>Thursday 4th September</u> <b>Time: 5:00pm</b> <b>Venue: St Monica's Church</b>
<b>Confirmation</b> 	5/6	<b>Term 4, Week 10</b> <u>Sunday 7th December</u> <b>Time: 2:00pm</b> <b>Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne</b>

REMINDER

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

*Date: 23.06.2025*

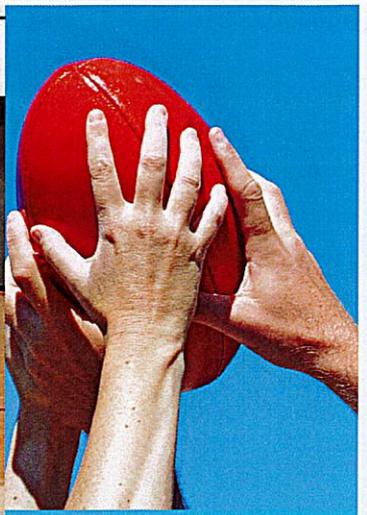
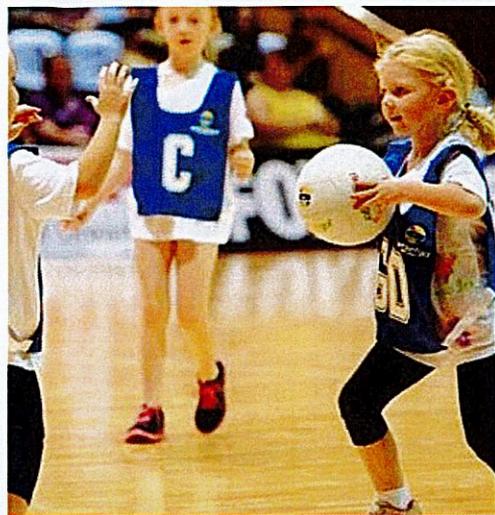
*Time: 2:30pm*

*Venue: St Monica's Church*



*Parents are welcome to attend.*





# VU school holiday sport program

7-11 & 14-18 July 2025

Ages 5-12

Multi-sport

Netball

Soccer

Basketball

Play, swim & craft

AFL

Scan for more info



Early bird prices end June 9!



# VU school holiday sport programs

7-11 & 14-18 July 2025

## Week 1

7/7 - multi-sport

8/7 - soccer

9/7 - multi-sport

10/7 - multi-sport

11/7 - play, swim & craft

## Week 2

14/7 - netball & basketball\*

15/7 - play, swim & craft

16/7 - AFL

17/7 - play, swim & craft

18/7 - multi-sport



book online  
today!



\*separate programs

Early bird prices end June 9!