Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

STAFFING UPDATE
In 2014 we will be welcoming Miss Michelle Rosewell to St Monica’s. Michelle will join the staff and Leadership Team. Michelle is currently a Leader of Learning at St Patrick’s School in Blacktown and teaches Year 6. Michelle is an experienced educator and is looking forward to working with the families, students and staff at St Monica’s.

On behalf of all the staff at St Monica’s I would like to thank all parents for their support during Term 3. We have appreciated your assistance in the learning spaces, in the library, special liturgies, theme lunch days, on excursions, Fridays at the park, fete initiatives and at our many other activities throughout the term.

I hope that you all have a very enjoyable break spending time with your children.

Kind regards,
Louise O’Donnell
Principal

Year 1 has been learning about different forms of poetry. Here are some acrostic poems about robots.

Round eyes
Out of space I fly
Beautiful shiny metal
Over things I fly
The things I do are cool
Smarter than an elephant

By Maan Upadhyay

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**MERCY DAY**
Friday 20th September (last day of Term 3)
Students are to wear sport uniform for the activities afternoon

September 24th is Mercy Day!! This celebration is a time for schools founded by the Sisters of Mercy to reflect on the values of social justice and mission.

Our school stairwells and Foyer will be named in honour of this founding congregation. The foyer is named ‘Mercy Foyer’, the ES1 stairwell will now be known as the ‘O’ Sullivan Stairs’ in honour of our founding Principal. The Stage Three stairwell will be called the ‘Catherine McAuley Stairs’ in honour of the foundress of the Mercy Sisters, Catherine McAuley.

On September 20, five of our previous Mercy Sister Principals will join us for morning tea and a blessing of these areas.

+ 9:00am Liturgy
+ 9:15am—10:30am Activities
+ Mercy Sisters visit
+ 10:50am—11:10am Recess
+ 11:30am Blessing of the Foyer and Stairs—Father Fernando
+ Lunch
+ 12:45pm—2:00pm Afternoon activities  

PARENTS MOST WELCOME
TOMBOLO—Friday 20 September
Our final drive for items for the fete this term is for our tombolo stall (bottle lottery). Please send in any items that come in a bottle eg a full bottle of soft drink, cordial, vegemite, jam, pasta sauces, salad dressings, toppings, coffee, etc. Students will be asked to place the bottle in baskets at the gate as they arrive for school. Children who bring in bottles will be given a raffle ticket for each bottle and we have 4 family Powerhouse Passes valued at $25 to give away.

BASKETS
If any parent has large baskets at home that are no longer needed, the Chocolate wheel Coordinators would love to receive them. We have a number of prizes that need to be placed in baskets so that they can be displayed at the fete. Please drop the baskets in at the office.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (Term 4)
Please note that the next Staff Development Day will be on Tuesday 8 October 2013 (Week 1 Term 4—the day after the long weekend). Students do not attend school on this day. Staff will focus on the new English Curriculum, Assessment and the ESL scales.
Term 4 will commence for students on Wednesday 9 October 2013.

LOST PROPERTY
The lost property bin located outside the school office is full of unclaimed jackets, hats, lunchboxes and drinkbottles. Please check the bin to see if any of these items belong to your child/children.

Jackets and hats remaining in lost property at the end of the term will be cleaned and donated to the uniform shop.

TENNIS LESSONS
Mr Davidson has advised that tennis lessons will resume on Wednesday 9 October 2013 (1st day of Term 4). The timetable will remain the same for Term 4.

RAFFLE TICKETS
Thank you to all the parents that have sold and returned raffle tickets and also to those parents who have asked for more books to sell.
The school was given a total of 350 raffle books to sell out of the 1000 books that were printed.
As it stands today -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF BOOKS SOLD AND RETURNED</th>
<th>NUMBER OF BOOKS TO BE RETURNED</th>
<th>NUMBER OF EXTRA BOOKS STILL TO BE SOLD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>115</td>
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As you can see we have quite a number of books to be returned and we need more parents to offer to sell another raffle book or more. Consider selling tickets to family, friends, and work colleagues over the holidays. We have just over 5 weeks to our fete and I am confident that all of our raffle tickets will be sold!

Tomorrow Friday 20th September we will have our first special draw for all the children who have returned raffle tickets so far. Don’t forget to fill in the final page in the raffle booklet before you return your sold tickets. Special raffles will be held in the lead up to the Fete.