Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

“\textit{I give you a new commandment: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. This is how all will know you are my disciples: Your love for one another.}” John 13, 34-35

Often we hear the age old ‘Golden Rule’ that ‘we should treat others as we would like them to treat us’. Following the ‘Golden Rule’ does not necessarily make you a Christian. Most religions of the world have the equivalent ‘Golden Rule’.

\textbf{Buddhism}: Treat not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.

\textbf{Confucianism}: One word which sums up the basis of all good conduct….loving kindness. Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself.

\textbf{Hinduism}: One should not behave towards others in a way which is disagreeable to oneself.

Christ calls us to a higher standard. Loving someone as Christ loved you is not the same as loving someone as you love yourself. It requires more. It is unconditional and sacrificial. It requires us to put the needs of others before our own needs. Jesus gave his entire life for others; he did this freely and willingly so that we could understand the unconditional love that the Father has for us. This is the challenge of being a Christian: how far are we prepared to go for others?- \textit{As I have loved you, so you must love one another.}

Welcome back to Term Two. I hope that you all managed to get some extra time to spend with your children over the holidays. It was great to come back after my extended break to Japan and have so many of your children come up and welcome me back and ask me about my holiday. I really enjoyed my break and the opportunity to spend time with my parents. We were indeed fortunate to have spent time away together to see a different part of the world and appreciate more about the great country in which we live, which we can take for granted.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Cheryl Brown for her leadership in my absence and to the staff for their continued dedication to the students at St Monica’s. Congratulations to the students for their great efforts and achievements in Term One. Term Two will be very busy and so please keep up-to-date with the events that have been placed on the school calendar on our website.

Over the term at our staff meetings we will continue refining our understanding of the Numeracy Block: designing rich tasks that meet the needs of all students and also becoming more familiar with questioning to identify student understanding in Mathematics.

\textbf{New Signage}

Last year I made application to Parramatta Council for a ‘No Parking’ restriction in Daking Street to alleviate traffic congestion before and after school. After consultation with local businesses Parramatta Council has resolved that a ‘No Parking 8:00am to 9:30am and 2:30pm to 4:00pm Schools Days’ restriction have been installed on the west side of the entrance into the school grounds.
NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9.

On Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th May, students will undertake the 2013 NAPLAN assessments. NAPLAN is comprised of assessments in the four domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

The dates and time duration for the assessments are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Tuesday 14th May</th>
<th>Wednesday 15th May</th>
<th>Thursday 16th May</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Language Conventions (40 mins)</td>
<td>Reading (45 mins)</td>
<td>Numeracy (45 mins)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing (40 mins)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Language Conventions (40 mins)</td>
<td>Reading (50 mins)</td>
<td>Numeracy (50 mins)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing (40 mins)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australian children.

All students are encouraged to participate in the assessments.

Later on this year, the school will issue all our Year 3 and Year 5 students with an individual NAPLAN report.

More information is available at www.naplan.edu.au

Parents can support their child by:
- Ensuring that they have a good night’s sleep
- Providing them with a healthy breakfast at home or have them attend the breakfast at school
- Packing them healthy snacks, lunches and plenty of water on the assessment days.
- Reducing after school activities if their child is tired and encouraging fresh air and a fun play outside
- Focusing on effort rather than results. The only pressure on kids should be to try hard rather than to do well.
- Listening to any concerns your child has.

If your child confesses to some nerves then validate their feelings, rather than shut them down with a ‘get over it’ response. Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them. Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional strategies, which start with recognising how children feel.

Student Attendance
Our goal is for every student to attend school every school day, on time and ready to learn. If your child is sick they should stay at home until they are well enough to return to school. When they return to school please send a letter to your child’s teacher explaining the absence. As the teachers are required to record the reason for the absence, please indicate in your letter the reason for the absence.

If you are planning a holiday you are required to make application by completing a form in advance. This form has been placed on our website and is also available at the school office.
Arriving late to school or leaving early should be avoided as this causes disruptions to the learning of your child and, potentially, to those in your child’s class. If your child arrives late in the mornings or needs to leave early parents need to sign them in/out at the school office. School commences each day at 8:50am and concludes at 3:00pm.

Please pray for a number of parents within our community that are experiencing personal difficulty and health issues at this time.

Congratulations to Miss Amanda Bentley who has been appointed as Religious Education Co-ordinator at Our Lady of Lourdes Seven Hills commencing in Term One, 2014.

Enrolment Interviews for Kindergarten 2014 commence this week.

Have a great week.

Louise O’Donnell
Principal
SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
The school athletics carnival will be held tomorrow (Thursday 2 May 2013) at Barton Park, Gladstone Street, North Parramatta. All students from Early Stage One to Stage 3 will be attending.

DANCE FEVER / SPORT UNIFORM
Dance Fever is back! St Monica’s is participating in the Dance Fever program again this year. We are very excited to welcome this well-known and established company to teach us some more new moves. The students participated with enthusiasm last year and we look forward to another exciting term of dance with the culmination of the lessons leading into the Inter-School Competition to be held at Homebush at the conclusion of the program (details to come).

Please note that all students from Early Stage One to Stage Three are required to wear their sport uniform on Wednesdays this term as this will be their primary sport day. Mrs Erin Turner

** Students in Early Stage One and Stage Three will also need to wear their sport uniform on Fridays.

** Students in Stages 1 and 2 are to wear their normal school uniform on Friday.

WINTER UNIFORM
All students are to be wearing their full winter uniform by Monday 13 May (Week 3)

NAPLAN BREAKFAST
St Monica’s will be providing breakfast for Year Three and Year Five students each morning of their NAPLAN testing days (Tuesday 14th May—Thursday 16th May inclusive). A healthy breakfast is vital to kick start brain activity and to assist students to concentrate during their tests. A range of cereal, bread with spreads and flavoured milks will be provided for these students as they prepare to sit the tests. Breakfast will commence at 8.20am. There is no cost for the breakfast.

If you would like to assist with serving the breakfast, please contact Mrs Erin Turner. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. Mrs Erin Turner

AUSTRALIA’S BIGGEST MORNING TEA
♦ When: Tuesday 14th May 2013
♦ Where: St Monica’s Parish Hall
♦ Time: 7.30am—11.00am                    ** Please bring a plate of food to share.

Please note that students must be accompanied by an adult. ALL WELCOME.

ICE BLOCKS
Please note that ice blocks will not be sold during Terms 2 and 3. We will resume selling ice blocks in Term 4.

Absentee Notes
Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. It is a legislative requirement that students attend school every day unless of course they are sick or it is imperative that they attend an important event. The NSW Catholic Systemic Schools Attendance Procedures outline responsibilities for staff and parents in regards to attendance.

Parents are responsible for:
• Enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling;
• Ensuring that their children attend school regularly;
• Explaining the absences of their children from school, in writing, promptly and within seven days to the school;
• Taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.
• Please contact the school at any time if you have any issues arising regarding your child’s attendance at school.
Happy birthday to the following students and staff who will celebrate birthdays in May.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nishika Jain</td>
<td>Dunya Grudic</td>
<td>Monica Albayeh</td>
<td>Toni Mageropoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raymona Maikhael</td>
<td>Amalie Dona</td>
<td>Patrick Newey</td>
<td>Evelyn Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chelsea Lewis</td>
<td>Madeline Lewis</td>
<td>Adalia Al-Ali</td>
<td>Chantelle Grabham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Chapman</td>
<td>Rachel French</td>
<td>Abraham Dennis</td>
<td>Jenny Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alysha Dunnett</td>
<td>Galia Evangelista</td>
<td>Marcus Trimbounas</td>
<td>Lanz Cruz</td>
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<td>Teliyah Fernandes</td>
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Staff: Miss Buttigieg

2013 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

Stage 2 and Stage 3 students will again have the opportunity to enter the University of NSW competitions being held this year. A note has been sent home to all Stage 2 and 3 students (a copy can be found on the website under School Notes). Please note we are unable to accept late entries.

The closing date for the Science competition is Wednesday 8 May 2013.

Mrs Mary-Jo Mason Assistant Principal

Congratulations to the following students who attended school every day during Term One. Well done!!

**ES1—DOYLE**
- Jayden Albayeh
- Alexander Azar
- Gala Evangelista
- Summer Ierfino
- Zachariah Kassis
- Sakina Kunambi
- Medeeja Pandrea
- Aidan Pospischil
- Ashley Roberts
- Matthew Zheng
- Neave Sciacca

**YEAR 1A McAULEY**
- Trinity Bird
- Akwasi Boakye
- Gabriel Bucur
- Ana Maria Costea
- Emma Halamkova
- Hayden Herder-Beke
- Michael Kositse
- Ezekiel Logo
- Raymond Maikhael
- Joshua North
- Geshua Toledo

**YEAR 1B CALLAN**
- Ryan Clark
- Jericho Crame
- Ahmed Dukuly
- Aadit Grover
- Dion Mageropoulos
- Keira Mitchell
- Veronica Sadek
- Kael Sciacca
- Jessica Stoker
- Lachlan Dardagos

**YEAR 2 CONWAY**
- Jessica Chapman
- Rachel French
- Amelia Furjanic
- Christian Kandalaf
- Chantelle Maikhael
- Marley Puyat
- Garthan Sciacca
- Isabella Smith
- Alanis Supuk
- Pinar Helena Unver

**S2A AUGUSTINE**
- Jackson Basha
- Erica Crame
- Abraham Dennis
- Josue Heydari
- Philip Joseph
- Brandon Wallace
- Natasha Muttoo
- Rishabh Ashok Kumar
- Carl Mendez

**S2B MCKINNON**
- Joshua Albayeh
- Brooke Emphied
- Toni Mageropoulos
- Brendan Pospischil
- Ritesh Ashok Kumar
- Amalie Dona
- Alysha Dunnett
- Hayley Herder Beke
- Saisriman Tadebally
- Madeline Taylor

**S3A MORAN**
- Monica Albayeh
- Genesis Evangelista
- Edward Joseph
- Robin Kneipp

**S3B KEOGH**
- Jimmy Aoun
- Martin Crame
- Mark Furjanic
- Alby Giles
- Bernard Kneipp
- Kiara Naik
- Adalia Al-Ali
- Felicity Dunnett
- Bernadette Martinez
WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROGRAM

St Monica’s Primary is once again participating in the Woolworth’s Earn & Learn program this year. Anyone who shops at Woolworths from Monday 8 April to Sunday 9 June 2013 can collect Earn & Learn points. For every $10 a customer spends at Woolworths, they will receive one Woolworths Earn & Learn point. Cigarettes, alcohol and gift cards are excluded, as well as purchases made at Caltex Woolworths co-branded fuel outlets. Earn & Learn Point Sheets can be collected from your local store or you can print out your own sheets at www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

A collection box for completed sheets can be located on the verandah outside the Teacher’s Workroom.

At the end of the promotion our school will be eligible to redeem the points for educational resources including resources to support mathematics, English and Science curriculum, as well as library books, sports gear, art and craft materials and much more. Thank you in anticipation of your support for the Earn & Learn program.

** Please remember to ask for your stickers when paying at the register.

### ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2013/2014 FUNDRAISER

The 2013/2014 Entertainment Books are once again available for purchase through the school. Order forms have been sent home this week and a copy is also available on the school website. If you would like to order an entertainment book please return your form (together with payment) to the school office or you may order directly online at https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/21576y3

Books may be ordered for Sydney, Greater West or Sydney North. The new books feature many of the most popular businesses in the area. Please ensure you tick the appropriate box when ordering your book.

**Books cost $65 each with $13 from each book sold going towards our fundraising**. Books will be available in Term 2. Don’t miss out!!

### SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

**Thursday 2 May 2013**

Barton Park, Gladstone Street
North Parramatta

Students from Early Stage One to Stage Three will be attending

### MOTHER’S DAY STALL

**Wednesday 8 May 2013**

Gifts from $3—$12.
Children need to bring their money on the day. (in a sealed envelope with their name and amount enclosed on the front)

### MOTHER’S DAY MASS

**Thursday 9 May 2013 at 9.15am**

St Monica’s Church

followed by

**Morning Tea**

in the Parish Hall

### ARIA MUSIC

Keyboard group lessons on Tuesdays, guitar group on Mondays.
Small classes, max 5 children.
Instruments & activities are provided in the class, $18 / wk
Good musical grounding in preparation for band or other instrumental lessons.

Enrol now: 8006 4377
ariaamusicschool@gmail.com

Aria Music - quality investment in your child’s education since 1987
FEEDER SCHOOL INFORMATION

PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL
Enrolments for Year 7, 2014 are closing this Friday, 3 May 2013.
For further information please visit www.parramarist.nsw.edu.au

CATHARINE MCAULEY HIGH SCHOOL, WESTMEAD
Open Day - Saturday 11 May 2013 9am-12.30pm  Come and see our school!
Our Open Day will have school tours, lots of fun activities and student demonstrations. A simulated archaeological dig will be run by the History Department, a lino printing workshop by the Visual Arts Department, lots of hands on science experiments organised by the Science Department, a Japanese cultural demonstration by our Year 10 Japanese students, dancing displays by our Dance students and lots of delicious treats made by our Hospitality students in our new commercial kitchen. Our Open Day is also an opportunity to view our new building and how it is enhancing learning opportunities at Catherine McAuley. Car parking available on site via Gate 3, Darcy Road. Additional car parking available at the paid UWS carpark, entrance via Hawkesbury Road. Principal presentations at 10am and 11am.
Contact our School Reception on 9849 9100 for further information. We are located opposite Westmead Private Hospital at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead. Have you seen our school website?
Go to www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

News from the Catholic Education Office

Cybersafety Help Button
The CyberSafety Help Button has been publicly available since October 2010 and was designed following advice received from the Youth Advisory Group on Cybersafety (YAG). The Help button is a free downloadable resource providing a one-stop-shop for cybersafety information. To date, the Help Button has been downloaded and made available on over 880,000 computers and mobile devices. The CyberSafety Help Button can be downloaded from the department's website at: www.dbcde.gov.au/helpbutton

News from the Bishop’s Office

How to be Happy: 7 & 14 May
Psychology and love-therapy from St Augustine: a mini course conducted by Fr Laurie Mooney OSA. Through this saint’s journey we gain insights into our own healing; we see how grace helps us to rediscover ourselves and gives us new confidence. We learn to be ‘gracious to Christ – with us in ourselves’. Morning or evening sessions: 10-11.30am or 7.30-9pm. Cost: $30 (conc. avail.). The Augustinian Centre, 2 Hewitt Ave, Greystanes. Bookings required: (02) 9896 6794, paulmal@bigpond.com.au

Pentecost Sunday: 19 May
Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday with Prayer & Praise, Mass and Teachings by Fr Ken Barker MGL, Moderator of the Missionaries of God's Love, commencing at 11.30am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. BBQ lunch will be available. Inquiries tel (02) 9634 1654, (02) 9810 2499, www.ccrnsw.org.au

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER
Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!