



Important Dates

**Shrove Tuesday -
Pancake Day**

Tuesday 4 March 2025

Carnevale Day

Tuesday 4 March 2025

Ash Wednesday

Mass @ 11.30am

Wednesday 5 March 2025

Pupil Free Day -

Staff Retreat -

OSHC available

Friday 7 March 2025

Public Holiday

Adelaide Cup

Monday 10 March 2025

P&F Meeting @

6.00pm

Wednesday 12 March 2025

NAPLAN Writing

Years 3 & 5

Wednesday 12 March 2025

NAPLAN Reading

Years 3 & 5

Thursday 13 March 2025

**NAPLAN Language
Conversations Years
3 & 5**

Friday 14 March 2025

Assembly Led by

3/4P @ 2.15pm

Monday 17 March 2025

Board Meeting

6.30pm

Monday 17 March 2025

**Bike SA coming for
Year 6's Bike Safety**

Monday 17 March 2025

**NAPLAN Numeracy
Years 3 & 5**

Tuesday 18 March 2025

**St Joseph's Feast
Day Liturgy Led by
3/4V @ 11.30am**

Wednesday 19 March 2025

NAPLAN Catch up

Wednesday 19 March 2025

Year 6 Well Being

Bike Ride Excursion

Monday 24 March 2025

Assembly Led by
1/2BR @ 2.15pm

Monday 31 March 2025

Parent Teacher
Conversations

Monday 31 March 2025

Parent Teacher
Conversations

Tuesday 1 April 2025

Parent Teacher
Conversations

Wednesday 2 April 2025

Parent Teacher
Conversations

Thursday 3 April 2025

Reception CR and J
Excursion to Little
Sprouts Kitchen
Garden in the
Botanic Gardens

Friday 4 April 2025

Parent Teacher
Conversations
Week

Friday 4 April 2025

Last Day of Term 1
@ 3.00pm

Friday 11 April 2025

Pupil Free Day

Monday 28 April 2025

Term 2 Commences

Tuesday 29 April 2025

Mother's Day Stall

Thursday 8 May 2025

Mother's Day
Breakfast & Liturgy

Friday 9 May 2025

Father's Day stall

Thursday 4 September 2025

Father's Day
Breakfast, Liturgy &
stall

Friday 5 September 2025

Sports Day at St
Alban's / Last Day
of Term 3

Friday 26 September 2025

Grandparents
Afternoon

Friday 31 October 2025

MESSAGE FROM OUR
PRINCIPAL



Student leadership and agency is a core intention in our school's Strategic Plan. At Week 4's assembly, all our student leaders were presented with their leadership badges and publicly congratulated by their peers, families and staff. We know that the wisdom and leadership they will bring to their roles will have a large impact on our school community. As principal, I am very much looking forward to collaborating with them. We congratulate the following student leaders:

Year 6 Senior Leaders

Student Voice – Patrick, Sophie & Shivansh

Liturgy Leaders -Matthew & Jack

Ecology Leaders -Elisia & Hargun

Library Leaders – Hitansh, Naksh & Owen

House Captains –

Mackillop – Harrison & Mahlie

Augustine – Flynn & Olivia

Tenison Woods- Elsie & Lachlan

Joseph- Lucy & Klara



Student Voice

1/2G – Gia-Rose & Klara

1/2BR - Addy & Airlie

1/2M – Mila & Eloise

3/4P – Celestine & Samyra

3/4V – Alisha & William

4/5 M – Olivia & Leo

6MR – Patrick, Shivansh & Sophie



School Board

Last week we held our Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2024 school year. We also used this meeting to formally thank board members who have completed their time of service on the board, Leah Thornhill and Sarah Gilmour. Nominations were called for board vacancies, and I am very pleased to share with you the names of those who will sit on the school board for 2025:

President – Deacon Andrew Kirkbride

Chairperson – Tim Bant

Vice Chairperson - Jessica Do

Principal– Emily Sayer

Finance Committee Chairperson – Vanya (John) Denisoff

Members:

Sarah Morris (staff)

Kevin Hickson

Trish Drawwater

John Caruana

Preethi Kumar

Ben Bithell

Maria Carpentieri

Thank you to each of these parents for their commitment to the St Monica's community. If you have any questions or would like to raise something, please feel free to reach out to any of these board members.

Last week we held a parent's workshop for Early Years on the topics of Wellbeing and Reading. Kylie Clothier and Robyn Jolly shared with the 28 parents who attended how families can help in the development of their child's reading strategies and capabilities. The other sharing focussed on the wellbeing program that we use in our Early Years classrooms, Kimochis. This beautiful program helps the children to develop their emotional literacy and use their words to help name how they are feeling and how an adult can support them to work through an issue. Thank you to all those who were able to attend the session and to Robyn and Kylie for their time and passion in

sharing their wisdom. Other parent workshops about different focus areas will be held throughout the year. If you have a suggestion for a topic for a possible parent session, please send me an email to let me know.

I hope many of you will be able to attend the Family Picnic on Sunday 2 March, 1.00-3.00pm at Burchell Reserve, Stepney. I know I am looking forward to meeting Bumbles.

God's blessings,

Emily Sayer

Principal



Pupil Free Day – Friday 7 March 2025

A reminder next Friday, 7 March is a pupil free day.

OSHC is available but bookings are essential.

LEARNING & INCLUSION



SOLE Respect

Each year our classes work through the expectations of being a respectful student at St Monica's. Using the acronym 'SOLE', we discuss the components of respect for our **SELF**, **OTHERS**, **LEARNING** and the **ENVIRONMENT**. This guides us in knowing what respect looks like in and around the school. Students across the school, from our littlest receptions to Year 6 have been able to articulate how we show respect:

We show respect for our **SELF** when we:

- try our best
- talk positively about ourselves
- look after our bodies and belongings

We show respect for **OTHERS** when we:

- speak kindly
- include others
- play fairly
- listen to others

We show respect for our **LEARNING** when we:

- use good manners
- listen to our teacher
- learn from mistakes
- have a go

We show respect for our **ENVIRONMENT** when we:

put our rubbish in the right bins
care for our plants and gardens
recycle, turn off lights and save water



Learning Goals

At the start of each Semester, each student spends time reflecting on their learning and personal growth to determine the goals they are working on at school. For most students, they decide upon a Literacy and Maths goal, along with a personal goal. It is very impressive that students from a young age are self-reflective and know their areas of strength and areas they would like to improve on. 'A goal with a plan in only a wish' (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry), therefore, it is our job as teachers and parents to support young people with their goals. For example, if your child's goal is to improve their reading, listening regularly to your child read will be a great support. If your child's goal is to not get upset when they lose a game, playing games like UNO will be a great way to practice these skills in a safe and supportive environment.

Have a chat with your child and see what goals they have set for themselves this semester

Sarah Morris

Assistant Principal: Learning and Inclusion



APRIM



As we move from Ordinary Time into Lent next week, it's a chance for us to think more deeply about our faith and how we can grow as individuals. Ordinary Time helps us learn and grow in our everyday lives, so that when Lent arrives, we're ready to reflect, make positive changes, and become better people. Let's use this special time to open our hearts, be kind, and strengthen our connection with our faith and each other.

Here are a few questions to consider as we embark on this Lenten journey together:

What areas of my life need renewal and transformation?

How can I extend compassion and understanding to those around me during this season?

In what ways can I grow closer to my faith and community through my actions and intentions?

Ash Wednesday Mass

You are all invited to celebrate Ash Wednesday Mass with our whole school community next Wednesday, 5th March at 11.30am, led by Fr Matthew Newman



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

11:30AM

5TH MARCH 2025

ST MONICA'S CHURCH

Project Compassion

Next week money boxes will be sent home for families to collect donations in support of Project Compassion. Run by Caritas Australia during Lent, Project Compassion raises awareness and funds to support vulnerable communities worldwide. It focuses on education, health, sustainable livelihoods and disaster response. By participating as a Catholic community, we show compassion and work towards a fairer, more just world for everyone.

Every action, big or small, makes a difference!

CARITAS AUSTRALIA
PROJECT
COMPASSION

Unite Against Poverty this Lent

Shrove Tuesday – 4th March

Please remember to send your children with a gold coin donation on Tuesday for their pancakes, in support of Project Compassion. Bringing along a reusable plate and fork will also help reduce waste. Thank you for your support



Library News – Book Week 16th-23rd August – 'Book an Adventure

Young Readers Day this Sunday 2nd March 9.30am-4pm at the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden, Cnr King William Road and Victoria Drive, Adelaide in the Torrens Tent and North Stage. This event is FREE.

Premier's be active Challenge – Student Recording Booklets will be sent home next week

The Premier's be active Challenge is about encouraging students to be more active, more often. Participants are rewarded with medals if they complete the Challenge.

The Challenge requires students to do at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least 5 days of the week for at least 4 weeks from the start of the school year until the end of week 10, term 3.

Students must record their physical activity on the student recording booklet. A parent/carer or teacher must endorse the student physical activity record to indicate that the student has met the participation requirements.

To meet their daily requirements, students should undertake 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity. Examples include riding a bike, playing tag games. Dancing, playing sport, walking to or from school. Physical activity does not need to be in one block of 60 minutes – it can be shorter amounts of activity that add up to 60 minutes.

Our School has received a \$100 physical activity pack for our registration in the Challenge.

Dates to remember -

- **Simultaneous Storytime – Wednesday 21st May**
- **Book Week 16th-23rd August -This year's theme is 'Book an Adventure'.**
- **Premier's Reading Challenge – runs until 7th September.**
- **Premier's be-active Challenge – runs until 26th September.**

Library News – Book Week 16th-23rd August – 'Book an Adventure

Pat Patience

CARNEVALE at ST MONICA'S 2025 TUESDAY MARCH 4

We encourage all our students to dress up in their favourite costume or in colourful clothes and they will be decorating masks at school for them to wear on the day.

We will begin the day with an assembly and a parade, then there will be a variety of activities and gelato. It is a wonderful festival celebrated throughout Italy and the world before Lent. Everyone wears costumes and masks, and each region of Italy has its own special way of celebrating, with parades, floats, pageants, balls, orange battles, food and fireworks.

Second-hand Uniforms

The parent community has established a private group on Facebook that facilitates the trading of second-hand uniform items.

Please visit www.facebook.com/groups/stmonicasbuyswapsell and request to join the group if you are interested.

The page is ideal for selling items in good condition that your child has outgrown, or to sell items if your child is moving on. Simply post images and your contact details. Alternatively, you can join the group to take advantage of the pre-loved items that become available.

For those of you who are not on Facebook, please contact the P&F pandf.stmonicas@gmail.com and they will assist you with the sale of items.

Please note the sale of old-style uniform items is not allowed. St Monica's Parish School does not manage this page and takes no responsibility for any private sales.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which St Monica's learn, work and play.

May we walk gently on this land acknowledging the Kaurna people's deep spiritual connection with their country.

We pay our respects to Kaurna elders past and present and commit to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.



PUPIL FREE DAYS 2025

TERM 1
Friday 7 March

TERM 2
Monday 28 April

TERM 3
Monday 21 July

TERM 4
Monday 13 October

TERM 4 - Last Day of Term Wednesday 10 December
OSHC will be available for all Pupil Free Days

In All Things Love 

SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday will be made again this year by our Liturgy Leaders Group.

Please bring these items in by Friday 28th February at the latest.

JOSEPH - EGGS OR NAPKINS

MACKILLOP - SR FLOUR OR BUTTER

AUGUSTINE - MILK OR JAM

TENISON WOODS - LEMONS, SYRUP

CARITAS AUSTRALIA
**PROJECT
COMPASSION**



GOLD COIN DONATION on Shrove Tuesday being donated to Project Compassion.

To minimise rubbish we ask all students to bring their own plate and fork.

If there are any dietary requirements please email or call the office

MARCH 4TH 2025




ST MONICA'S
PARISH SCHOOL WALKERVILLE