



Newsletter 5th December 2018 Week 9 Term 4

"Inspiring learning for a better world."

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Swimming Carnival 2018

Yesterday the annual St Monica's Swimming Carnival was contested. We had good weather and there was a great display of friendly competition and school spirit. A special thankyou is extended to Mrs Bruggemann (Sports Co-ordinator) for organising the carnival which ran so smoothly. Every child who participated earned points for their house and contributed to the result:

House Spirit Trophy – Fromelles

Winning House Trophy – Beersheba



Age Champions were contested in the nine to twelve years events and congratulations to this year's winners:

	Girls	Boys
9 years Winner	Isabel Edwards	Jett Renyard
9 years Runner-up	Amy Johnson	Lincoln Lindenmayer/Liam Roderick
10 years Winner	Eva Lancaster	Rory Black
10 years Runner-up	Liberty Weber	Hudson Hardwick
11 years Winner	Giliann Pamalaran	Dominic Black
11 years Runner-up	Tahlia Hensley	Hayden Waddell
12 years Winner	Rachel Byers	Mitchell Lancaster
12 years Runner-up	Francheska Rabaca	Charlie McCormack



Principal's Page

Dear Parents/Caregivers

It is hard to believe that another school year is almost over. As Principal, it is very gratifying to see the growth in our students. For some, it has been progression in reading levels, for others greater recall of their number facts, others too, their ability to stay focused for longer during lessons, while for some it has been their ability to make and keep new friends and for others their ability to persevere in their athletics. Whatever the growth, and every student has demonstrated some, both staff and parents should be proud of our children for these achievements.

Congratulations to all concerned for a very successful Christmas Concert, BBQ and Disco last Thursday night. We had an almost 100% attendance by students and the concert entertainment was terrific. Many thanks to Ms Fredline (Music teacher) and Mrs Cavanagh (Dance/Drama teacher) for teaching the students their items. Whilst we still have a bit of fine tuning to do to the amplifier, the sound echo deadening material attached to the hall walls, certainly made a big improvement to the acoustics. Many thanks to P&F members who manned the bar and bbq.

I was very proud of our Year 4, 5 & 6 students last Friday when they hosted students from Oakey State School to a friendly afternoon of ballgames. There was a great spirit of hospitality and friendship. A special thanks goes to Mr Coombs for lining the oval for the games to Mr Coombs and Mrs Tamayo for cooking the bbq. Hopefully we can find more opportunities to mix with other schools for friendly sports afternoons next year.

Today we farewelled our Year 6 students who finish their primary schooling. This week we celebrated a thanksgiving Mass and the students thanked their school and their families for the wonderful opportunities they had received at St Monica's. During the celebration presentations were made to students as recognition for their outstanding commitment to their own learning and the life of the school. Congratulations to this year's Year 6 Award winners:

Academic Award – Mitchell Lancaster

Christian Living Award – Giliann Pamalaran

Sport Award – Dominic Black

School Commitment Award – Luke Young

The Arts Award – Claire Matthewson (presented prior to today as Claire is away with her family)

This Friday is the last day of school for 2018. We will celebrate a Closing Liturgy in the church at 10:00am. During this celebration we will present academic achievement and improvement awards in English and Mathematics to some students from Prep to Year 6 in recognition of their personal achievements. We will thank staff who are finishing their contracts and I will thank the school community and sadly say farewell as I finish my time as Principal of St Monica's. All parents, caregivers and friends are welcome to attend. The liturgy will be followed by morning tea in the Parish Hall for the adults. Students who have returned permission notes will be allowed to be collected by a responsible adult in order to commence their summer holidays.

I thank Karyn Miller, Nikki O'Kennedy and Rowena Staude for their time, commitment and hard work contributed to St Monica's during 2018. Thank you to Jenny Shellshear who has stepped into Prep for the last few weeks while Mrs Thomas is on maternity leave. I trust you have enjoyed your work with the school and will remember us fondly.

Thank you to our staff who do amazing work to support our students. I applaud you for your team work, dedication and expertise. Thank you to the many volunteers who so generously give of their time for a myriad of tasks around the school. Our Board led by Leanne Matthewson and our P&F lead by Peter Anderson have done a wonderful job this year ensuring that our school is heading in the right direction and well resourced for our students. Thank You to both groups for your contribution.

Principal's Page

In closing, a huge chapter in my life comes to an end this week as I complete my 39th year of teaching, twenty-two of which have been as a school principal! It has been a privilege to serve at many of the schools in the Toowoomba Diocese and I trust that I have played a positive part in the formation of the hearts and minds of the students who have been in my care. Working with parents, teachers, staff, students, parish and community members has brought me great joy and satisfaction, I am ever grateful to the many P&F and School Board committees I have worked with over the years as my number one goal has always been to do the best I can to give the students the greatest of opportunities so they too, can experience success, satisfaction, belonging and become the best people they can be. Thank you, Oakey, for your acceptance and support of me over the years. St Monica's holds a very special place in my heart and I hope that you continue to work with the new Principal Luke Barrett in order to make our school even better.

I trust that the children will enjoy their holidays and that families will have an opportunity to celebrate the happiness of Christmas.

School resumes on Tuesday 29th January 2019.

God Bless!

Mr Roland Poulton

APRE Report Week 9 Term 4

It's hard to believe that my first year working at St Monica's is coming to a close. It has been wonderful to return to my home town and my old school. I have really enjoyed reconnecting with old school friends and even former pupils this year.

This Sunday at Mass the first candle of Advent was lit. Advent has always been one of my favourite seasons in the church calendar. As a child, it signalled that it was almost time for Christmas and the yearly family holiday to the Sunshine Coast. As an adult, it signals a time of preparation for the coming of Christ Jesus, a time to reflect on the year that has been and to give thanks for all that I have received.

This week, I have run a little competition in the classrooms for the best Advent prayer space. The prayer space had to demonstrate an understanding of the liturgical time of Advent and the true meaning of Christmas, and feature the colour of Advent, purple. Congratulations to all classes on the beautiful prayer spaces created and especially to Year 2, the winners of the competition. Special mention to Prep and Year 1 for their beautiful nativity scenes and to Year 3 for their Advent prayer chain.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mr Poulton all the very best for his retirement. You will be very much missed here at St Monica's. Thank you also to the other staff we have leaving us at the end of this week. Best wishes to Mrs Staude, Mrs O'Kennedy and Mrs Miller.

I wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

God Bless

Lisa Cavanagh



Teacher Talk

Prep

What a busy time we're having in prep with Christmas activities, the concert, swimming lessons and the spelling bee. Despite growing more tired with each passing day, we've managed to have a lot of fun together. It's just beautiful watching the excitement on their faces when we speak of holidays and Santa but not overlooking of course, the real message of Christmas. We've placed the nativity scene on the our prayer table and decorated our tree with angels, who watch over Mary, Joseph and Jesus. The children have especially enjoyed making a gift for their parents which shall always remind you of their initial year at school, long after they've grown up. Let me say in conclusion, just how much I've enjoyed having the privilege of teaching your children over the last six weeks. I was fortunate to score many of the fun activities, with Mrs Thomas having done the hard yards. May the Christmas season see you enjoying many happy times with your family and friends and creating wonderful memories for that's what life is all about. God bless and may He keep you safe until you return in the New Year.

Mrs Jenny Shellshear

Year One

We have finally come to the last week of school for 2018. What a busy year we have had and how the children have grown! They have been a great class and I have enjoyed taking them on this journey. Please accept my thanks for all the support you have given this year. We are partners in your child's education and working together ensures this is done realistically. I wish them all the best for next year and know they will continue to do their best. Report cards will go home later this week.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe, holy and happy Christmas. I hope that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace during this festive season.

Mrs Chris Conneely

Year Two

The last day of school...the closing of one door and the opening of another. I want to thank each student for the memories and learning we have shared this school year. Thank you, for when I teach, I also learn. This past year we have grown together. A little part of each of you will always be with me. Always strive to be the BEST you can be.

Parents, I thank you for allowing me to be your child's teacher. It has been a wonderful and rewarding year.

Mrs Rowena Staude

Year Three

Welcome to week 9 of term 4, the last week of school for 2019! I can't believe how quickly this term and year has gone! Thank you so much to all of the students and parents who attended the Christmas concert and disco last Thursday, it was so lovely to see all of you dancing the night away.

Thank you to all of the Year 3's for the most incredible year! I wish each and every one of you all the best for Year 4. Thank you to all the parents for a wonderful, supportive year. Congratulations on bringing up such respectful, honest and kind children. I hope you all have a blessed Christmas and wonderful new year.

All the best & see you all next year.

Miss Ayden-Skye Wolff

Teacher Talk

Year Four

Welcome to week 9!

Thank you to the year 4 class for an amazing 6 months of teaching and learning! It's been a massive learning curve for myself and you've all been a pleasure to teach in the process, I wish you all the best for next year. I hope everybody from our St Monica's community has a safe and happy holiday, and a reminder for students to thank their parents/carers for all that they do for you.

Ms Brady would like to say that she has loved working with you all and sends lots of smiles for the New Year.

Mr Callum Duncan

Year Five

Our final week of the school year has certainly been a very busy one! Well done to all of the students on their participation in the swimming carnival! Today we officially farewelled our Year 6 students as they head off to High School and we thank them for setting a high standard for the other students to follow. As we farewell the Year 6s, it is timely that the Year 5s reflect on their year - their attitude, engagement and behaviour, as they prepare to be the next group of students to lead St Monica's. The Year 5 students presented Mr Poulton with a lovely gift to express their thanks to him for everything he has done for them throughout their whole primary schooling and we will officially farewell him on Friday. We are also sad to say goodbye to a couple of our classmates and we wish them all the best for the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given to your children, and to me, throughout the year. I wish you all the very best for a safe, relaxing and enjoyable holiday and a Merry Christmas.

Mrs Kaylene Bruggemann

Year Six

Hello from Year 6

As the school year comes to a close I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Year 6 students on the progress each of them has made throughout the year. I have witnessed some excellent growth across all curriculum areas due to an improvement in focus and effort by each child. I hope that they all continue to grow socially, emotionally and academically so they can fulfil the promise they all show.

Thanks also to you, the parents, for your contribution to your child's education through your support for me, your children and St Monica's School.

Finally, I wish you and yours a happy, holy and safe Christmas when we celebrate the birth of Jesus who is the 'reason for the season.'

Mr Mick West

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2018

Fri Dec 7th 10am	Mr Poulton Farewell Liturgy
Fri Dec 7th	Last Day of School (students with Parental Approval may leave at 12 noon)

2019

Mon 28th January	Public Holiday
Tue 29th January	School Resumes
Mon 4th February	Yr 6 Emu Gully
Mon 4th February	P&F Meeting
Fri 15th February	Welcome BBQ & Disco
Thursday 21st February	Board Meeting
Sun 12th May	Centenary of St Monica's Parish
Fri 7th June	Confirmation
Sun 9th June	First communion

Christmas Mass Times

Healing Mass

9th December 8am

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Monday 17th December 6pm

Christmas Eve Mass

Monday 24th December
5.30pm

Weekend Masses

St Monica's Parish

1st, 4th & 5th Sunday – Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

2nd Sunday – 8.00am

3rd Sunday – 8.00am Celebration of the Word & Communion

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Peranga

2nd Sunday – 10.00am

4th Sunday – 10.00am Celebration of the Word & Communion

Oakey: Saturday 6pm

Peranga: Sunday 10am



SUPERlearners Term 4 Week 8



P & F Notes

We the P & F Committee of 2018 would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Principal Mr. Roland Poulton We have had the pleasure of working with Mr Poulton on numerous occasions, with the bond between the school and the P&F only growing stronger with the best interests of the students at heart.

Thank you Roly for your leadership and dedication to our fine school which you have led successfully for the past 6 years.

We wish you all the best in your next venture.

A huge “Thank You” for all the Tuckshop helpers throughout 2018, your generosity in giving your time is truly appreciated by the students and parents.

A special mention must go to Linda Leerentveld and Kym Owens who have convened the Tuckshop and special lunches throughout the year. Your dedication to making sure students have been catered for is applauded.

Please let the office know if your are interested in contributing your time to be a Tuckshop helper in 2019.

P & F AGM

4th February 2019 at 7.00pm.

All Welcome

All positions declared vacant.

A General meeting will follow.

Welcome BBQ & Disco

Friday 15th February 2019

Important Notices

STUDENT PROTECTION CONTACTS

Every school has student protection contacts who act as a point of call for reporting, advice or information. These people are provided with training each year.

At St Monica's, the student protection contacts are:

Kaylene Bruggemann
Rowena Staude
Susan Rodd

The school principal is also able to provide assistance for any students or members of the school community. You will notice posters around the school making everyone aware of who the contacts are.

Centenary of St Monica's Parish

Sunday May 12th 2019, 9am Mass followed by Morning Tea.

Photographs of Marriages, Baptisms, Confirmation, First Communion at St Monica's over the past 100 years are required for Souvenir Booklet. Please see Father Thomas or the school office for further details.

Santa Fair

Saturday 8th December – Oakey Soccer Grounds- 5:50pm meet Miss Fredline

We have been invited to sing at the Santa Fair. I have been teaching all the children three songs (Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Go Tell it on a Mountain and Santa Claus is Coming to Town). Come dressed Christmassy. If you are at the Santa Fair could you meet me near the performance area at 5:50 pm. We will be finished by 6:15 in time for Santa's arrival.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Susie Fredline
Music Teacher

