

ST MUNCHIN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Follow
Truth*



Our Vision

St Munchin's Catholic School aspires to reflect the life and love of Christ for His people.

Our Mission

In the tradition of Eucharistic sharing, St Munchin's Catholic School community aims to reflect the life and love of Christ for His people.

The school community works together to provide pastoral care for each person and to nurture the development of the whole child.

Term 4 Week 3
Thursday 29th October 2020

Term 4 Dates

Week 1 Friday 16 October *PP Excursion*
Whole School Mass 9:00am
Sunday 18 October
Parish after school Communion
Week 2 BOOK WEEK
Monday 19 October *Yr 6 Parliament House*
Yr 2 Excursion to Caversham
Tuesday 20 October *P&F Meeting*
Thursday 22 October *Book Week-Shared Reading*
Friday 23 October *Yr 6 Adventure Day*
Week 3
Monday 26 October *World of Maths Yrs 4 - 6*
Tuesday 27 October
Parent Information Night First Penance 6:30pm
Interschool Field Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 27 October *School Advisory Council*
Thursday 29 October
Interschool Track Athletics Carnival
P&F Colour Run (Kindy & Pre-Primary)
Friday 30 October *First Penance Retreat Day*
P&F Colour Run (Yrs 1 - 6)
Week 4
Tuesday 3 November *Scitech Incursion*
Wednesday 4 November *PP Excursion*
Thursday 5 November *Scitech Incursion*
Kindy Excursion
Friday 6 November *Yr 4 Bush Tucker Incursion*
Week 5 NAIDOC Week
Wednesday 11 November *First Penance 6:30pm*
Week 6
Tuesday 17 November
Fr Philip's 25th Anniversary
Wednesday 18 November *World of Maths Yrs 1-3*
Friday 20 November *Principals' Mass*
Sunday 22 November *Yr 6 Confirmation 11:30am*
Week 7 Tuesday 24 November
P&F & School Advisory Council AGM 7:00pm
Week 8
Tuesday 1 December *Yr 1 Excursion to Brownes*
Vinnies Sausage Sizzle
Wednesday 2 December *Stretch Crew 6:00pm*
Thursday 3 December *Kindy Parent Info Night*
Week 9
Monday 7 December *Rainbows Celebrate Me Day*
Wednesday 9 December *Yr 6 Graduation Mass*
Kindy Orientation 9:15am
Friday 11 December *Whole School Mass*
Yr 6 Disco
LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS

Creator God.

*Through your hand and through your Word,
you have given us life and given life to all our world.*

You call us to be stewards and co-creators.

Awaken within us a deep respect for where we walk.

*Help us to tread lightly on this land
and to cherish the gifts endowed upon us.*

*We make this prayer through the Holy Spirit,
who has moved in this world for all time.*

Amen



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

The Term is progressing very quickly. Students continue to work enthusiastically, producing pleasing work and achieving positive outcomes. We encourage our students to remain focused as we approach the end of the year even though only a few weeks remain and we appreciate the support from parents and carers.

We are presently consolidating teaching and learning for 2020, planning, and preparing for 2021. The teachers are carefully considering the allocation of students to classes as they progress to the next year level. The allocation of the students is based on "The Splitting of Grades" policy accompanying this newsletter.

Parents/Carers wishing to request a specific class must write to Mr Romeo stating reasons for the request and must be in line with the rationale on the Splitting of Grades Policy. These requests must be submitted by 20th November 2020.

Annual General Meeting - School Advisory Council and Parents and Friends Committee

School Advisory Council (formerly School Board) and the Parents and Friends Committee Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th November commencing at 7.00pm in the School hall to accommodate social distancing requirements. All parents, carers and friends are cordially invited. Further information will be provided closer to the date.

The School Advisory Council (School Board) requires at least two new members, and the Parents and Friends always welcome new committee members.

Nomination forms and details for both the School Advisory Council and the Parents and Friends Committee will be distributed to all families soon.

Parenting Ideas Articles

"Standing Behind Difficult Decisions "
"Making a Smooth Transition to Secondary School"

Wishing you all a safe, peaceful fortnight with your family.

God Bless

Rob Romeo
Principal



This year, Nariko represented St Munchin's Catholic school in a golf tournament and competed with girls from 10 other Primary Schools. She was close by just one point and came in Runner-up for Girls Individual Stableford category. Nariko is extremely happy that she was able to represent St Munchin's in her last year of primary school.



P&F Colour Run

Friday 30th October

Years 5&6 2:00 to 2:15pm

Years 3&4 2:20 to 2:35pm

Years 1&2 2:40 to 2:55pm





First Penance Year 3

Thank you to all the parents who attended the meeting for First Penance on Tuesday night or sent their apologies saying they were unable to attend. Your children are lucky to have such committed parents who are trying to give their children all the things they need to live a long, happy and productive life. We look forward to celebrating this special Sacrament with you and your family next month.

Dates to Remember

First Penance

Wednesday 11th November 6.30pm in the church

Sacrament of Confirmation

Sunday 22nd November 11.30am in the church

Containers for Change

As a community, we have joined the Containers for Change scheme to help the environment as well as raise funds for our school.

All are welcome to collect drink containers and place them into the two specially designated and labelled Containers for Change bins, located next to the year six classroom or in the early learning block.

Don't forget to look for the 10c symbol on the back of your containers to check if it is eligible.



<https://www.containersforchange.com.au/wa/>

Let's get collecting!



P&F Messages

We at the P&F would like to thank the wonderful parents who helped with the Term 3 Sausage Sizzle: Tammy Costantino, Moira Park, Alethea Lin, Kelly Skinner and Luke Bresland. You are all amazing and generous of your time. We would also like to say a big thank you to all the parents who ordered a sausage sizzle for their children. Without you this would not be possible.



.....Click on the link from the St Munchin's home page

OR Go to www.stmunchins.wa.edu.au/myinternet>Student Username>Password

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In September 2020 our school once again took part in the BEBRAS Australian Computational Thinking Challenge which is part of an international initiative aiming to promote Informatics (Computer Science, or Computing) and computational thinking among school students at all ages.

St Munchin's has been taking part in the competition for three years now: this means that all children from Year 3 to Year 6 who are in school on the day who choose to take the challenge will participate.

Students are awarded special certificates of achievement based on their performance and in accordance with the scale below. We had a great many children who achieved awards for this challenge and to celebrate this we held a school assembly yesterday.

All children should be congratulated for their participation in the competition but we would like to pay a special tribute to all the children below and especially to Leslie D'Cruz of Year 6 who achieved a BEBRAS Honour Roll award. This is the first time anyone at our school has achieved this award. It means that Leslie achieved a score of 135, which is 100%. It also means that his name will be published on the BEBRAS National Roll of Honour, visible on the BEBRAS website after publication. The BEBRAS website can be found at <https://digitalcareers.csiro.au/en/Bebras>. It has free resources for all school age children which are really fun activities for all the family. I encourage you to visit the site and have a look.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all Year 6 children and parents/carers that it is possible to register your child independently for the challenge should they wish to participate in future years and if they will be attending a school that does not enter the BEBRAS challenge.

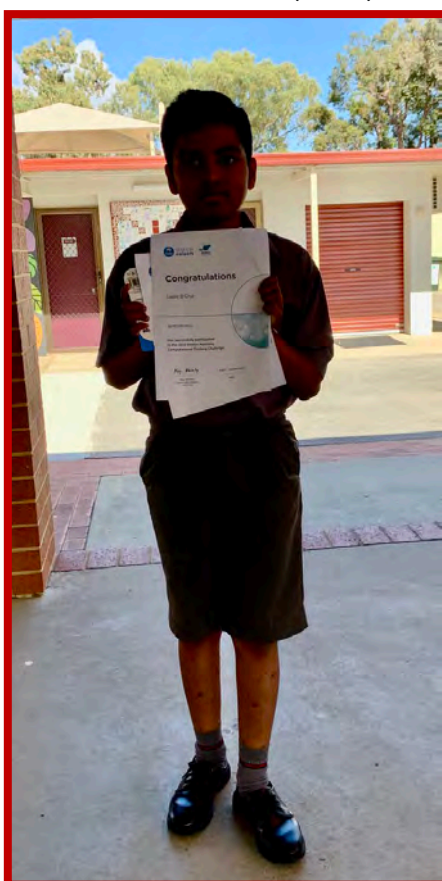
Meanwhile enjoy reading our roll of honour!

Mrs Stockley *IT Teacher*

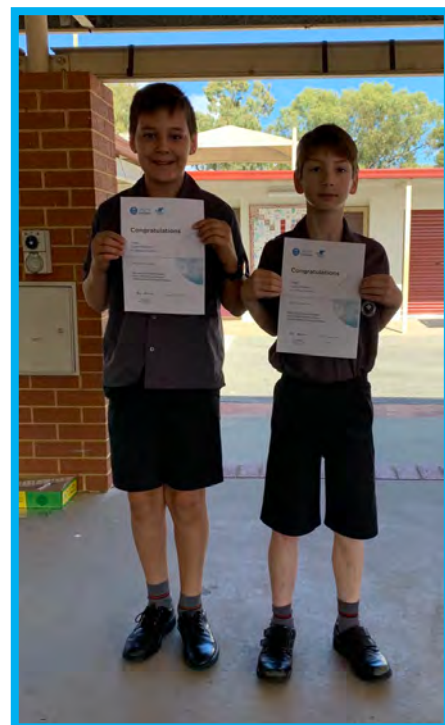
Participation 0-59
Merit 60-86
Credit 87-101
Distinction 102-113
High Distinction 114-134
Honour Roll 135 (100%)



Abigail Cox 6W
Nariko McDonnell 6W



Leslie Dcruz 6W



Caleb Roberts 5W
Joshua Gurney 5M



St Munchin's Roll of Honour
BEBRAS September 2020 Results

YEAR	NAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Y3	Samantha Weber & Ayor Acuek	MERIT
	Chiri Opikoli	
	Adiam Kahsay & Emnet Bekele	
	Jordyn Howley & Kiara Watkins	
	Bionney Bangayan	
	Chantelle Xie & Crystal Nguyen	
	Jonathon Lane & Joseph Amayri	
	Florian Christstar & Nyssa Kingston	
	Alexis Richards & Ava Evans	
Kaiden Lafferty & Oliver Clark		
Y4	Abyssinia Wereta & Georgia-Lee Christie	MERIT
	Khushi Shah	
	Ethan Phillip & Khabilan Seetharaman	
	Charlotte Newman	
	Kiara Swinbourne & Xyris Madrigal	
	Joel Macmillan & Bellul Belay	
	Melanie Beacher	
	Carl Agus & Lachlan Lafferty	
	Joshua Smith & Walter Oo	
	Aken Wijerathne	
	Porsche Stuart & Tejasvi Rukmangathan	
	Charli Sands & Chelsea Bruni	
	Aydriel Ratnasekera & Aaron Clark	
Thomas Nemeč & Matthew Calupig		
Olivia Gradisen		
Soliana Beyene		
Y5	Diobett Bangayan	MERIT
	Nissa Ancliffe & Layla Hitchcock	
	Cailin Keane & Izabella Stuart	
	Dalila Wilkes	
	Nicolas Limopranoto-Vernede & Joses Thomas	
Elizabeth Kamikazi		

Y6

Aiden Smith & Loiz Gabrillo
Taiya Paardekooper & Olivia Evans
Jed French & William Killen
Jackson Almstrom & Chase Sartorelli
Grace Rockley & Mayri Aung
Vince Fazari & Zachary Riley
Nokutenda Mawere & Alizee Labutte
Declan Bermingham
James Ingram & Daniel Ellis
Lily Feisst & Seren Adams

MERIT

Y4

Abigail Raganas & Maria Donina

CREDIT

Y5

Matthew Costantino & Ethan Faafua
Bella Bresland & Katherine Iosifidis
Cheyenne Lin

CREDIT

Y6

Ella Gardiner & Isabelle Phillip
Elaine Labrador & Arseama Kahsay
Azura Mayall & Aslan Murray
Kevin Mebrahtom & Roberston Saw
Thuong Nguyen & Marko Nolting
Yatumika Saravanachelvam & Essiete Tela
Mikayla Nash & Reshan Abraha

CREDIT

Y3

Kyan Mooney, Hunter Faafua & Adriel Kistopersad

DISTINCTION

Y4

Esther Benoy & Sanvi Setty

DISTINCTION

Y5

Vince Sapilan

DISTINCTION

Y5

Clinton Matthews

DISTINCTION

Y5

Caleb Roberts & Joshua Gurney

HIGH DISTINCTION

Y6

Nariko McDonnell & Abigail Cox

HIGH DISTINCTION

Y6

LESLIE D'CRUZ

HONOUR ROLL

INSIGHTS

Standing behind difficult decisions



Johan and Harry were both suspended from school for a day after willingly watching a schoolyard fight. Their school had a zero-tolerance policy toward fighting and believed that those who watched a fight were as complicit in the conflict as those engaged in the fighting.

The reactions of both sets of parents to the boys' suspensions differed greatly. Johan's parents supported the school's actions and made the necessary changes to their work schedules to accommodate the suspension. Privately, they thought that the suspension may have been harsh, but as they agreed with the school's zero tolerance approach to violence, they knew they had no option but to accept the suspension. They counselled their son against similar behaviour in future and made sure his time away from school was spent doing schoolwork.

Harry's parents weren't quite so supportive. Thinking that their son's suspension was unfair, they contacted the school's principal asking to have the suspension removed. The principal listened to their concerns however she didn't remove the suspension. She reminded Harry's parents of the reasons behind the school's zero tolerance approach to fighting and urged them to support of their policy. Disappointed but obviously not deterred, Harry's father took time off work to take his son on a fishing trip on the day of the suspension. This action showed little regard for the school's efforts to encourage a culture of respectful relationships, as well as scant respect for the principal's authority.

Make the most of learning moments

Both sets of parents thought that the suspension of their sons was harsh. However, only one set saw the situation as a learning experience for the son. Johan's parents discussed with their son the place that bystanders play when violence breaks out. They reinforced the message that although it may take courage to stop a fight or bring it to the attention of teachers, it's these sorts of actions that constitute positive leadership.

Harry's parents couldn't see past the injustice of the suspension and missed a great opportunity to teach their son any number of lessons. These include what he may do next time a similar incident occurs, how he might respond when he sees someone being bullied or even how to nip conflict between peers in the bud before it escalates. There are many discussions they could have had with their son due to the suspension. From an educative perspective, this was an opportunity missed.

Trust the process

Arguably, the bigger issue in this story is that just as Johan's parents did, we parents need to trust the processes that teachers put in place at school, even when we don't always agree. Family-school partnerships are strongest when parents stand behind the difficult decisions that teachers make, even though the wisdom behind them may not be immediately evident. Sometimes, we all have to stand back and trust a process that's been in place, particularly when it's been implemented after a great deal of thought and diligence.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

INSIGHTS

Making a smooth transition to secondary school



Going to secondary school is both exciting and scary for many kids. There's excitement about new friends, teachers and ventures, but this can be overshadowed by anxiety and stress.

The sheer size of a high school building can be overwhelming to the uninitiated. The potential loss of status when moving from big fish in a small pond to tiny minnow in a large ocean can be hard to swallow for some. Add the increased number of teachers and the hormonal changes that accompany puberty and drive emotional and cognitive development and it is little wonder the first year of secondary school often sees a plateauing in learning. Most kids are flat out making new friends and getting used to how secondary school works, so learning takes a back seat for a time.

While it's easier for those who have a brother or sister already there who can pass on some tips about how to survive secondary school, many don't have that luxury. Fortunately, there are number of strategies parents can use to make the transition to secondary school easier.

Know the school space

Familiarity helps reduce anxiety. Most secondary schools have familiarisation programs for incoming students but it helps to reinforce with your young person where the key spaces are – such as administration, toilets, the tuck shop and drinking taps. A trip to the school during the holidays, if possible, can help reassure a nervous secondary school starter.

Make the leap with friends

Negotiating new friendships can be stressful so it helps to identify some friends from primary school or outside school that your child can travel with or meet up before school, at lunch breaks and during times when classes aren't scheduled. This will give them the opportunity to share and compare experiences, which is therapeutic for kids who are experiencing change.

Help with planning and organisation

Some students can be overwhelmed by the organisational demands of secondary school. If your child fits this category, be prepared to be on hand to coach your young person in the finer arts of being on time to class, organising work in folders, planning homework time, handing in multiple assignments and filling out forms.

Set up a designated study space in the home

Now that your young person has hit the big time it's important that they have a study space to call their own. Keep this outside the bedroom if possible – the bedroom is a space for sleeping and relaxing. Use any area that is reasonably quiet and well lit. Set up a desk with a computer, if possible, along with stationery items.

Establish a work schedule

If your child's primary school homework was given inconsistently then be prepared for a change. Most secondary schools try to coordinate homework between different teachers but there will be more times than not when your child will come home with multiple homework assignments to complete. Build the homework habit early and choose a regular time that allows for breaks. Encourage them to work quickly so that work does not drag on and become demotivating.

Stay patient and positive

The social and academic demands of going to secondary school can be mentally draining for young people. Some will miss old friends and the relative comfort of primary school. It's important for parents to be patient with their young person, to expect a few behaviour blowouts and to be prepared to listen and help them process their new experiences. If your young person has negative experiences, point them in the direction of the good things that may happen during the day.

Your young person's coping mechanisms are being tested during this time. They can change on a daily basis. If stress becomes overwhelming or persistent to the point that they don't want to go to school after the initial settling-in period, consider organising some extra assistance. A year-level coordinator, school counsellor or the local doctor can be good starting points should extra assistance be needed.

Starting secondary school is one of many transitions your young person will face in life. With planning and support, your child can make a positive start to secondary school and enjoy an amazing time at their new school.



Michael Grose

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St Munchin's Catholic School

Splitting of Grades

Policy

Rationale

Originally Released:	November 2002
Revised:	November 2005
Revised:	November 2008
Revised:	November 2012
Due for review:	November 2015

St Munchin's Catholic School is a double stream primary school with two classes in each grade. At the end of each school year the classes are restructured for the following year.

They are re-grouped to:

- Provide children with the opportunity to work with different classmates
- Enable teachers to split children who have social difficulties
- Provide children with a variety of teaching styles
- Provide children with the opportunity to form new social relationships.
- Consider the learning abilities of each particular child and the class as a whole

Procedure

- Prior to class lists being developed, teachers who have concerns with a child within their class should discuss the situation with the Principal.
- The current class teachers, at the end of the school year, have the initial responsibility of splitting the classes for the following year. This is achieved through collaboration between the class teachers. Teachers are to divide each year group into two even classes with approximately the same number of each gender in each group, according to the criteria listed in the rationale.
- The new class lists are then studied by the Leadership Team, who may again consult the class teachers, and then make alterations to the groupings - taking into account the reasons listed in the rationale.
- Class lists are released to teachers during the handover period at the end of the school year. Class lists are posted on the community notice board one week prior to the end of the school year.
- Parent's requests will only be considered in line with the stated rationale. i.e. Not to provide for long-standing friendships.