



St Monica's
PRIMARY SCHOOL WODONGA



Prospectus

St Monica's is committed to being a child safe school. The St Monica's community is fully aware of the responsibilities and obligations they have to all children. This is critical to ensure the school upholds the basic understanding that all children have the right to feel safe at all times.

CHILD SAFE SCHOOL

Child Safe Standard 1 - Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.

Child Safe Standard 2 - Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.

Child Safe Standard 3 - Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.

Child Safe Standard 4 - Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Child Safe Standard 5 - Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice.

Child Safe Standard 6 - People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.

Child Safe Standard 7 - Processes for complaints and concerns are child-focused.

Child Safe Standard 8 - Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.

Child Safe Standard 9 - Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

Child Safe Standard 10 - Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.

Child Safe Standard 11 - Policies and procedures document how the relevant entity is safe for children and young people.

We would like to acknowledge the
Traditional Owners of the land where St
Monica's School is situated.
We would like to acknowledge our Elders
past, present and future.



St Monica's Executive Leadership Team



Jacqui Partington
Principal



Danielle Topalovic
Deputy Principal- Catholic
Mission & Safeguarding



Jack Neil
Deputy Principal-
Learning & Teaching

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

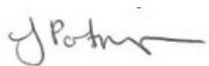
Welcome to St Monica's Catholic Primary School where we take great pride in our welcoming school community, engaging environment, and the diversity of our student and teacher base. We are a community rich in love and faith, and are proud to be part of the Wodonga Catholic Parish.

We believe that every child is competent and capable and we pride ourselves in supporting and celebrating your child's learning journey in a calm, safe, respectful, supportive and dignified environment. Relationships between students, school and families are fundamental to this and we embrace the opportunity to work together and be partners in educating your child.

Our Vision: 'Every Child, every day will be supported and challenged in a faith- filled, welcoming and inclusive environment, underpinned by best practice and high expectations', and our Motto 'Learn to Love, Love to Learn' is lived daily. We value the contribution of every student, to both the school and the community. We have high expectations for ourselves and your child and we celebrate academic achievement and human flourishing.

A is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child and we do not take this privilege for granted. Thank you for choosing St Monica's for your child's educational journey. I look forward to welcoming you.

Sincerely,



Jacqui Partington
Principal

HISTORY OF ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Catholic Education in Wodonga commenced in 1876 with St Augustine's Primary School, which was started by Sisters of Mercy. By 1899 the new school buildings were completed, and St Augustine's was catering for the Primary, Secondary and Commercial classes. A Boarding school was also established at the convent.

By the late 1940's and the following decade, the large number of European immigrants moving to the area and the post war baby boom saw a large boost in numbers at St Augustine's, causing the parish to purchase land for a second Catholic Primary School.

St Monica's Primary School was built and opened in 1973, the second Catholic Primary School to be operating in the Wodonga Parish. There was very little equipment at St Monica's when it commenced operating- one teacher said all they had was a blackboard, duster, ruler and chalk- no money, no books, no readers. There was very little play equipment for the children. Imagination was the order of the day.

Later in 1973 the two schools shared a Mother's Club and a great deal of fundraising was organised, as St Monica's needed to be furnished. Thanks to cake stalls, street stalls, Hippy Nights and a Queen's Competition, the addition of much needed furniture was well underway.

As South Wodonga developed and grew, so did the attendance at St Monica's. The location, growth and development of St Monica's can be attributed to the Labour Government making Albury - Wodonga a growth area. Large numbers of people were drawn to the area because of the employment and private industry possibilities. This created a need for more schools and as a result, St Monica's was built and has since flourished.

MASTER PLAN

St Monica's Primary School, Wodonga, in the Diocese of Sandhurst, provides has an existing enrolment of approximately 500 students.

Over the past 10 years, the school has been completely rebuilt, creating an environment in which our staff and students can thrive.

We are proud of our expansive well maintained grounds and purpose built learning centres that cater for our signature pedagogy grounded in the Science of learning.



OUR GROUNDS

At St. Monica's Primary School, we take great pride in providing a welcoming, engaging, and dynamic outdoor environment for our students. Our extensive school grounds offer a wide range of play and recreational areas designed to support the physical, social, and imaginative development of every child. Whether students are looking for active play, exploration, or quiet reflection, our diverse outdoor spaces cater to all needs and interests.

Purpose-Built Play Areas to ensure all students have access to safe and age-appropriate play opportunities, we have designated playgrounds for different year levels:

- **Foundation – Grade 2 Playground:** A specially designed play space tailored for our younger students, featuring age-appropriate equipment that fosters motor skill development, creativity, and cooperative play.
- **Grade 3 – 6 Playground:** A challenging and exciting play area designed for older students, encouraging active play, strength-building, and social interaction.



Expansive Sporting Facilities - physical activity is an essential part of our school community, and our students benefit from a range of high-quality sporting facilities, including:

- **Oval:** A large, open green space perfect for team sports, athletics, and recreational play.
- **Stadium:** An all-weather facility that allows students to engage in basketball, netball, and other indoor sports throughout the year.
- **Basketball courts:** Dedicated outdoor courts that provide additional space for students to practice their basketball skills, engage in friendly games, and develop teamwork and coordination.

Exciting Play and Exploration Areas beyond traditional playgrounds and sporting facilities, we offer unique spaces that spark imagination, sensory engagement, and adventure:

- **Cubbies:** A delightful area where children can build, create, and immerse themselves in imaginative play.
- **Sensory Playground:** Designed to stimulate the senses and encourage exploration, this space provides a calming and interactive experience for students of all abilities.
- **Agility Course:** A fun and challenging course that helps develop balance, coordination, and physical confidence.
- **Tunnels:** Hidden tunnels provide exciting opportunities for imaginative and adventurous play, fostering curiosity and discovery.
- **Garden Areas:** Beautifully maintained gardens that provide students with a peaceful setting to explore nature, learn about sustainability, and participate in gardening programs.



At St. Monica's, we believe that outdoor play and movement are essential for a child's overall development. Our extensive school grounds not only provide a safe and stimulating environment but also promote well-being, teamwork, and a love for outdoor activities. We look forward to welcoming you to our school and sharing the many wonderful experiences our students enjoy every day.

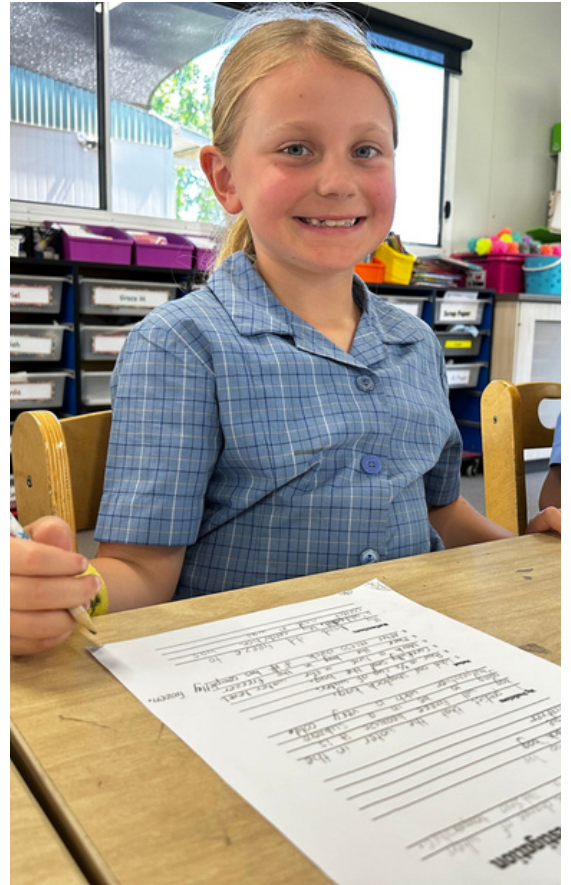


LEARNING & TEACHING

At St Monica's we believe respectful relationships between students, school and families are fundamental to student achievement and development. We believe every child has the right and potential to learn and succeed.

At St Monica's we believe that it is our moral purpose to ensure the academic success of all students to maximise their opportunities and outcomes in life.

At St Monica's we pride ourselves on the implementation of our 'signature pedagogy', delivered via evidence based best practice and structures. Our 'signature pedagogy' is an approach to learning and teaching that involves clear and explicit instruction to students on what to do and how to do it. It involves carefully planned and sequenced lessons, clear and well modelled instructions and frequent, systematic collection of student data and feedback.



We implement a synthetic phonics program prioritising five elements essential for reading proficiency- phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. This is derived from the science of reading and supported by cognitive load theory and cognitive science of learning.

In the numeracy classroom we utilise explicit instruction and incorporate practices derived from cognitive load theory to ensure that students transfer previously learnt content to long-term memory, freeing up short-term memory to use in new learning.

At St Monica's we embrace a gradual release model to target the development of independence and mastery of learning. We know that it is only after effective learning of content and concepts can children begin to utilise that knowledge in the world around them.

OUR VISION:

Every Child, every day will be supported and challenged in a faith- filled, welcoming and inclusive environment, underpinned by best practice and high expectations.

LUNCH TIME CLUBS

At St. Monica's, we are committed to creating a school environment where every child feels valued, engaged, and excited to learn. Our lunchtime clubs, running each day, provide students with the opportunity to explore their interests, build friendships, and have fun!

Our clubs include sport, singing and choir, Pokemon, LEGO, chess, and colouring club.

These clubs help students develop new skills, boost confidence, and enjoy their break in a way that suits them best. Whether your child loves being active, creative, or strategic, there's a place for them at St. Monica's!

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

Our specialist programs have an emphasis on Art (Performing & Visual), Physical Education, Health and Science. We have specialist staff in these roles to facilitate learning in line with our school vision and pedagogy.

Our Language other than English (LOTE) is French and is taught in the classroom from Foundation to Year 6.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Our commitment to every child being supported and challenged everyday requires us to offer a range of supports for student learning and wellbeing. At St Monica's we implement this via firstly providing the highest possible standard of instruction within our classrooms.

Within our learning spaces we utilise Learning Support Officers to provide additional attention for students. Our school has access internally to a Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, and Learning Diversity Leader. We also access external agencies as required to meet the individual needs of every student. Teachers access these support services to assist students with social and emotional learning, as well as academic development.

EXCURSIONS AND CAMPS

Throughout the year students attend excursions according to topics studied in the classroom. Permission forms and information regarding these excursions are communicated home via our Parent Access Model or PAM. Camps are held for students from Grades 3-6 each year.

At St Monica's we also pursue a wide range of sporting incursions/excursions that provide an excellent opportunity for students to challenge themselves physically and socially.

All students have the opportunity to be involved in a range of sports and participate in the whole school athletics carnival and cross country.



POSITIVE EDUCATION AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL PROGRAM

Our Positive Education and Social Emotional program aims to offer students the opportunity to understand the relationships between emotions and behaviours in relation to their own self-worth, academic achievement, wellbeing and ability to self-regulate.

At St Monica's, teaching expected behaviours and routines is a key part of our social-emotional curriculum, helping students build essential skills for learning and relationships. Clear expectations and consistent routines provide a safe, predictable environment where children feel valued and ready to learn. By reinforcing positive behaviours, we support students in developing self-regulation, responsibility, and a sense of belonging, creating a school culture that nurtures respect and growth for every child.

The explicit and integrated teaching of Social and Emotional capabilities through our SEL program offer students the opportunity to learn, develop and utilise strategies in real life situations where they face day to day challenges.

Our Social Emotional program focuses on the following key areas:

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Relationship skills
- Responsible decision making
- Managing conflict
- Cooperation
- Developing leadership skills
- Fostering a safe & inclusive community

Our Positive Education program focuses on allowing our students to flourish and develop key elements of their character as to positively engage in relationships and enhance mental health and wellbeing.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ST MONICA'S CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Dear Jesus, Be with me today, in all my work and all my play.
Amen

The role of is to provide daily experience for students to live out the mission of Jesus. Religious Education is more than acquiring factual information, it is to help students in their lives. St Monica's Identity Statement " Jesus is our guide. In him we live, we move, we are called to be" invites students to not just be more like Christ in how we act, but to carry out the work of Christ in service to others. When choosing St Monica's Primary School for your child, you are choosing to immerse them more deeply in the Christian story leading to a sense of belonging and involvement. Our School, deeply influenced by the Sisters of Mercy charism, is dedicated to instilling values of compassion, justice and service. Guided by Catholic social teachings, we inspire students to champion social justice, fostering a commitment to mercy and equality. Our goal is to nurture compassionate leaders who actively contribute to a more just and inclusive world.

During the year students are provided with opportunities to identify ways they can support others in the community. They have the opportunity to support voluntary activities from the time they start school through to Year 6, such as Earthcare, FIRE Carrier program, Leadership Project Compassion, Caritas K's and Mission Madness fundraising activities. Our Diocesan RE Program "Source of Life" guides our planning. Shared Christian Praxis is used as a contemporary way for students to share their lived experience, reflect on where God is actively present in these experiences and ultimately make meaning from it. Faith is developed within an individual at different stages and expressed through the community by way of being in the likeness of Jesus. Christians believe that God loves us and that, if we welcome this love, it will be transmitted to the world through us.

PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of the St Monica's School community. Through school and classroom prayer we join as a community to pray to God. In order to encourage staff and children to share prayerful experiences, both formally and informally, we will provide the opportunity for quiet prayer at certain times. Teachers pray with their students daily by beginning with a group prayer and Acknowledgement of country. Country is acknowledged by our FIRE carrier students who have had the opportunity throughout the year to lead our school in reconciliation. Each classroom has a prayer table, prayer book, cross, candle, bible and a prayer focus relevant to the current Source of Life unit. The classroom teacher models a variety of prayers for students; prayers of **THANKS-PRAISE-PETITION-SORROW-BEING STILL** (Christian Meditation), so students learn that they can talk to God and that they can pray in different ways.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Children are introduced to the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation in Year 2 through the school curriculum. This is continued into Year 3 and 4 when our students are invited to celebrate their First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. The readiness of each child to participate in the program is determined by the parents.

In our Diocese of Sandhurst, the practice of sacramental foundation occurs in a Parish setting. The program is conducted outside of school hours to suit parent/carer involvement. This is seen as best practice, as parents are the first and best teachers of their children in the ways of faith. This also strengthens the three-way partnership between school, home and Parish in teaching Catholic faith.

SCHOOL MASSES/LITURGIES

In the first term the school gathers for a whole school Mass to celebrate the beginning of the school year. At the end of Term 4, the school gathers for an end of year Mass. Parents and friends are invited to join these special events.

During the year there are several Area Liturgies and Priest visits where the children can get more involved in the liturgical celebration and the Gospel. Other whole school Masses and Liturgies respond to the liturgical year.

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any queries you have in relation to your child's . If you would like more information about the Catholic faith. Sacred Heart Parish offers adult programs during the year.

Please keep a lookout in the school newsletter and Parish Website for School and Parish Catholic Events. And remember to ask your child what they learnt in RE today, they are full of God's wisdom!

GUARDIAN ANGEL

At St Monica's, we understand that starting school is a big transition for young children. To help make this experience as smooth and welcoming as possible, each Foundation student is paired with a Year 6 student as a "Guardian Angel".

Our Year 6 students take great pride in their role, offering friendship, support, and guidance to their Foundation buddy. Whether it's helping them navigate their new surroundings, offering a friendly face in the playground, or simply being someone they can look up to, the Guardian Angels play an important part in ensuring our youngest students feel safe, comfortable, and confident as they begin their journey at St Monica's.

This special bond fosters a strong sense of community within our school, helping to build connections across year levels while developing leadership and empathy skills in our senior students. The Foundation children love having a "big kid" to support them, and the friendships formed through this program often continue well beyond the first year of school.

OUR IDENTITY STATEMENT:

Jesus is our guide. In him we live,
we move, we are called to be.

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME

At St Monica's we value the partnership between home and school. Parents will always be the first educator of their child and we work together to ensure every child is challenged and supported. There are many avenues for communication between home and school and we encourage families to stay in regular contact with classroom teachers.

Parent Access Module (PAM)

Every parent/carer of a student will have a Parent Access Module (PAM) account created.

Through PAM families can:

- Notify of student absences, late arrivals or leaving early.
- Give consent for school activities
- View student reports
- View student attendance data
- Update student medical profile



PAM accounts can be accessed via web browser **pam.smwodonga.catholic.edu.au** or via the **Simon Everywhere** application that can be downloaded to your phone.

Every fortnight a newsletter is published on the school website and emailed to families.

Signing Your Child In & Out

If you need to take your child out of school during school hours (between 8.45am & 3.10pm), you must come to the office to sign your child in and out.

Any absences or early pick up information can be emailed to:
absence@smwodonga.catholic.edu.au

Student Reports & Parent/ Teacher meetings

At St Monica's all students receive a series of dynamic comments and reflections around their learning each term. These comments cover one topic area per comment, with parents receiving up to date information about the learners strengths and areas for improvement. At the conclusion of each semester each student receives a reflection against the Victorian curriculum standard progressions. All comments are accessed via our Parent Assessment Module online and allow parents an avenue to respond and provide feedback.

Parent meetings are held in terms one and three. These meetings are an important part of the reporting process, enabling clear and effective communication between students, parents and school. It is expected that each family attend these meetings.

We also encourage the communication that is established in these meetings to continue as required throughout the year.

School Facebook

A St Monica's Facebook page is available for communication from school to home. We encourage all families to follow our Facebook page as it provides regular important updates and information.

Email

Teachers email families regularly to update them about what is happening in the classroom. Email is an effective way of contacting classroom teachers. To ensure good communications between home and school, it is important that email addresses are current.

School Website

Check out our school website regularly for the latest news www.smwodonga.catholic.edu.au

Parent Representatives

We always welcome parents who volunteer to assist in various roles around the school.

Termly meetings are held with our parent representative group and all families are welcome to attend. These meetings give families an opportunity to discuss school events and parent connection opportunities.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

At St Monica's, the safety and well-being of our students are our top priorities. To ensure a smooth and secure transition at the beginning and end of each school day, we ask that students be dropped off in the yard from 8:25 am onwards, when staff supervision begins. This allows children to settle in and prepare for the school day in a safe and welcoming environment. At the end of the day, pick-up takes place between 3:10 pm and 3:30 pm. We kindly ask families to be punctual during this time to ensure all children are collected safely. Staff will be present to supervise and support students as they transition from school to home.

We appreciate your cooperation in following these procedures, as they help us maintain a safe and orderly environment for all students.

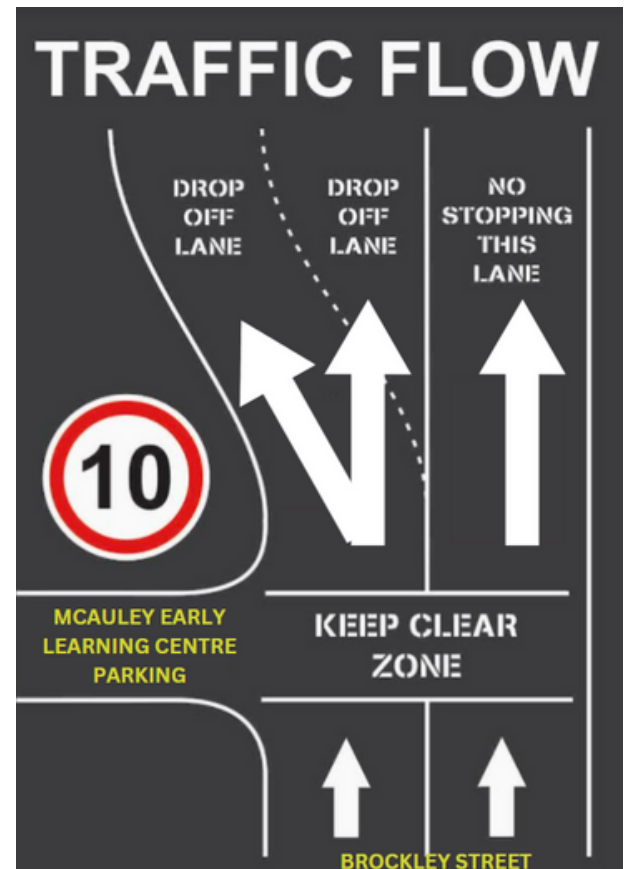
8:45am - 10:45am	Morning session
10:45am - 11am	Eating Time
11am - 11:40am	Lunch Break
11:40am - 1:40pm	Middle session
1:40pm - 2:10pm	Recess Break
2:10pm - 3:10pm	Last session
3:10pm	Conclusion of school day

CAR PARK GUIDELINES

The safety of your children whilst in our care is paramount. Please read the arrangements for drop-off and pick-up of children and discuss them with your child/children.

With the assistance of Wodonga Council and Vic Roads, and the support of St Monica's staff rostered on duty, we aim to provide the safest circumstances for our students. We do require the cooperation, patience and courtesy of everyone.

- Children must not arrive at school before 8:25am and must be picked up prior to 3:30pm. Teachers are not on duty outside of these times, therefore we request that you adhere to our pick up and drop off times - this includes children you ride or walk to school.
- If you cannot drop and collect your child during these hours they must be booked into Before or After School Care (OHSC).
- If children are being picked up in any other part of the car park, a parent or guardian must physically escort them. This means you must park in a marked area and leave your car to collect your child.
- No child should be walking on an asphalt area unaccompanied by an adult.
- When in the drive through queue, do not leave your vehicle at any time.
- Right hand lane is a through lane only and no stopping is permitted.
- Keep the drive through queue moving by unloading/loading 7 cars at a time. Do not pull out of the line at any time. You must wait until you have reached the front of the line, then you may continue out of the school grounds.
- "Give Way" at the Stop Sign to merge traffic from the "pick up/drop off" at the end of the median strip.
- Please adhere to the "No Standing" traffic signs. Do not park on the grass/garden areas.
- We have 2 designated Disabled Parking spots. Please do not park in these car parks unless you are a holder of a Disability Card.
- McAuley Early Learning Centre has designated parking spaces directly out the front of their Centre, to the left as you drive into the carpark. Please do not park in these spaces unless you are dropping off or pick up your children from McAuley Early Learning Centre.
- Only park in marked angle-parking areas.



If parents arrange pick up of their children from areas in streets surrounding St Monica's, they assume responsibility for their safety. Normal traffic regulations apply to both pedestrians and drivers in those situations. (Please remember that it is illegal for cars to park or stop in the bus zone).

SIDE GATE ACCESS

Care Access to the School Grounds For the convenience of our families, access to the school grounds is available via the Damian Court Gate. This entrance provides an additional entry point for students and parents, ensuring safe and easy access to the school. The gate is open during key drop-off and pick-up times and is monitored to maintain security. We kindly ask families to follow all school guidelines when using this entrance to ensure the safety of all students.

BIKES AND SCOOTERS

St Monica's has a bike and scooter rack. For extra security, you may like to use a padlock and chain to lock your bike to the rack.

SCHOOL BUS SERVICE

Dyson's Bus Service offers a school bus service to and from school. Limited seats for the bus service are available for students, and a spot is not guaranteed. To find out more about this service, please contact the school office on 02 6024 3151.

WODONGA CATHOLIC PARISH - OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Our St Monica's Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)- Brockley Street campus is a not for profit service that provides Before and After School Care, Vacation Care, and care on Pupil Free/ Curriculum days. The service is closed on Victorian Public Holidays.

OSHC aim is to provide quality care in a happy, secure and stimulating environment at an affordable cost. We believe every family has the right to quality care and education services that recognise and value the child as an individual and are responsive to the needs of families. All children and families will have equal opportunity to access the out of hours school care service, regardless of income, cultural background or disability.

The service can accommodate 90 children per session for After School Care, 90 children for Pupil Free and Vacation Care and 60 children for Before School Care.

For any further information please contact the Director on 0417 243 151 or email eroberts@smwodonga.catholic.edu.au

Wodonga Catholic Parish Outside School Hours Care



Operations hours:

Before School Care: 6:45am-8:45am

After School Care: 3:10pm- 6pm

Vacation Care: 6:45am-6pm

Pupil Free/ Curriculum Days: 6:45am- 6pm

OUR MOTTO:

Learn to love,
Love to learn

WELLBEING HUB

Our Wellbeing Hub is a dedicated space where students can access support, build resilience, and develop the social and emotional skills needed to thrive. Designed as a calm and welcoming environment, the hub provides a place for students to seek guidance, participate in well-being programs, and connect with staff who are committed to their care.

Through a range of initiatives, including mindfulness activities, social skills groups, and one-on-one support, the Wellbeing Hub fosters a culture of inclusivity, self-awareness, and emotional growth. We believe that when children feel safe, supported, and valued, they are best positioned to succeed both academically and personally. Our goal is to empower students with the confidence and strategies to navigate challenges, build positive relationships, and embrace their learning journey with enthusiasm.

DEFENCE SCHOOL MENTOR

St Monica's is fortunate enough to have a Defence School Mentor. The Defence School Mentor Program provides support to children of Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and their families, particularly during their transition in and out of school on posting or during parental absences due to deployment, exercises or courses. Part of the role includes assisting ADF parents and children to become familiar with the school and its facilities, coordinating appropriate welcoming and farewelling activities for ADF children involving the school community, and monitoring ADF children's personal issues, such as friendship, peer groups and classroom difficulties.

Our Defence School Mentor can be contacted on defence@smwodonga.catholic.edu.au.

ST MONICA'S CANTEEN

The aim of St Monica's is to provide healthy, homemade and cost effective lunches for students. Our canteen is open five days per week for pre-paid lunch orders and for purchases at afternoon recess (1:40pm-2:10pm) on Thursday and Friday's. All lunch orders must be ordered and paid for via www.ecanteen.com.au

The canteen offers a Victorian Canteen Association approved menu that includes a comprehensive range of different lunch options including rolls and wraps, salads and fruit, chicken burgers, homemade pizzas and pastas as well as pies and sausage rolls. We have a variety of vegetarian, gluten or dairy free options available.

Parents are encouraged to drop in at any time to discuss any food intolerances or allergy, or related issues.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is compulsory at Catholic Education Wodonga (CEW) schools.

Correct uniform must be worn in its entirety to and from school.

Uniform items, other than shoes and socks, must be purchased from the CEW Uniform Shop.

All CEW uniforms will carry either a school or CEW monogram.

We ask all families to ensure all items are labelled with student names.

All CEW Schools will enforce this policy.

Please refer to our Primary School Uniform Guidelines document for more information, located on the School's website.

THE CEW UNIFORM SHOP

In store-Wodonga Catholic Parish Centre,
Corner of Mark and Beech St, Wodonga

Online- For all online orders:

- Visit shop.alintaapparel.com.au
- Create an account to login. When registering as a parent, the 'school' to select is 'Wodonga'.

Hours- Current Uniform Shop hours can be found at:
catholiceducationwodonga.vic.edu.au/uniform

Contact:

0481 294 698

cew@alinta.com.au



We encourage our students to wear their uniform with pride.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION

To enrol your child/ren at St Monica's Primary School, An Application for Enrolment form needs to be submitted to the school. Copies of your child's birth certificate, baptism certificate (if applicable) and immunisation certificate are also required upon enrolment.

Enrolment Commitment

In Australia we have celebrated many years as a Catholic School System. It was a system set up to be an alternate to the state school system of school's. Its basis for existence is the firm belief in Christ being central to all we do in educating our children. With this belief comes the responsibility of members of the community to actively participate in the life of both school and parish.

Before accepting enrolment for your child you are asked to reflect on the following expectations which are based on the firm belief in the partnership between home and school.

That as parents you:

- Accept the responsibility for helping your child to respond, as a member of a faith community, to his/her Baptism by guiding him/her towards fuller participation in the Sacramental life of the Catholic Community.
- Ensure that your child experiences the faith dimension of the Wodonga community.
- Support the ongoing education of your child by participating in school activities such as liturgies and school assemblies, where possible
- Support school policies in the areas of discipline, uniform and behaviour which are designed to reflect the Gospel values on which Catholic Schools are founded.
- Become involved in the school community where possible by attending meetings, functions and projects, assisting the teacher in the classroom, etc.
- Pay school fees.

SCHOOL FEES

St Monica's Primary School charges school fees at the start of each school year, and has an all inclusive fee structure including curriculum items, excursions and school camp.

Your Obligation

As part of your enrolment contract you have legally agreed to a financial commitment and are legally bound to pay fees and charges for your enrolled child.

Fee Assistance

Parent(s)/guardian(s) who believe they may be unable to pay the fees in full, are asked that they discuss this with the school Finance Officer as soon as possible. Assistance may be available to families in cases of financial hardship.

Participation in the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 camps are compulsory and a requisite to the school curriculum, fee refunds will not apply. Schools outlay a set amount to fund the provision of camps in their annual budget based on full complement of students attending

MEDICAL INFORMATION

SICK BAY

If your child is unwell it is best that they remain at home until they are well enough to come to school. It is the parent's responsibility to make sure their child is well enough to attend school. If your child is unwell or injured at school, they will be sent to Sick Bay to have First Aid administered. If the child is not well enough to be at school, or has a serious injury, a parent or emergency contact will be contacted to take the child home. We will always try to contact a parent first.

Please make sure that we have all current contact numbers for you on your Medical Details Form. If your child is seriously injured i.e. broken arm, the school will call an Ambulance if we believe it is necessary. It is important to give the school all relevant medical information regarding your child i.e. if your child suffers an allergic or anaphylactic reaction to something we need to know what to do or have on hand the medication to administer.

MEDICATION

All medication kept at school must be clearly labelled with a pharmacy label and clear directions. If your child suffers from Asthma, Allergies, Anaphylaxis or Diabetes, we need to have a Management Plan (if applicable) and have the necessary medication/equipment provided.

We are able to administer prescription medication only with written permission from parents and this medication must be supplied by the parent in a webster pack made up by a pharmacist. We cannot supply analgesics e.g. Panadol to children without a written letter from a doctor.

Epi-Pens and ventolin are carried by all staff on yard duty.

Our school encourages no nuts at school as some children have been diagnosed with nut allergies. In the interests and safety of the children, teachers are asked to be vigilant in ensuring that children are not bring nut products to school, such as Peanut Butter and Nutella.



HANDY HINTS FOR PARENTS

It is a big chance for a five year old to pass from the intimacy of the family circle to school life.

Here are some practical ways in which you can help the transition.

- Putting on and taking off clothes eg: tucking in shirts, doing up buttons and putting on jumpers.
- Putting on and doing up shoes.
- Eating, drinking without help.
- Using a handkerchief or tissue.

It is important that your child knows how to:

- Open and close lunch boxes and drink bottles.
- Use and flush the toilet and wash their hands unassisted.
- Ask clearly for things. Could a teacher understand your child?
- Say his/her name and address.
- Recognise name / property.
- Recognise name among others.

Also try to let your child get use to:

- Playing with groups of children of the same age. (Encourage your child to share toys and take turns.)
- Using playground equipment safely.
- Staying at friends or relatives houses for a few hours without you around.
- Caring for and putting away belongings.
- Helping with small jobs around the house.
- Relating the good and happy activities of the school day.
- Knowing what to do if parents are late.
- Following simple instructions.

Some weeks in advance rehearse with your child, in a spirit of play, the different situations to be met with in school life:

- Opening and closing the school bag
- Unpacking and eating the school lunch (a sensible amount).
- Dressing for school and making the journey to and from school.
- Being away from home for short periods.
- Listening to stories, looking at pictures and talking about them.
- Greeting friends and family members by name.

Oral Language

"Learning to speak and listen starts with you at home."

Most children in primary school years are able to use language readily to report on past experiences, to look ahead and predict, to look at possibilities and draw conclusions.

Learning to speak and listen starts with you at home. Try to:

- Talk to your child about what you're both doing.
- Listen to your child carefully.

Answer many of the endless questions:

- Read a story every day, maybe at bedtime.
- Borrow children's books and toys from your local library.
- Teach songs, rhymes, jingles, the names of colours and of parts of the body.
- Count things. Does your child know what the number means? Try activities like asking your child to set the table and count the plates etc. Also count backwards.
- Sort and match collections of things like fruit, clothes etc.
- Ask your child to follow simple instructions, such as, "Take off your shoes and put them on the veranda."
- Take some time to play with your child; find out about their ideas and feelings.
- The importance of listening to children cannot be overemphasised.
- Don't cut in on your child when they try to explain things. Ensure they talk their way through things.
- Don't carry your child's bag for them. They can and should be taught to manage.
- Help them accept disappointment.

WODONGA CATHOLIC PARISH

St Monica's Primary School is very fortunate to be part of the vibrant Catholic Parish in Wodonga. The Parish Priests and the Church community welcome the opportunity to connect with St Monica's families and are very pleased to provide a number of wonderful Special Ministries.

Presbytery Wodonga Parish

www.wodongacatholicparish.com.au
283 Beechworth Rd, Wodonga
02 6024 3366
www.facebook.com/wodonga

Masses

Celebrated at Sacred Heart
283 Beechworth Road, Wodonga

Daily Mass- 9:15am

Saturday Evening- 5:00pm

Sunday- 8:30am & 10:30am

Reconciliation- Saturdays 8:45-9:10am

Children's Liturgy & Preschool Prayer

Leaders guide children through age appropriate faith and value based activities to help prepare them for the Mass experience.

Children of all ages are blessed by the Priest and are divided into preschool and school age groups. The older children will be taken through the Gospel of the Mass and the homily, at a language level they can understand. The Parish also runs a youth led mass on the 4th Saturday of each month, commencing at 6pm

Teams

Couples meet on a monthly basis to share a meal and build a stronger relationship, through their faith.

Prayer Groups

There are a number of prayer groups run through the Parish. Each Lent several options are available as well as weekly Scripture group and Charismatic Renewal Prayer Group.

Sacred Heart Gift Shop

Located inside the Church. There are great books, CD's and religious gifts for all occasions. Open after weekend Masses.

RCIA

This is a process through which interested adults are gradually introduced to the Catholic Faith and way of life.

The first stage is a period of enquiry during which basic information about the faith and a sharing of stories by people from the Catholic community is presented. There is no obligation in attending these meetings; they are intended to help a person decide whether they want to continue learning more about the Catholic faith.

Family Groups, Brunches & Other Events

The Church is a great "gathering place" for many singles, couples and families with children of all ages.

To provide support and friendship for these people there are several opportunities for social gatherings, in fact there is something on most weeks. Commitment is flexible and all are welcome.





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