



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 24

Bulletin

Wednesday, 3rd August, 2016

Diary Dates

Friday, 5th August

- Principal's Award Morning Tea
10:30am—11:15am.

Monday, 8th August

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
Feast Day

- 8:40am Assembly and Prayer
Service.

Tuesday, 9th August

- Cumberland Zone Athletics
Carnival at Blacktown International
Sports Park Rooty Hill.

Wednesday, 10th August

- Student Prayer 8:15am in the
LARC. Students, Parents and
Teachers welcome to attend.
- Year Three Excursion to
Featherdale Wildlife Park.

Weeks 6 & 7

- StMM's Ten Top Days

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2016/17, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Term Three School Fees

Term Three School Fees are due by the 22nd August, 2016. Please contact the school office if you have not yet received your statement for Term Three. If you have any queries regarding fees please contact Mrs Maria Pagano at the school office.

Student Medical Information

If your child/ren suffer from Asthma or have a medical condition, and have not informed the school office, could you please do so as soon as possible. For example, if your child suffers from Asthma, please supply an updated Asthma action plan from your child's doctor. All medication must be brought to the school office by a parent and a medication form completed.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

We will be celebrating the Way of Mercy at StMM's and so in keeping with the theme of "Cross" the following prayer maybe helpful. The "Holding Cross" is a small wooden cross that is kept in a pocket or bag and is held at time of reflection.



Holding Cross Prayer

As I hang on to this cross, Lord, hang on to me.

As I hold this cross, Lord, fill me with your strength and peace.

As I hold this cross, Lord, I remember your love given to me through Jesus

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish (die) but have eternal life' John 3: 16 '...seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

This reflection may focus your attention on the real meaning of the Cross in our lives today.

Jesus, as you accepted your cross, you knew you would carry it to your death on Calvary. You knew it wouldn't be easy, but you accepted it and carried it just the same.

As a child, sometimes I don't like the problems that come my way. Sometimes I try to get others to take care of them or solve them for me. Sometimes I become upset and crabby when I'm asked to do even the smallest thing to help others.

As an adult I sometimes feel like I'm not appreciated. Sometimes I feel as if I accept more responsibility that I need to. I can feel sorry for myself, even though the crosses others carry are much larger than my own. In my self-pity, I don't reach out to help.

May God Bless you

Kevin Mills
Principal



Administration

World Youth Day



StMM's Top Ten Days (Weeks 6 & 7)

During these two weeks of school we will be coordinating a range of activities around our 4 Pillars: Faith Community, Teaching & Learning, Personal Growth and Partnership. These activities will include activities for Parents, Liturgies for our community, open classrooms and opportunities for students to showcase all the great learning happening at StMM's. We will also be holding the Scholastic Book Fair during this time. Parents will have the opportunity to purchase books with their children on Monday 22nd August.



Information courtesy of the Queensland Department of Education and Training

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

It's important that children are at school all day, every day



OK reasons to stay home from school



sick



natural disaster



It's **NOT OK** to skip school to shop, sleep in, finish an assignment, go on holidays

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a difference

1 day off school each fortnight

Missing more than a year of learning over 12 years

Each day's learning builds on what has been learnt before



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten
It's where good habits begin



ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

each 1% increase in student attendance

may relate to 2-3 NAPLAN scale score points*

*Based on National data

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

Get involved in your child's school

Promote the importance of school

Get to know the teacher

Go to school events

Read the school newsletter

Be organised at home

Supervise homework

Ask about your child's day

Volunteer to help at school

Administration

Crunch and Sip

Just a reminder Crunch and Sip is a break during class when students can refuel on fruit or vegetables and rehydrate on water. The break assists students with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom.

Teaching and Learning

Kindergarten's Excursion to the Farm

On Wednesday, the 27th of July, Kindergarten visited Calmsley Hill City Farm. We went on a big bus to get there. It was the first time some of us had ever been on a bus! When we got



there the farmers showed us around the farm.

We got to see lots of different animals that live on the farm. Some were really big and some very small! We got to pat a baby rabbit and a baby

turkey. They were soft and fluffy.

It was really exciting when we saw a working dog named Dot round up some sheep. When we called out "Go back!"



Dot ran very fast to move the sheep. We also got to see how the farmer shears a sheep and saw the funny shoes the farmers wear so they don't slip over.



Some of our favourite things were riding on the bumpy tractor, milking Custard the cow and watching Miss O'Brien and Mr Kelleher crack a whip!



We would like to give a big thank you to Ms Trip, Miss Ashe, Mrs Rizk, Mrs Foley and Mr Kelleher

Year One Incursion

On Friday Year One went to the hall for our science incursion all about air pressure. We saw Jason the scientist do cool experiments like lifting someone up



with air and snapping a ruler in half with air. Jason taught us that it is NOT magic but it's science and that air always takes up space. My favourite part was when Jason used a vacuum cleaner to shoot Nerf



bullets and Miss Swanson had to try and catch them. It was SO funny!

By Unish Shrestha and April Zhang



Faith Community

Way of Mercy Cross and Relics

The Way of Mercy Cross and Relics will be at St Margaret Mary's on Friday, 9th August, at 9:00am.

The Way of Mercy is a Diocesan-wide initiative of the Pastoral Planning Office in cooperation with the Year of Mercy Committee, centred upon the journey of a large Cross of Mercy. Where possible, the Cross will be accompanied by a relic of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and a Relic of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. The Cross and Relics will be hosted at various locations by local parish communities, with celebrations including procession, prayer, veneration, music, testimonial and a sending forth. Parishes, ethnic groups, schools and religious institutes and Catholic movements in each region will be invited to attend the local visit of the Cross and Relics.



Picture by: Elizabeth McFarlane

Grades Liturgies for Term 3

All Grade Liturgies will commence at 2:15pm in Learning Spaces unless notified by the teachers.

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Kindergarten | Wednesday, 14 th September |
| Year One | Wednesday, 24 th August |
| Year Two | Thursday, 15 th September |
| Year Three | Thursday, 25 th August |
| Year Four | Tuesday, 6 th September |
| Year Five | Wednesday, 17 th August |
| Year Six | Thursday, 18 th August |

Partnership

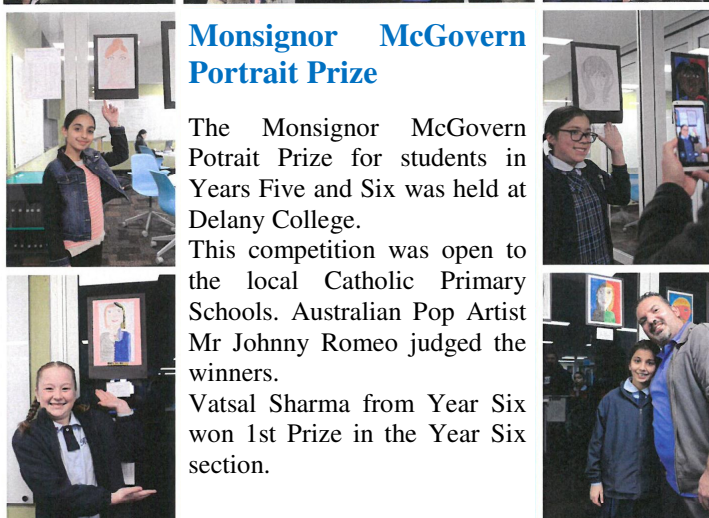


Monsignor McGovern Portrait Prize

The Monsignor McGovern Portrait Prize for students in Years Five and Six was held at Delany College.

This competition was open to the local Catholic Primary Schools. Australian Pop Artist Mr Johnny Romeo judged the winners.

Vatsal Sharma from Year Six won 1st Prize in the Year Six section.



Partnership

Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

Just a reminder, that the children at St Margaret Mary's have until the **19th of August** (the end of Week 5) to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge online.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Mrs Balogh-Caristo (Teacher/Librarian)

P&F St Mary MacKillop Museum Tour

Parents are invited to attend a day at the St Mary MacKillop Museum on Tuesday, 23rd August. We will be leaving the school at 9:00am and traveling by bus to North Sydney. At the Museum we will have a guided tour and morning tea. There will be time for refectation in the Chapel and a wonder through the grounds. Parents will need to provide their own lunch. We will return back at school by 3:00pm. We only have 40 places on the bus. The cost for this excursion is \$11.00 per person, which includes the bus hire, morning tea and the tour of the museum.

Any parents wishing to attend please complete the form below and return it to the school office along with the payment by Monday, 15th August.



P&F St Mary MacKillop Museum

I would like to attend the P&F St Mary MacKillop Museum Bus Tour on Tuesday, 23rd August, 2016.

No. of People Attending _____

I have enclosed \$ _____

Contact Telephone No. _____

Signed

Personal Growth

Monday Morning Assembly

On the 1st of August the school gathered together to pray as a Catholic community. Mr Mills reminded us of the Classroom Pointers that will be on display in each Learning Space. Mrs Foley and Miss Teulan announced that the Senior Boys



and Girls Netball Gala Day was held last Tuesday at Kellyville. The Senior Girls were congratulated for being Runners Up for their division and received a certificate for their participation. The Senior Boys were also congratulated for being the Division winners and they each received a certificate and trophy.

By Angelina Georges and Grazia Carrano (Media Team)

Voice Of Youth



On Tuesday, the 2nd of August, the top three contestants of St Margaret Mary's, Deanne Rodrigues, Eliana Mansour and Rebecca Georges competed in the Voice of Youth Cluster Final. Students competed against three different schools: Holy Trinity, Granville, Holy Family, at East Granville and St Patrick's at Guilford. Some of the topics spoken about were Dancing, Bullying, Love and Depression, Water Pollution, Music, This is Me, Chocolate, The Conservation of Species, Nature, Gender Equality and Generation 'Z' and Technology. Congratulations to Rebecca Georges who received the Social Justice Award and congratulations to Deanne Rodrigues who won first place in the Cluster Final. Deanne will go on to the Semi Final competing against seven other students. We wish Deanne all the best.

By Rebecca, Eliana and Deanne



Netball Gala Day!

On the 26th July, 2016, our two StMM netball teams competed in a Netball Gala Day at Kellyville. The girl's team came 2nd and the boy's team came 1st and won the tournament. The teams consisted of Year 4, 5 and 6 students. The boys played 6 games and the girls played 8 games. We would like to thank Mrs Foley and Miss Teulan for organising and training the teams, as well as taking us to the Gala Day. We would like to say a very big, "Thank You" to Miss Catherine McGuirk for umpiring all of our games. Also thank you to the parents who supported us. Overall it was a fun day and we would love to do it again!



By Christian Karam and Caleb Neculman



Personal Growth

Cumberland Zone Athletics Team

Congratulations to the following students who will be representing our school at the Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival at Blacktown International Park Athletics Field, on Tuesday 9th August, 2016. Students are required to be at school by 7:15am, as the bus will be leaving the school at 7:30am sharp. Students are required to wear their full sports uniform (including the school tracksuit). Please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled with the student's name. Students will need to bring their lunch and recess and ensure they have plenty of water to drink. If there are any parents who can assist on the day of the carnival, please contact Mrs Foley or Mr Maunick at the school office.

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Phoebe Afful | Athieng Aleu | Hussein Ali |
| Dennis Asante | Jayden Bejjani | Kerubino Benjamin |
| Gerard Bleeker | Grazia Carrano | Atong Deng |
| Victor Doueihy | Eliana Epenian | Matthew Fakhr |
| Reece Fakhr | Taya Higgins | Natalia Issa |
| Mikayla Issac | Aluel Juk | Christian Karam |
| Ajok Kondok | Antonia Kyriakos | Anthony Lim |
| Adut Mayom | Radha Medakker | Caleb Neculman |
| Hunter Osbourne | Elias Othman | Reegan Pine |
| Christina Putrus | Deanne Rodrigues | Bennett Saahene |
| Dilara Sarikici | Aarushi Sharma | Leonidus Toevai |
| Ali Toufan | Mark Yanga | Leba Younan |



BIRTHDAYS



| | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Akuol Mayom | Taine Silva | Harrison Edwards |
| Atong Deng | Gabriella Ndaira | Casper Faber |
| Taya Higgins | Janaya Fadel | Sarah Albazouni |
| Dominic Elias | Nana Saahene | Joseph El Khoury |
| Charbel Chehab | Marcus Bounassif | Kaylii Jara |
| Akajeeng Kondok | Osborn Yu | Oscar Perez |
| Malchi Daneils | Georgia Draiby | Jacob Ibrahim |
| Leonidus Toevai | Nicolas Gaid | Sarafina Carrano |
| Lily Garland | Maxim Samrani | Fred Tannous |
| Jon-Pierre Laoulach | Kiera Ezenwa-Ndukaku | |
| Zach Serhan | Dennis Asante | Mikayla Yaacoub |
| Alicia Kyriakos | Talia Moses | Eliana Epenian |
| Mark Yanga | Julian El Khoury | Joshua Farhart |
| Matteo Luccitti | Priscilla Azar | Joe Azzi |
| Nicole El Helo | Daniel Saliba | George Notaras |
| Esther Geaitani | Zahra Moussa | |

Congratulations to all those children who celebrate their birthday around this time.

