



St Margaret Mary's School

A Dynamic Community of Learners in Action

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Wednesday 10th September 2014

Newsletter No 29

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

The World of Children

I was thinking last week how the world has changed since I was a boy. I would get home from school each afternoon, (I never had a key as our front door was always unlocked) get changed and rode down to the local park. I would stay down there until sunset and return home just in time for dinner. In summer, on weekends, I would go with a few mates early on Saturday morning down to the local creek and catch tadpoles and bring them home in a milk bottle filled with a little creek water. I know things have changed and my house does not operate like that. Below is my top list of things I did before I turned 12 (it is taken from "Topics", a professional journal that comes to the school each month.) How many of these have you done and how many are left for you to do? – **(Always under the supervision of an adult.)**

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Climb a tree | 2. Sleep under the stars | 3. Fall off a bike |
| 4. Learn to swim | 5. Build a cubby or a tree house | 6. Go beach combing after a storm |
| 7. Catch a wave (start with a small one) | 8. Do something you're scared of | 9. Play chases in the rain |
| 10. Slide down a grass hill on cardboard | 11. Yell "Cooooee!" in a gorge or a valley | 12. Build a sandcastle city |
| 13. Skim a stone | 14. Plant something and watch it grow | 15. Play spotlight |
| 16. Visit an island | 17. Snorkel at the beach or on a reef | 18. Play under a sprinkler |
| 19. Meet kids in a park and invent a game | 20. Dig for worms in your backyard | 21. Catch a fish |
| 22. Make a kite and fly it | 23. Catch a tadpole (and release it) | 24. Make a mud pie |
| 25. Play beach cricket | | |

I will be travelling with Bishop Anthony and 25 leaders from the diocese, on a Pilgrimage tracing the footsteps of St Paul. This trip was planned last year before my appointment to St Margaret Mary's. I will be leaving during the holidays and returning during Term 3.

We have been given money from The Catholic Education Diocesan of Parramatta for the refurbishment of the Year 2 Learning Space which will include new ceilings, pin boards, equipment and storage. There will also be pin boards put in other areas of the school.

God Bless.

Kevin Mills
Principal

STAFF
DEVELOPMENT DAY
19th SEPTEMBER 2014
This is a pupil free day

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2015, please let the office know as soon as possible. The Catholic Education Diocesan of Parramatta Policy states that 1 terms notice must be given to the school.

Trees in our School

Parents you may remember from earlier this year of a tree falling on a student in Pitt Town. As a result of this accident the Catholic Education Diocesan of Parramatta (CEDP) has sent an Arborist to our school to look at all the trees on our grounds.

The report stated that a number of trees in our school will need to be removed or trimmed back. This will be happening during the school holidays.

Notes Sent Home

- Stage Three Touch Football Gala Day
- Catholic Outlook

Next Weeks Happenings

Thursday 11th September

Infants Sports Carnival 9:00am to 12noon.

Friday 12th September

Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day at St Marys **Postponed.**
School Disco
Infants (K-2) 3:30pm — 5:00pm
Primary (3-6) 5:30 pm – 7:00pm

Monday 15th September

8:40am Morning Assembly and Prayer Service.

Tuesday 16th September

Wednesday 17th September

Student Morning Prayer 8:15am in the LARC
P&F Meeting 7:00pm in the Staffroom. All welcome.

Thursday 17th September

School Band and School Choir Assembly 2:00pm in the hall.

Friday 19th September

Staff Development Day

Infants Sports Carnival

We have checked with the relevant people and the grounds are open for our carnival tomorrow, Thursday 11th September.

The Infants Sports Carnival will be held at King Park, Merrylands, starting at 9:30am and ending at 12:00pm. All children must be at school by 8:40am. Their teachers will walk them to the park.

Students in Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 are to wear their sports uniform including hat and blockout. Please ensure all hats and jackets are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Children will need to bring their recess and drinks to the park with them in a small bag.

They will have recess at the park from 10:30am—11.00am.

All parents and friends are invited to attend the Carnival.

Swimming Program 2014

Due to a number of factors we will not be holding the school swimming program for 2014.

1. The swimming school at Smithfield we have used previously is not returning calls
2. We unable to locate another swim school for the required dates.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding the swimming program please put it in writing to the P&F and it will be discussed at their next meeting.

Car Pick Up



Car Pick Up Service Update

By Week 2 Term 4 all families who use the car pick up service will receive a laminated number that is to be displayed in the passenger front window.

To improve the efficiency of the service only numbers will be called. For this reason only students whose families use the car pick up service will be taken to the car pick up area. Any other students are to wait in the supervised undercroft area.

Mrs Anne Prendergast.

Year Six Graduation

The date for the Year Six Graduation Mass has been changed to Thursday 11th December, as there is not enough time to present Graduation certificates and awards after the Mass due to Adoration on Friday nights. A note will go home early next term with more details.

School Fees Now Due

All 2014 school fees should be paid promptly if not already paid. Unless under an arrangement with the school.

PARENT TO PARENT

Happy Father's Day to all our Dads, we hope you had an awesome weekend.

A huge thank you to all the Mums and the Grandmothers who worked tirelessly to wrap over 1200 items last Thursday and the amazing, energetic ladies who helped with the stall on Friday. Thanks to your help we raised over \$2100 this year, a fantastic effort.

Thank you very much!!!

Parents and Friends Meeting

Please join us at our next meeting on Wednesday 17th September at 7pm.

We will have a quick review of Father's Day and discuss:

- our school photos,
- school uniform,
- the current swimming program
- events for Term 4.
- general business.

If you have any other general business, concerns or ideas to share, please leave a note at the office attention: Pauline Poumale and everything will be brought up at the meeting on 17th September.

Look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible, come join us, get involved in our school. It's a great informative night.

Pauline Poumale
P & F Committee.

Tuckshop

Thursday September 11th

Friday September 12th

Monday September 15th

Tuesday September 16th

Wednesday September 17th

Roster

M. Issac

M. Cheng

M. Raftery

L. McLeay

Peek A Boo Lunch Box



WHOLEMEAL BANANA PANCAKES

Thanks to C. Hitti

5 min Prep, 20 mins cooking time, serves 4

Ingredients:

1 ½ cups wholemeal self-raising flour

½ tsp bicarbonate soda

½ cup caster sugar

1 tsp ground cinnamon

4 eggs

1 ½ cups buttermilk

1 tsp vanilla extract

2 mashed bananas

Method:

Place flour, bicarb, sugar & cinnamon in a bowl.

Separate eggs, yolks and whites in sep bowls

Whisk buttermilk & vanilla into egg yolks and combine flour mixture.

Beat eggwhites until fluffy and gently fold into mixture with mashed banana.

Heat a lightly greased, non-stick pan

Pour in ¼ cup of the mixture in at a time, cooking for 3-4 min on each side till golden.

Let them sit to cool. Place in lunch box.

Helpful Tips This Issue:

Make mixture the night before to save you time in the morning.

Make extra mixture Make it for recess on a Friday with leftovers for kids to make you breakfast on Saturday morning. Serve with sliced banana and maple syrup or fresh yogurt. Enjoy.



BIRTHDAYS



Gabi Dandash

Mathew Khoury

Akol Manyang

Dominic Caballero

Niushka Shrestha

Alex Fares

Charlize D'Souza

Annie Hara

Michaelangelo Manalang

Branndon Graham

Angelo Guidone

Dominic Horley

Aluel Manyang

Richard Lavroff

Ashai Hawach

Laila Imad

Lilly Antouny

Antonia Kyriakos

Miles Mataitini

Louie Bazouni

Amelie Cabaras

Paul Hawach

Laura Gittany

Luke Hitti

Raymond Zhang

Perica Aspinall

Georgia Aoun

Wendy Asante

Lily Parrott

Sophia Ghasb

Raymond Bazouni Jacob Mifsud

Congratulations to all those children who celebrate their birthday around this time and during the holidays.

Voting Has Now Begun!

Recently some of the Year Five students worked with a professional Photographer to capture different aspects of learning at our school.

All Parents and students are invited to vote for your **favourite photo** showing "**Learning at St Margaret Mary's**". Photos are on display in the LARC (Library) and voting papers are available from Mrs Balogh-Caristo in the LARC.

The **closing date** for student votes is **Friday 12th September**.

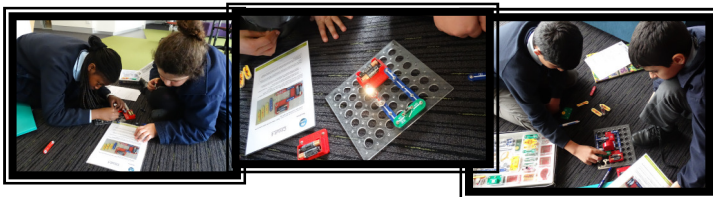
The **closing date** for parent votes is **Wednesday 17th September**.

Year Six CSIRO Incursion

On the 3rd of September, Year Six took part in an incursion from the CSIRO. The incursion was focused on electricity and particularly on how electrical circuits are powered and work. Our instructor for the day was Ollie, he explained his job at the CSIRO and all the inventions they have provided for us.

We had an informative and fun session on building simple and parallel circuits and even building a radio that produced sounds by placing all the conductors and switches in the correct sections. This session helped us to learn more about how electricity works.

By Isabelle Stipic and Vanessa Youssef



Year One Excursion to Taronga Zoo

My Day at the Zoo

My favourite part of the Zoo was when I went to see the tigers. I was also fascinated to see the different types of snakes, lizards and frogs. The most amazing snake I saw was the big long anaconda. After the snake exhibit, we walked over to the gorillas. They sat on the ground lazily eating their food.

We saw lots of animals and did lots of walking. It was a great day!

Fred 1Y (Sea Eagles)



Student Morning Liturgy



Father's Day Stall



Year Three Excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park

On Thursday the 4th September all of Year Three went to Featherdale Wildlife Park. We all had the most amazing time there, now I would like to share what we did there.

When we first arrived we saw some birds, some of the birds we parrots, eagles and Rainbow Lorikeets. After we went to see the Saltwater Crocodile. It was sunbaking with its mouth open. Next we went into a big dark tunnel with snakes !!! The cave was filled with different kinds of snakes, some of them were nice and some of them were not, then we went to eat recess.

After recess we to see the Wombats. We saw three very fat ones and two kind of skinny ones. After the wombats came my favourite part, feeding the wallabies !! We saw ten wallabies and two kangaroos. One of the wallabies stole the food that I was holding. Next we went to see the dingos. We saw three cubs, then we went and had lunch.

My second favourite part of the day was seeing the Tasmanian Devil. He was running around in circles. After that we went on the bus back to school. That was the best day ever. I can't wait to go there again!

By Salome Blandon Cano



Year 4 Assembly



School Disco

On Friday 21st June 2013, Year Six will be holding a School Disco. The Disco will run in two separate sessions to provide a more suitable, enjoyable and safer disco for all children with appropriate music organised for each group.

Infants (Years K - 2): 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Primary (Years 3 - 6): 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Please note that **NO SUPERVISION** will be provided for primary children after school. Primary children **ARE TO GO HOME** after school and return at 5:30pm. All infant students **MUST** be picked up at 5:00pm. No infant student will stay with primary children.

Disco Entry Price: \$2.00 per child

Entry fee is paid at the door on the day of the Disco.

Available on the night:

Water- \$1.50

Glow sticks- \$2.00

Chips- \$1.50

There will also be a **sausage sizzle** on the night which will cost **\$2.50** per sausage and roll.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO ORDER OR PAY FOR A SAUSAGE IN ADVANCE. THE SAUSAGE SIZZLE IS TO BE PAID FOR ON THE NIGHT OF THE DISCO. NO EARLY PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Infants children attending the Disco may wear mufti clothes to school on the day. Primary students must wear their school uniform to school.

Infants children may bring their money to school on the day of the Disco in an envelope marked with their name and class and give to their class teacher in the morning.

Children not attending need to be picked up from school in the normal way at 3:00pm.

Sacramental Programme 2014

All Year 5 and 6 students have now been given registration forms for CONFIRMATION in November this year. These forms need to be handed back at 10:30 Mass on Sunday 14th September and 21st September.

If your child has not received the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Reconciliation in St Margaret Mary's Parish. We will need to site their original certificates

NO MONEY is required at this stage.

INFORMATION NIGHT WILL BE HELD IN TERM 4, ON WEDNESDAY 8TH OCTOBER. Details of the meeting are to follow.

God bless
Fr Damian

Bishops Office

Child Protection Sunday on 14 September

'Play your Part' is the theme for Child Protection Sunday this year, when each person in every Catholic Church community is asked to play their part in making our Church a safe community for all by working to prevent abuse.

As part of a suite of measures, the Diocese of Parramatta has put in place to protect children and vulnerable people in its care, Bishop Anthony Fisher OP has established the Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards. To support youth leaders and people working with children and young people, the Office recently launched a Youth Safety Manual entitled, 'Keeping our Young People Safe'.

Copies of the manual can be ordered from the Office for Safeguarding and Professional Standards, telephone (02) 8838 3400 or the CYP Office:

JCamden@parra.catholic.org.au

NSW Bike Week

Get Busy Biking in Holroyd

Join us for a fun day of bike riding, bike skills workshops, and bike maintenance tips at Holroyd Gardens Bicycle training track.

Saturday 13th September 2014 10am—2pm

Holroyd Gardens Bicycle Training Track,
Walpole Street, Merrylands
Bike Skills workshop available 10:30am—Non-Riders,
11:30am—Learner Riders and 12:30pm—Two-Wheel Riders.

Bring your bike and helmet (limited bikes and helmets will be available on the day)
Bike Maintenance tent, will be set up where you can learn how to look after your bike.

For more information and bookings please contact 9840 9880 at Holroyd City Council

POST SEPARATION RECOVERY PROGRAM

CCSS Solo Parent Services are offering its seven week Post Separation Recovery Program again, commencing on Wed 22nd October 2014. This has proven to be an excellent Program that guides and supports those whose marriage or long-term partnership has ended. Venue: DAC Centre 1-5 Marion St Blacktown, Time: 7.30pm – 9.45pm. Further information and registration PH: 99330205 or

Email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Each year the Catholic Tribunal Staff and CCSS Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand how the process of Annulments in the Catholic Church is conducted. Questions are answered on details such as the length of time it takes, the cost, the role of witnesses, the number of interviews required, the grounds for an Annulment and how to start the process. For the first time we will be holding an Annulment Information night at **Springwood**. The evening is open to anyone who is interested in gaining greater understanding about the Annulment process. **Venue:** The Parish Centre, 168 Hawkesbury Rd, Springwood. **Date:** Tues 14th October **Time:** 7.30 – 9.30. **Cost:** \$5.00. Registration Essential: PH: 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

PRAYER AND REFLECTION DAY

Come along for a lovely day of quiet, peaceful prayer and reflection in beautiful surroundings led by Sr Eileen Quade. The invitation is open to all on Sunday 12th Oct, from 10.30am-3pm. Venue: Marymount Mercy Centre, 36 David Rd, Castle Hill. Cost \$10.00. BYO lunch. Bookings essential: Solo Parent Services PH: 9933 0205 Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

