



St Margaret Mary's School

A Dynamic Community of Learners in Action

7 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands 2160
Tel (02) 9637 4600 Fax (02) 9637 0509

Email: stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Wednesday 17 th December 2014

Newsletter No 40

Dear Parents Boys & Girls,

Farewell Mrs Haurdic

On Monday at a school liturgy and as a community we acknowledged all that Mrs Haurdic has contributed to the life of St Margaret Mary's over the last forty years. With a sense of great gratitude in our hearts we thanked the Lord for her many gifts – especially her kindness, patience, understanding, leadership and passion for teaching. Mrs Haurdic has selected "The Lord Is My Shepherd" as the opening hymn and this became our theme for the liturgy. We saw this as a reflection of her care, dedication, love of Christ and deep connection to St Margaret Mary's Community. Like Moses who spent 40 years leading his people to the Promised Land, Mrs Haurdic has spent more than that amount of time leading students in their learning here in St Margaret Mary's. Farewelling a teacher from a school community after more than 40 years is a momentous occasion. During her time at St Margaret Mary's, Mrs Haurdic has worked with and supported thousands of students and their families in Merrylands. If we break her 40 years down into time we would end up with: 14 600 days, 350 400 hours, 210 024 minutes and 1 261 440 000 seconds thinking and working for the Community of St Margaret Mary's at Merrylands. She has made a difference in every student's life by the day-to-day things she did for them. These small things worked together to make a big difference in the lives of her students and the families they came from.

The last school day for 2014 will see the last teaching day for a wonderful, caring and committed teacher. On behalf of the school community at St Margaret Mary's I thank Mrs Haurdic for all her work and dedication and wish her all the best for her retirement. I would like to thank the school Community of St Margaret Mary for a wonderful year and all the support and care you show the staff and students.

May the birth Jesus bring joy and peace to all in our Community.

Yours in Christ

Kevin Mills

Principal

Awards presented at the 2014 Graduation Mass

Holroyd Council Leadership Award

Presented by Councillor Coleman

In consultation with the Year Six teachers and the school's Leadership Team, this award is presented to a student who has shown a pursuit of excellence throughout their final year of schooling at St Margaret Mary's. This Student had displayed outstanding leadership qualities, excelled academically in their work and made a positive impact upon their peers. They have demonstrated initiative with activities and tasks always completing these to the best of their ability. This particular student has shown a commitment to our community by their involvement in a range of activities within and outside the school.

Victoria Georges received this award.

Leadership Award—Donated by the Matulic Family

Presented by Linda Matulic

This award is presented to our School Captains and Vice Captains. It is presented in memory of Linda's daughter Danielle who was a former student and school captain of St Margaret Mary's. Danielle displayed outstanding leadership qualities, a strong faith commitment and was a bright and talented student. It was presented to : **Our 2014 School Captains, Michael Boustani and Charlize D'Souza and our Vice Captains Vanessa Cheng and Jacob Kastoun.**

Leadership Awards

Presented by Mrs Antonucci & Mr Mills



They were presented to our Colour Captains and SRC members. These are given to the students in recognition of school leadership throughout the year.

Our 2014 School Colour Captains

Maur - Carla Haddad. Kostka - Daniel Misfud. Tosi - Joel Yanga. McGovern - Aleyna Karacan.

Our 2014 SRC members: Victoria Georges, Patrick Kastoun, Joe Issac, Jazmin Issac.

Father Bray Memorial Award for Christian Living

Presented by Farther Damien



This award is given in memory of Father Bray, our former Parish Priest. He was an example of a man who followed the footsteps of Christ. He cared and ministered to our Parish and School communities over a long period of time. The award is presented to a student chosen by other of their class and colour peers. They have been selected for demonstrating a love of Christ in their lives through our school motto Love the Truth and our words of the Gospel: Listen, Share, Act. **Sienna Vivas, 6 Yellow, Jeffrey Farah 6 Blue , Leah Raya 6 Red.**

Academic Awards

This award is given to one student in each class who has demonstrated continual academic excellence throughout Year Six. They have worked to improve their learning and understanding of all subjects in the last year of Primary School.

Congratulations to

Vanessa Cheng 6 Blue, Jonathon Horley 6 Yellow, Paula Kahwajy 6 Red.

St Margaret Mary's Personal Growth Award

Presented by Ms Jennifer Veness

This award has been introduced this year in recognition of a student who has strived to improve their effort in the classroom, commitment to making and achieving educational goals, participation in classroom lessons and a continued focused attitude to personal growth. They have been a role model for their peers and always displayed a positive attitude, great respect and excellent manners.

This award was presented to **Suzanne Mekdessi**

St Margaret Mary's Award for Sportsmanship

Presented by Ms Teulan



This award is another new award for this year and is presented to a student that has displayed sportsmanship, leadership and the spirit of fair play. They have been involved in school sporting activities, have represented our school outside the school in different activities. They have encouraged others to participate in sporting activities and have displayed sportsmanship with the respect of others.

This award was presented to **Jazmin Issac**

Parent to Parent

The Stephen Tomspett Memorial Award

Presented by Mrs Ellen Haurdic on behalf of the Tomspett Family

This award is in memory of Steve Tomspett an ex-student of St Margaret Mary's Who died in the 911 tragedy. It is awarded on behalf of Steve's father Jack, who passed away earlier this year and his mother Rae. This award is in the form of a scholarship. It is given to a student to support their high school education.

Ashai Hawach received this award.

Dear Parents

On behalf of the Parent's and Friends Committee, I would like to thank you all for all your support, help and generosity throughout this year. Our last event for the year, Mo Disco Supporting Movember was such a success that we've decided to spread the love and donate \$1000 to Movember Foundation and another \$1000 to St Vinnies Christmas appeal. Once again, thank you for your generosity. Please enjoy your holidays, have a blessed Christmas and a safe break. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2015.

Pauline Poumale

P&F President

2015 TEACHING TEAM

Kindergarten Team

Mrs Lauriana Rodericks

Miss Meghan O'Brien

Mrs Melissa Hanna (Tatian)

Year One Team

Miss Emma Swanson

Miss Melissa Fardella

Miss Melissa Diterlizzi

Year Two Team

Mrs Mary Chetty

Miss Neha Luthra

Miss Marie-Louise Armstrong

Year 3 Team

Mrs Marie Debes/Mrs Georgette Attard

Mrs Nancy Kubit (Rafidi)

Mr Daniel Manuick

Year 4 Team

Mrs Nancy Gaid

Mrs Francine Attard

Mr Daniel Delany

Year Five Team

Mr Chris Tenido

Mrs Anne Prendergast

Year Six Team

Mrs Rebecca Teulan

Mrs Diane Antonucci

Miss Pauline McFarlane



Child Protection

Parents wishing to help out on school excursions, in classrooms, in the canteen, at sporting activities, P&F activities or any activity that involves contact with students other than your own **MUST** complete the Child Protection Module.

This is a requirement as part of the child protection within schools. If you completed the child protection module in 2013, you are required to re do the module in 2015.

To access the module go to

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au> Completing this module you must renew every 2 years.

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and for existing volunteers.

To use the module.

1. Open the module by clicking start
2. Read through the presentation
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

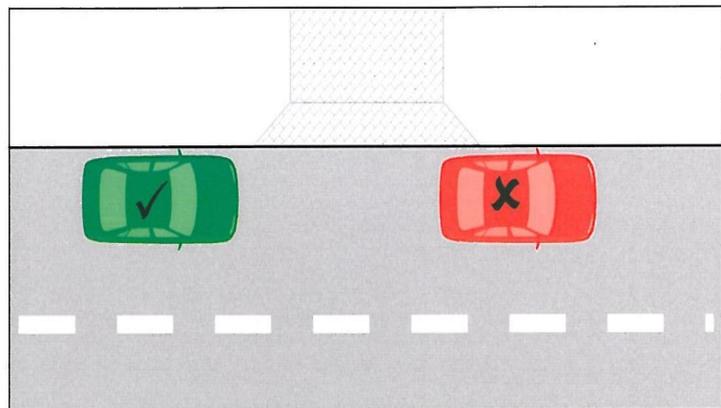
You can also <http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au> and follow the all the instructions. You then must register through the Roads and Maritime Services. This is also free and allows you to help out at any voluntary activity where children are concerned This is a 5 year certificate.

A Road Safety Message from Holroyd City Council

Parking near driveways....

A driver must not stop across a driveway restricting access to a persons residence (even your own) or business unless:

- (a) the driver:
- (i) is dropping off, or picking up passengers, and
 - (ii) does not leave the vehicle unattended, and
 - (iii) drives on, as soon as possible and, within 2 minutes after stopping.



Parking illegally is unsafe and can put peoples lives at risk and inconvenience others.

Penalty exceeds **\$101**
and **\$169** in
School Zones



Take your time when parking:

- Be Safe
- Be Considerate
- Be Aware

For more information on Road Safety contact Council's Road Safety Officer Ph: 9840 9880