



# St Margaret Mary's School

*A Dynamic Community of Learners in Action*

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Newsletter No 11 Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015

## Diary Dates

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April

- ANZAC Liturgy 9:00am in the Hall. Parents welcome to attend

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April **ANZAC DAY**

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April

- Fr Albert and Fr Damian's Farewell Mass and Morning Tea

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

- 8:40am Morning Assembly and Prayer

### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April

IEU Full day Stop Work Action

## 2016 Enrolment

Enrolment forms for Kindergarten 2016 will be available for collection from Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April (Term Two).

If your child was born between 1st August 2010 and 31st July 2011 you will need to contact the school office to collect an enrolment form.

## Winter Uniform

There will be a 2 week grace of change over into Winter Uniform due to weather changes. It is at the parents discretion as to whether their child wears the full winter uniform during the 2 week grace period.

Students with long hair are reminded they are to tie their hair back with school coloured ribbons or hair ties.

## From the Principal

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

ANZAC & EASTER

Words from Very Rev Peter G Williams

We have come to the pinnacle of the Christian year with the celebration of Holy Week, the Triduum culminating in the great Vigil of Easter.

This month will also mark the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli by the expeditionary force largely made up of young soldiers from Australia and New Zealand which gave rise to the ANZAC tradition which has had such an enduring impact on the psyche of this nation.

Towards ANZAC Day this year there will be undoubtedly much commentary and analysis about what in reality was a military expedition that ended in disaster! Yet, many claim something was forged on the shores of Gallipoli that has left a durable mark on Australian self-understanding and identity.

The story of ANZAC whether our families were directly connected or not is part of our national story and is in the common possession of all Australians, no matter their origin. Needless to say there are parallels with the Easter story – self-sacrifice for the life of others, extraordinary acts of courage and strength, and triumph through death.

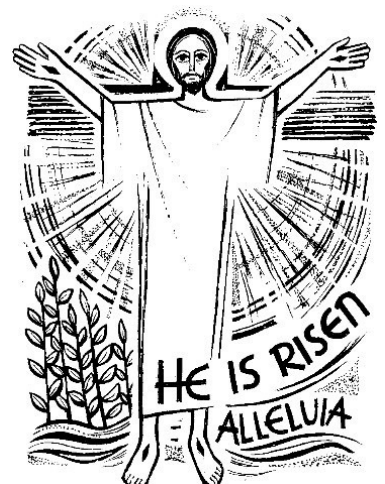
But of course in the case of Jesus Christ the triumph was the defeat of death and the new life afforded to all who believed in Him from that Easter morning when the tomb was found empty. As we know from the Gospel accounts it took the disciples some time to come to the realisation that He had indeed risen and that they were now to reflect His life through their lives.

And there is as they say, the 'crunch' for us as we celebrate Easter 2015. As our lives of Faith were forged in the font of Baptism, strengthened through the seal of the Holy Spirit and continually nourished by our participation in the Eucharist, do we find that same level of excitement and commitment as we express Easter joy in our daily lives? And if that is not the case, then we might ask, why not?

Perhaps this Easter Season might be a time to engage in new ways in the mission of the Church, particularly through '*Faith in Our Future*', our Diocesan plan which presents many challenges to the Diocese, agencies and parishes. And I would encourage you to be more involved in the process of making the outcomes of the Plan a reality in your community. In a positive way that should make our faith infectious so that others too might come to express that Christ is Risen and abides in His Church and with His People in the Diocese of Parramatta today and every day!

God Bless,

Mr Kevin Mills  
Principal



## Administration

### Industrial Action

The IEU (Independent Education Union) has planned a Full Day Stop Work action for Tuesday **28th April 2015**. At this stage we are clarifying arrangements and will send a note home on Friday informing parents of any changes to normal school operations. Please be assured you will be advised of any modified arrangements that will be implemented to ensure that duty of care is maintained for the students.

### Important Dates for Term Two

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	ANZAC Day Service 9.00am in the school hall. Parents welcome to attend.
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	ANZAC DAY.
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Opening and Blessing of the Parish Centre Fr Albert and Fr Damian's Farewell Mass.
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Diocesan Cross Country.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Stage Three Girls Soccer Gala Day. P&F Mother's Day gift wrapping .
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Mother's Day Liturgy 9:00am in the hall. P&F Mother's Day Stall to be held after the Liturgy.
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Mother's Day.
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN Testing for Years Three & Five.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN Testing for Years Three & Five.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	NAPLAN Testing for Years Three & Five.
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Ascension.
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Six Canberra Excursion.
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Six Canberra Excursion. School Choir Cluster Rehearsal for Captivate Concert.
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Pentecost. Our Lady Help of Christians.
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Stage Three Boys Soccer Gala Day.
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Holy Trinity.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Primary Athletics Carnival.
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Corpus Christi.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Back up Date for Athletics Carnival.
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Final Back up Date for Athletic Carnival.
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	School closes for Term Two.
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	School Resumes for Term Three.

### Work done during the Holidays

During the holidays we had a number of trades people working in and around our school. Mr Eid and Mr Culican worked very hard during the holidays making a platform around the tree on the bottom grass area. Our Year Two learning space is completed.

## Teaching and Learning

### Reading Folders

Mr Mills has been following up on students reading folders. Last term he checked Years Six, Five and Two. He will be checking the other grades over the next couple of weeks. Every child is expected to be reading every night.

### ANZAC DAY

We will be holding an ANZAC Liturgy on Friday 24th April in the hall, Parents are welcome to attend.

## Faith Community

### Food for Life

During this Lenten Season the children have been participating in Almsgiving. Caritas Australia is raising money for others who are in need of one of the basic human rights - Food. Congratulations on such a tremendous effort.

Kindergarten	\$214.80
Year One	\$161.95
Year Two	\$298.15
Year Three	\$257.30
Year Four	\$611.65
Year Five	\$184.83
Year Six	\$696.90
Grand Total	\$2341.58

### Easter Liturgy



## Personal Growth

### New Awards for St Margaret Mary's

Our Year Six students have been working very hard to design the new System of Awards for our students. With the help of Ms McFarlane the students have written four statements under our Four Key Pillars of Faith Community, Teaching & Learning, Personal Growth and Partnership. The Statements have been shared with the staff and we now are asking our wider community for their thoughts and views. Please take the time to read the foundation statements that will form the basis of the new Award System. Any written comments are most welcomed. We would like to congratulate the students for all their work and effort.

### AWARD STATEMENTS

#### **Faith Community:** (Grace Othman & Anthony Geitani)

At St Margaret Mary's we believe our Faith Community encourages us to live our Catholic faith. We practise our faith by participating in liturgies, prayer and lessons. We want to follow our school motto "Love The Truth" by listening, sharing and acting on the Word of God.

#### **Teaching & Learning:** (Daniel Ibrahim & Selina Kilic)

At St Margaret Mary's we believe Teaching and Learning is working to the best of our ability in all Key Learning Areas. We work with other students, and staff to ensure quality work and our best efforts. We want to work together, listening, sharing and helping others at all times.

#### **Personal Growth:** (Anthony Poumale & Demi Portelli)

At St Margaret Mary's we believe Personal Growth allows us to set our individual goals and strive to achieve them. We use our gifts and talents when working towards our goals in the areas of learning and behaviour. We want to show respect and be more like Jesus.

#### **Partnership:** (Allannah Elias & Shivam Malhotra)

At St Margaret Mary's we believe that Partnership is having a connection with others to improve our community. We communicate, co-operate and interact with others inside and outside our school. We want to build strong relationships between people and organisations.



## Personal Growth

### Winter Uniform

#### Girls Winter Uniform

Tunic	Navy/Sky/Maroon Check
Blouse	Sky Blue Long Sleeves
Tab Tie	Navy/Sky/Maroon Check
Sloppy Joe	Navy V-Neck with School Crest
Jacket	Navy Microfiber with School Crest
Tights	Navy
Shoes	Black
School Hat	

#### Boys Winter Uniform

Trousers	Grey 1/2 Elastic Back
Shirts	Sky Blue Long Sleeves
Sloppy Joe	Navy V-Neck with School Crest
Jacket	Navy Microfiber with School Crest
Tie	Navy /Sky/Maroon Tartan
Shoes	Black
School Hat	

Students with long hair are reminded they are to tie their hair back with school coloured ribbons or hair ties.

## BIRTHDAYS



Jonathon Maroon	Alaura Lassiter	Isabella Youssef
Emanuel Higgins	Eanman Lee	Nicholas Gama
Christian Karam	Annie Dib	Abuka Ayac
Therese Ibrahim	Billy Mekdessi	Vanessa Mekdessi
Simeon D'Souza	Jessica El Ghossian	Julian Delgado Molina
Cheska Mendoza	Billy Russell	Joanne Farah
Chadi Haouchab	Ella Moses	Daniella Fares
Beamlak Tilahun	Zakaria Tawfik	Laura Nursoo
Jackson Raffery	Aguer Biar	Jessica Ogbuehi
Grace Othman	Eden Khariallah	Lakkari Harrison

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





## Partnership

### Easter Raffle

Welcome back everyone, we hope you've had a great Easter and enjoyable break. Congratulations to all our Easter Egg Raffle winners last term, we trust you enjoyed your chocolates.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Anastasia Bleeker	Three Blue
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Victor Doueihy	Five Blue
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Mrs Lyn Burton	Staff
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Simeon D'Souza	Four Red
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Sai Medakker	Kindy Yellow
6 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Christina Putrus	Three Yellow
7 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Benedict Blas	Kindy Blue
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Jacob Horish	Kindy Red
9 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Robby Powell	Three Yellow
10th Prize	Sienna Tamer	Kindy Red

Thank you very much to all the amazing people who came to help with the wrapping and organising of what turned out to be a very productive day. A huge thank you to all the generous people who could not help on the day but sent in food for the workers. We are proud to say we raised almost \$ 3,000.00 on the Easter Raffle.

### Mother's Day

We'd like to take the chance to remind you that Mother's Day is just around the corner. Please keep an eye out in the next newsletter for details of our gift wrapping day and stall selling day.

### Second Hand Uniform Shop

The Second hand uniform shop will be open again on Monday 4th May after the morning assembly from 9:00am—9:30am. We are in need of second hand girls winter uniforms in larger sizes.

### Medications

Parents are reminded that the colder weather is fast approaching us. Should your child be required to take prescription medication whilst at school, parents are required to complete a medication form at the school office. No medication should be sent to school with a child.

All Asthma medication should have an action plan from the prescribing doctor.



## Partnership

### St Margaret Mary's Parish Merrylands

Invites all families to join them on the occasion of  
The Blessing of our Pastoral Centre and  
The Farewell Mass for  
Fr Albert, Fr Damian & Fr Peter Zytka

On  
Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2015  
At 10:30am

The Pastoral Centre will be Blessed and opened by  
The Very Reverend Father Peter G Williams  
Administrator of the Diocese of Parramatta.  
Followed by Light Refreshments

#### ***Tuckshop***

Thursday April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Friday April 24<sup>th</sup>

Monday April 27<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday April 29<sup>th</sup>

#### ***Roster***

*M Aoun*

*M. Aspinall*

*K.Diab, F. Song*

### Child Safety in the Car

*Taken from Kidsafe New South Wales Inc*

It is the law in NSW that you must use child restraints for children under 7 who ride in your car.

If you break the law you may be fined and lose points from your licence.

#### **Children aged between 4 years and 7 years**

At this age children must ride in a forward facing restraint or a booster seat. Booster seats should:

- Be used with lap-sash seatbelts
- Have high back and sides

The seatbelt sash strap must:

- Stay in front of the child
- Not be too loose

The lap part of the seatbelt should sit across the upper thighs. Children must be in a child restraint suitable for their size.

#### **Children over 7 years**

Older children generally fit into an adult seatbelt when they are around 140 to 145cms tall. Continue using the booster seat until the child fits the adult seatbelt.

The seat belt should:

- Not touch the child's neck
- Always stay in front of the child and not go behind the child's back
- Sit across the upper thighs.

All children should be seated in the back seat. Children over 4 years may be placed in the front seat only if all the back seats are occupied by children under 7 years old.

For further information please go to the Kidsafe New South Wales Inc website. [www.kidsafensw.org](http://www.kidsafensw.org).