



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Newsletter No 38

Bulletin

Wednesday, 23rd November, 2016

Diary Dates

Thursday, 24th November

- St Margaret Mary's Art Exhibition 6pm—7:30pm.

Friday, 25th November

- STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY

This is a Pupil Free Day.

Sunday, 27th November

- 1st Sunday of Advent.

Monday, 28th November

- 8:40am Whole School Assembly and Advent Prayer.
- P&F Thank You Morning Tea 9am in the LARC Parents Welcome.

Wednesday, 30th November

- Year Four Liturgy 2:15pm.
- P&F Annual General Meeting 6:30pm in the Staffroom.

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2017, please let the office know as soon as possible.

Enrolments

We have a few vacancies in Years One to Six for 2017. If you know of any families interested in enrolling at our school for 2017, please contact the school office for an enrolment form.

Parish Car Park

The parish car park is for parishioners who attend weekday Masses. Parents are also reminded that the parking spaces at the church end of the car-park are for the parish office staff and parishioners, this includes the disable spots near the parish office.



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

This is the continuation from the last St Margaret Mary's Bulletin.

Raising Children of Character: 10 Principles

6. Use Direct Teaching to Form Habits and Conscience

We need to practise what we preach, but we also need to preach what we practise. Direct teaching helps to develop a child's habits and conscience. "Pick up your toys." "Say please and thank you." "Don't interrupt." "Look at a person who's speaking to you." Hundreds of teachings like these communicate to children, "This is how we behave," "This is how we live." Direct teaching includes explaining why some things are right and others wrong.

7. Discipline Wisely

Disciplining wisely means setting expectations, holding kids accountable to them, and responding to their lapses in a way that both teaches what's right and motivates the child to do what's right. This means discipline should be clear and firm but not harsh. An excellent approach is to ask a child, "What do you think is a fair consequence for what you did?" Together the parent and child can then agree on a consequence that will help change behaviour.

8. Solve Conflicts Fairly

Conflicts provide important opportunities to foster character development. A fairness approach can be used to solve a wide range of family conflicts. It has three parts:

- 1) achieving mutual understanding;
- 2) arriving at a fair, agreed upon solution to the problem; and
- 3) holding a follow-up meeting to evaluate how the solution is working.

9. Provide Opportunities to Practice the Virtues

Virtues develop through practice. We don't develop character in kids simply by talking about it; they need real responsibilities in family life. Children should not be paid for all the things they do for the house; such jobs are the way they contribute to the family.

10. Foster Spiritual Development

Young people who frequently attend religious services and say their faith is important to them show higher levels of compassion. For many people, religion gives life a higher meaning and an ultimate reason for leading a faith filled life. If we are not ourselves religious, we must nevertheless help our children to develop a spiritual vision that address life's largest questions: What is the meaning of life? What is the purpose of my life? What leads to authentic happiness?

God Bless,

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Condolences

St Margaret Mary's staff, students and parent community offer our prayers and condolences to Mrs Juningsih Sioe, Mawunedi Passa (Yr6 Red) and Ameli Passa (Yr4 Yellow) on the death of their husband and father, Ayawo Passa. The funeral will be held tomorrow (Thursday 24th November) at the North Chapel, Pinegrove Memorial Park at 10:00am.



**STAFF PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING DAY
FRIDAY, 25th NOVEMBER
THIS IS A PUPIL FREE DAY**

Administration

Community Matter

An incident occurred outside our school grounds last week. The matter did not concern any members of our community, and is being handled in accordance with CEDP guideline. The matter is in the hands of authorities. Please note no one from St Margaret Mary's community was involved.

Skoolbag App

All parents are encouraged to have the Skoolbag App, as this will be the main preference for communication to all parents.



Important Dates for Term Four

Thursday, 24 th November	St Margaret Mary's Year Six Art Exhibition 6:00pm—7:30pm.
Friday, 25 th November	Staff Professional Learning Day.
Sunday, 27 th November	1 st Sunday of Advent.
Monday, 28 th November	P&F Morning Tea in the LARC at 9:00am.
Wednesday, 30 th November	Year Four Liturgy 2:15pm in Learning Space. P&F Annual General Meeting 6:30pm in the Staffroom.
Friday 2 nd November	Busking Morning.
Sunday, 4 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent.
Wednesday 7 th December	Reports go home with students.
Thursday, 8 th December	Year Six Graduation Mass.
Friday, 9 th December	Whole School Thanksgiving Mass 9:00am. Year Six Graduation Dinner.
Sunday, 11 th December	3 rd Sunday of Advent.
Monday, 12 th December	Year Six Aquatic Centre Fun Day.
Wednesday 14 th December	Christmas Carols 11am . Year Six Farewell after Christmas Carols.
Friday 16 th December	Students finish at 3pm for 2016.
Sunday, 18 th December	4 th Sunday of Advent.
Monday, 19 th December	Staff Professional Learning Day.
Tuesday, 20 th December	Staff Professional Learning Day. School Closes for 2016.
Friday, 27 th January 2017	Staff Resume for 2017.
Monday, 30 th January 2017	MAI Testing for all grades.
Tuesday, 31 st January 2017	MAI Testing for all grades.
Wednesday, 1 st February	MAI Testing for Kindy 2017 Students in Years 1-6 2017 return to school.
Thursday, 2 nd February	All Kindergarten 2017 start school.

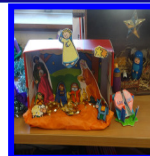
Lost Property

We have a number of jumpers and jackets in lost property with no names on them. These items will be sent to the P&F Second Hand Uniform Shop on the afternoon of Thursday, 24th November. All items sent to lost property that are clearly labelled are returned to the student via their class teacher. When labelling jumpers and jackets please label at the base of the item with a permanent marker. Please check regularly for a readable name as they can fade after washing. All containers, lunchboxes and drink bottles that are not labelled are thrown in the bin after two days.

Faith Community

Year Four

What a creative grade Year Four are! For a homework task Year Four had a choice of making an Advent wreath explaining what the wreath and candles symbolise or making The Nativity Scene and explaining the importance of this scene. The teachers' were so impressed with the standard of the homework tasks. Well done, Year Four!



Teaching and Learning

Kindergarten 2017

Parent Information Session

Tissues and tea were on offer to the parents of our Kindergarten students of 2017, followed by Religious Education and Literacy sessions in the hall. While the coffee and tea were in great demand, the tissues were not used at all because the parents were comfortable in the fact that the students were happily engaged in their second orientation session, last Wednesday.



Anne Prendergast highlighted to the parents the importance of exposing their children to prayer and taking them to church when possible. She explained what the children would learn in the Kindergarten curriculum. One point of emphasis was how to be role models to their children.

Lauriana Rodricks addressed Literacy. Parents had the opportunity to look at different books and practise prompts for reading that encouraged children to look for meaning, structure and visual cues.



It was a session of sharing and clarification and of course humour when Kevin Mills addressed the parents welcoming them to our school community at St Margaret Mary's Primary School.

Kindergarten Orientation

"This way to orange. Across the corridor to green. If you're in purple, go to the right."

The new kindergarten students were playing around. For the past weeks on Wednesdays, the 2017 kindergartens have visited our school and the kindergarten classroom.

When they first entered the room, they played with farm animals, drew pictures and played with Lego blocks. This encouraged the children to get along with each other and share what they were playing with.

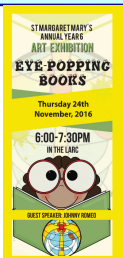
The look on the Year Five volunteers' faces was not at all a stressed face but a delighted one. The new kindergartens were as cool as cucumbers as they showed off their groovy dance moves. They almost turned into monkeys, elephants and tigers themselves. Then they became cheeky monkeys; jumping and chanting. After a lot of work and play, they cooled down by eating their snacks while watching a series of episodes of Peppa Pig and the classic original, THE WIGGLES. We're looking forward to seeing the cute Kindergartens 2017 next session as they continue to learn and get used to big school.

By Angelina Georges and Grazia Carrano.

Personal Growth

St Margaret Mary's Art Exhibition

The St Margaret Mary's Year Six Art Exhibition will be held this Thursday, 24th November. This Gala evening will take place in the LARC Art Gallery beginning at 6:00pm for the Year Six Artists, the Skateboard Artists and their families. will be provided.



BUSKING UNDER THE SUN!

In Week 8, Friday 2nd December, St Margaret Mary's will gather for BUSKING UNDER THE SUN!!

Parents are invited to donate silver coins for our talented students busking under the sun. All money raised will go towards the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal.

Auditions for students will continue this week.

Many Thanks,
Busking Committee.



BIRTHDAYS



Shirley Lou	Kane Dawson	Nickolas Kemourtzis
Michaela Robledo	John El Ghoussein	Lucinda Tran
Rachael Mansour	Achel Majock	Amol Akoy
Daniella Gerges	Gabriela Stanic	

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

Partnership

Bingo Night

On the 18th November, members of the school community gathered to play enthusiastic rounds of Bingo. The P&F took a great deal of time arranging the night to raise funds for our school.



"Thirty-six, twenty-one, legs eleven?"
"Woohoo!" chanted the crowd.
Mr Mills continued, "Sixty five?"
"BINGO!" The room suddenly fell silent as the crowd craned their necks to find the lucky winner. I rushed towards the front to claim my prize. My legs felt like jelly. I was sure that everyone could hear the thump, thump, thump coming from my chest. So much to choose from, but I had my heart set on the David Williams 'The Midnight Gang'. It was nowhere in sight. I paced the floor as I scanned the items, and to my delight I saw a Parramatta Eels Junior Member pack. I grabbed it and ran back to my table clutching it and my trophy close to me. A huge thank you to the P&F for all the effort they put in to make the night so memorable.



By Grazia Carrano and Angelina Georges

P&F News

Thank you to all the wonderful parents who helped make our Bingo Night a great success. There were lots of great prizes with many smiles from people winning. It was a fantastic night to see a school community having fun together.



I would like to thank Mr Mills for being our guest caller and Ms Veness and staff who managed the Sausage Sizzle. A huge thank you to our major donators who are listed in

this bulletin, without your generosity our Bingo Night wouldn't have been so successful.



Thank You Morning Tea



On Monday 28th November, at 9:00am, the P&F will be hosting a Thank You Morning Tea to show our gratitude to all the volunteers throughout the year and for the people who donated food and prizes. This will be held in the LARC.

We hope to see you there.

P&F Annual General Meeting

Would you like to be part of things like our first Bingo Night last week, our annual Mother's & Father's Day Stalls and huge Easter Raffle? Do you have some fun ideas so we can try to help raise funds for the school? Then come and join the P & F Committee.

We need to have our P&F, as it is a way parents can have a voice in the school. This is an excellent forum to be involved in.

Nominations for the following positions will be taken at the meeting:

President	Secretary
Treasurer	Fundraising Committee

Please join us for our 2016 AGM (Annual General Meeting).

When: Wednesday, 30th November, 6:30pm.

Where: The School Staff Room.

Agenda:

Opening Prayer
Minutes from previous Meeting
President's Report
Treasurer's Report
Fundraising Report
Election of New Committee for 2017
General Business
Meeting Close

If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like to nominate for a position on our committee, please complete the form below and return it to the school office in an envelope marked attention P&F Committee. If you would like more information about our committee please contact the school office or any member of our current committee.



P&F Annual General Meeting Nomination Form

I would like to nominate for the following position:

<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising Committee

Name: _____

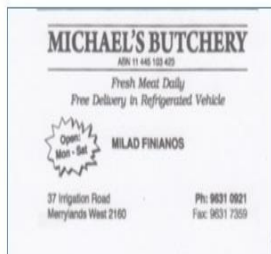
Contact Phone Number: _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

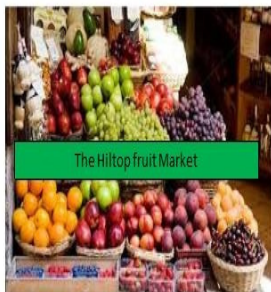
Partnership



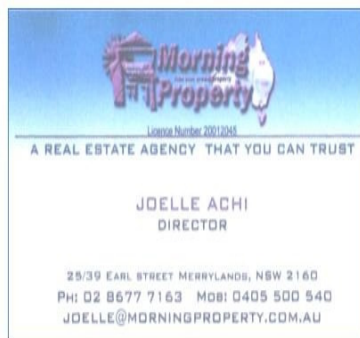
Major Sponsors



For members and the community
Ph: 9407 2626
68 Macquarie St, Parramatta



The Ndaira Family



The Gittany Family



Thank you to all the families that donated to make this event successful



2017 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials

Any Primary students enrolled in Parramatta Diocesan Schools in Year 5 and 6 in 2017 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term One/Two in 2017 (Winter Sports - AFL, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League League, Rugby Union & Touch).

It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is **strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2017 be invited to attend.**

Parramatta Diocesan trials in 2017 will be held in the following sports:

*AFL (boys), Diving (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Football (B&G), Golf (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Netball (girls), Rugby League (11yrs & Opens), Rugby Union (boys), & Touch(B&G).

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au. This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2017 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. You may complete this form to attend a selection trial or if you have been selected in a representative squad or team. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST be approved by your child's school**. In order for your child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of your school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. **Please complete all fields and especially "Representative Experience".**

Please ensure that the **SUBMIT** button has been pressed upon completing the form and notification email will be sent to the parent/guardian listed on the form confirming this expression of interest has been received.

Your child's school will notify you one week prior to the trial date if your child is to attend to the Parramatta Diocesan trial for their selected sport by providing a trial information sheet.

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

Winter Sports Registrations close Friday 3rd February 5pm.

Please contact your school sports coordinator for any further information.

Yours In Sport,
Margaret Thornton
Teaching Educator – Primary Sport
Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta



Merrylands Bowling Club

SCHOOL & WORKWEAR CENTRE

455 -457 Merrylands Road
Merrylands NSW 2160
(5 min walk from previous address)
P: 02 9637 4502
E: mluniform@tpgi.com.au
****Lay-by Welcome****

ALL YOUR UNIFORM NEEDS IN ONE PLACE...

School uniforms for St Margaret Mary's
Grosby school shoes – 30% off second pair (equal or cheaper value)
Boys shirts, shorts and trousers
Girls dresses, blouses and