



# St Margaret Mary's School

*A Dynamic Community of Learners in Action*

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Newsletter No 23 Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015

## Diary Dates

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July

- Parent Information Evening—  
Religion Literacy 6:00pm—  
7:00pm.

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July

- Kindergarten Excursion to Camsley Hill Farm.

### Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August

- 8:40am Morning Assembly and Prayer.

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August

- Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival at Blacktown Olympic Park.

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

- Year Two Visitors from the Past.

### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August

- Year One Prayer Service 2:15pm in Learning Space

## School Fees

School fees for Term Three have now been issued. If you have not yet received your statement please contact the school office.

Term Three fees are due by 17<sup>th</sup> August unless an approved arrangement is already in place.

### ***Tuckshop***

### ***Roster***

Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>

*M.Aoun ,*

Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup>

Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>

Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

*L.McLeay,  
M.Raftery*

Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>

## Parent Information Evening Religious Education in our Classrooms. Will be held at 6:00pm Tonight in the Hall.

## From the Principal

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

The Feeding of the Five Thousand was last week's Gospel and one of the favourite passages from the New Testament. The gathering certainly presented a number of challenges to Jesus and his supporters. I would say being a parent has a large dose of challenge and living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century provides its own challenges. As people who have chosen to send their children to a Catholic school, we are faced with the challenge of raising our children in a society that is pushing and pulling in all directions. Some of these directions are far from the path Jesus walked.

But he had two great commandments to guide him:

1. *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*
2. *Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*

We can use these two wonderful touchstones to help us in an ever changing world. They are statements reflecting an openness to acceptance and God's great love. As members of the parish at Merrylands we are called to make a difference in the lives of people we meet. It is this activity that builds a picture of what our children see in us. It is important we realize the most important role as a parent is to be focused on how our children grow up into caring individuals and who we want them to be as adults. I have a number of books at home, one of which is called "A Book of Lists Vol 1" The following passage is based on "A Creed to Live By".

### **A Creed to think About**

Don't under estimate your influence on your child, you must teach them about your expectations.

**Don't set goals for your child based on other parents ideas, you know your child better than anyone.**

Don't take for granted the things your child excels at, you have spent time teaching them well.

**Don't give up when they struggle at new things, they need your understanding and support.**

Don't dismiss your child's boldness and poor attitude, they always want to push the boundaries.

**Don't be afraid to admit when you are less than perfect, your child knows things are not always ideal.**

Don't worry when things go off track, always be firm and fair as your child needs to feel secure and safe.

God Bless,

Mr Kevin Mills  
Principal

## Administration

### Religious Education in our Classrooms

Just a reminder our Parent information evening on Religious Education in our Classrooms, will be held this Wednesday evening 29<sup>th</sup> July at 6:00pm in the Hall.

At this meeting we will explore and explain

- The teaching of Religious education in our classrooms.
- The Religious Literacy Test that happens across the Parramatta diocese in Years Four, Six, Eight and Ten.

We hope you can join us for this very informative evening.

### Leaving

We have a large number of students wishing to attend St Margaret Mary's Primary School. If you are moving out of the area or unable to attend in 2016, 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.

### Change of Details

If you have moved house or changed your contact details, please notify the school office as soon as possible to update your details in case of an emergency.

## Reminder

Just a reminder to all parents that this is a **NUT FREE SCHOOL**.

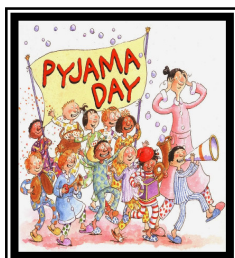
Please encourage your children **not** to bring Nutella or peanut butter sandwiches to school, as we have a number of students who have allergies to nut products.

## Faith Community

### Pyjama Day

On Friday the 7th August, Week 4, students from Mini Vinnies will be participating in the Vinnies Winter Sleep Out.

**In conjunction and to support those students with the sleep out, the school will be holding a PYJAMA DAY where students bring a gold coin if they wear pyjamas.**



All money collected will go to the St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal.

## Teaching and Learning

### Steps of building the 2<sup>nd</sup> Garden Bed

On the 23rd of July the Ultimate Garden group and Mrs Albertin went down to the bottom grass to build the second garden bed with the help of Joe our groundsman and Emmanuel. When we got there we saw our equipment set out and ready for us to use. First of all we drilled the brackets into the sleepers, secondly we dug the trenches with a



mattock and shovel for the sleepers to go in, next we put the sleepers with the brackets in the trenches and made sure they were levelled. After that we put the 2.4 meter sleepers then drilled it into the brackets. When the garden bed was done we put



bricks and rocks under the sleepers because the ground was not straight. That meant that the sleepers won't be level. We had so much fun building the garden bed.

*By Antonia, Dennis and Taya. (Year Five)*





## Personal Growth

# BIRTHDAYS



Jon-Pierre Laoulach	Fred Tannous	James Bejjani
Chinyere Kiera Ezenwa-Ndukaku		Thomas Miraziz
Zach Serhan	Joe Azzi	Matteo Luccitti
Joshua Farhart	Eliana Epenian	Nicole El-Helo
Talia Moses	Daniel Saliba	Dennis Asante
Alicia Kyriakos	Julian El Khoury	Priscilla Azar

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

## 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, 4th August 2015.

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 or drink.

If there are any parents who can assist on the day of the carnival, please contact Miss Ashe at the school office.

We wish them the best of luck at the carnival.



Leonidus Toevai	Meelad Qadri	Phoebe Afful
Chelsea Genares	Aarushi Sharma	Amelie Zabarar
Bennett Saahene	Antonio Youssef	Aluel Juk
Eliana Mansour	Hussein Ali	Reegan Pine
Eliana Khoury	Emma Cham	Jason Saahene
Gerard Bleeker	Andre Boustani	Dennison Law
Alesandra Nasr	Zainab Kamara	Jacoub Issac
Maddison Laing	Elizabeth Pobe	Ajuet Deng
Nicholas Perello	Audrey Afful	Athieng Aleu
Akurdit Akoy	Rebecca Georges	Georgia Abraham
Leba Younan	Anthony Lim	Patryk Madura
Selina Kilic	Antonias Gerges	Grace Othman
Dennis Asante	Nathanael Stanley	Charbel Haouchab
Joel Incognito	Talisa Bourke-Taufahema	
Mercy Gama	Taya Higgins	Hunter Osborne
Victor Douehi		

## Partnership

### Parent Representative Council (PRC)

Unpacking NAPLAN & a case study for improvement.  
Term Three PRC General Meeting—Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015, 7pm.

All catholic school parents and educators welcome!  
Free presentation to all who attend the Term Three General meeting.

**Presenters:** Mrs Sue Walsh, Deputy Executive Director, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and Dr Elizabeth Ricketts, Principal, St Aiden's Primary School, Rooty Hill.

**Venue:** Diocesan Assembly Centre (IFM) Grd Flr, Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marian St, Blacktown

Doors open 6:30pm for coffee & tea. Further enquires: please email [prcparrapresident@gmail.com](mailto:prcparrapresident@gmail.com)

## The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta wants to hear from you

If you or someone close to you has suffered **ANY** abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us.

Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options.

### You can contact us on:

Phone: (02) 9933 0233

Web: [www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding](http://www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding)

Email: [safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au)

Mail: PO BOX 3066 North Parramatta, NSW, 1750

For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact **NSW Police on 1800 333 000**

# Safety Around Schools

## A Road Safety message from Holroyd City Council

As a new school year begins, it is important to keep road safety on the top of your mind.

School zones can get very busy during drop off and pick up times, it is important for parents and children to remember to take extra care when travelling to and from school.

Here are some tips to keep your children safe.

### Pedestrian Safety



**STOP**

Always hold hands with younger children.

**LOOK**

Look both ways for oncoming traffic before crossing the road.

**LISTEN**

Always use a pedestrian crossing where possible.

**THINK**

Never call your child across the road, wait for them on the school side.

Always obey the parking signs eg. No Stopping, No Parking and Bus Zone

Never park on the nature strip or across a footpath

Don't block residents driveways

Never park on or near a pedestrian crossing

Don't Double Park

### Parking Safety



### Bike Safety

Children must **ALWAYS** wear a correctly fitted helmet.

**TIP:** The helmet should fit low on the forehead so that 2 fingers fit between the helmet and the eyebrows.



Bicycles should be maintained regularly to ensure they are in good working condition.

Children under 12 years old should ride on the footpath.



### Bus Safety

Meet your child at the bus stop, **NEVER** on the opposite side of the road.

Wait until the bus has driven away before crossing the road.

Teach your child to stand back from the kerb and away from the traffic.

Remind your child if the bus has seatbelts, they must buckle up.



✓ Drive **SAFE** ✓ Ride **SAFE** ✓ Walk **SAFE**

A Road Safety initiative of Holroyd City Council Road Safety Program