



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 6

Update

Wednesday, 8th March, 2017

Diary Dates

Wednesday, 8th March

- P&F Meeting will be held at 6pm in the Staffroom. Parents are invited to attend this meeting

Thursday, 9th March Cancelled

- Yrs 3-6 Cross Country at King Park 9:00am—10:40am will now be run during class sports' time at school.

Friday, 10th March

- Catholic Schools Week, Whole School Mass 9am in the Church.

Monday, 13th March

- 8:40am Assembly and School Prayer.

Tuesday, 14th March

Wednesday, 15th March

- Year Three Liturgy, 2:15pm in Learning Space.

Thursday, 16th March

- Year Six Liturgy, 2:15pm in Learning Space.

School Fees

Term One school fees are now due, unless arrangements have been made.

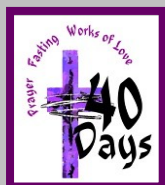
If you have any queries regarding school fees please contact Maria Pagano in the school office.

Change of Details

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

Skoolbag App

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



Administration

School Cross Country Years 3-6 Cancelled

The School Cross Country will now take place at school during school hours. This will be run during students sports' times. All students in Years 3-6 will need to ensure they have a bottle of water and their school hats on these days. This week your child will be notified during class time as to which day they will be running the Cross Country at school.

2018 Enrolments

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2018 will officially be accepted at the beginning of Term Two. If your child was born between 1st August, 2012 and 31st July, 2013. Please feel free to collect an enrolment form from the school office.

Attendance Month

Attendance Month has begun!

A major learning and pastoral focus of St Margaret Mary's each year is making sure that every student is at school every school day. During the month of March, Personal Growth Awards will be awarded to all students who obtain a 95% or more attendance rate. Following on from this event we will be addressing, in partnership with the CEDP, students who fall below a certain level.

As you are probably aware, attendance at school has a huge impact on a student's academic success, starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day - they understand why attendance is so important for success in school and life.

We realise some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. However, we also know that when students miss too much school, regardless of the reason, it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is absent. Absences can add up quickly and if a student is absent one day a fortnight over the course of a school year they will miss 20 days of education, which is almost half a school term.

We know that research shows:

Attendance affects achievement. Every day counts.

Attendance in Year One is predictive of the pattern in future years.

The effects of absence accumulate over time. Absence in one year affects future academic achievement.

Sporadic absence can affect academic achievement as much as consecutive days of absence.

Patterns of absence that cause concerns at school and office levels are:

- Unexplained absences.
- Partial attendance and lateness.
- Absence on certain days of the week.
- Frequent presentation to sick bay.
- Long holidays in school time.
- Frequent medical explanations that are not supported by a medical action plan.

We know that:

- Students that are absent days per year lose 1-2 years school years.
- Students that are absent between 40 and 60 days per year lose 2-3 years of schooling over 10 years.
- Students that are absent for 60 or more days lose more than 3 years of school over 10 years.

We know all our parents want their children to achieve their academic and personal development potential at school, and trust that all of our families will work with us to achieve high rates of attendance and engagement in learning, this term and in the future.

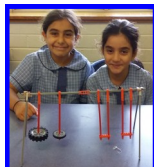
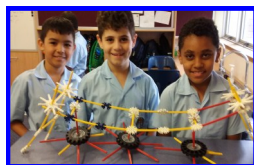
See StMM's students who appeared on the Today Show this morning.
<https://www.9now.com.au/today/2017/clip-cj00298cs00710hmp5unpqnc/a5e7e434-73f6-41d7-8c02-2f7e34449180>

Teaching & Learning

Year Three Literacy



Year Three have been reading the big book, "How Things Work" during Literacy. One of our activities was to design and then build something found in a play area. We were very creative and thought about what we would need so that our play equipment worked. We had a great time constructing and then readjusting our designs.



Personal Growth

Monday Morning Assembly

During our Monday Morning Assembly, the Mini Vinnies' students from Years Five and Six shared how contributing to Project Compassion helps other people that are less fortunate than ourselves.



They gave an example of Dinia, a woman from the Philippines, that the previously donated money has helped. The students were encouraged during Lent, to act in a way that will help others.



You're welcome here
College Open Day
Sunday 12th March 2017
11.30am to 2.00pm
www.stpaulsgreystanes.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 02 8868 3700, Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulsgreystanes2145

Partnership

Parent to Parent

P&F Meeting

Our first meeting for 2017 will be held today Wednesday, 8th March, at 6:00pm in the staffroom. All parent/guardians in the school are warmly invited to attend our meetings at any time throughout the year.

AGENDA:

- Opening Prayer
- Introduction
- Apologies
- Accept minutes of previous meeting AGM on 30th of November, 2016
- President's Report – Tanya Georges
- Treasurer's Report – Wendy Ndaira
- Principle's Report – Mr. Mills

General Business

Second Hand Uniform Shop & Uniform Shop Providers

- Options for Band Lessons (students missing out on class subjects) Rotation Classes
- Sitting on the floor while completing class work – is this affecting our children's posture and ability to write neatly?

Date for Next Meeting

Closing Prayer

Meeting Closed

Easter Raffle

Today each family will have received a book of raffle tickets for our Annual Easter Raffle. It is not compulsory to buy/sell these tickets. You are very welcome to return unsold tickets to the office, to buy just one ticket, the whole book or even ask for more books from the office. **The tickets are 50c each, 3 for \$1 or \$10 for the book.**

Another reminder, if anyone has baskets of any size or sweet platters they no longer need, please donate them to the school for our Easter Raffle. Baskets and sweet platters can be left at the school office.

CERDON COLLEGE MERRYLANDS
Aspire to Great Heights

Enrolments for Year 7 2018

Cerdon College is currently receiving applications for Year 7 2018. The College Principal, Mrs Baker, will visit the Year 6 students at St. Margaret Mary's on Monday 27 February with Enrolment Packages. Enrolment Packages may also be obtained from the College Office and at our Open Day on Tuesday 14 March.

OPEN DAY
Tuesday 14 March 2017
Come along anytime between
4:00pm to 7:00pm
Sherwood Road Merrylands
Telephone: 8724 7300
cerdon.nsw.edu.au

All applications should be received at the College Office by **Friday 19 May**.
Applications received after this date may not be successful.

Delany College
Grimwood Street, Granville
02 8633 8100

OPEN DAY
Wednesday, 8 March 2017

LEARNING IN ACTION
Session One: 9am - 11am
Walk through our learning spaces and witness learning in action

MEET OUR DELANY COMMUNITY
Session Two: 3pm - 5.30pm

ENROLLING NOW FOR ALL GRADES AND FOR YEAR 7 2018

- >Contemporary teaching & learning combined to provide quality education
- >Academic programs designed to bring out the best in your child
- >Extra Curricular activities including:
Debating, Mock Trial, Social Justice, Concert Band & Choir
- >A flexible and affordable fee payment structure