

St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share

7 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands 2160 Tel (02) 8633 8400 Fax (02) 8633 8499 Email: stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stmmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Newsletter No 1

Bulletin

Wednesday, 7th February, 2018

Diary Dates

Thursday, 8th February

Friday, 9th February

Whole School Opening Mass and Commissioning of the 2018 School Leaders 9am in the Church.

Monday, 12th February

- Whole School 8:40am Assembly and Prayer.
- P&F Meet and Greet Morning Tea will be held after Assembly until

Tuesday, 13th February

Wednesday, 14th February

- Ash Wednesday.
- Whole School Mass 9am in the Church.

Meet and Greet

St Margaret Mary's P&F would like to invite all parents of St Margaret Mary's to a Meet & Greet Morning Tea to be held after the Morning Assembly on Monday, 12th February, from 9:00am-10-00am

We look forward to seeing and meeting you there.

THANK YOU

A big THANK YOU all our parents and students who were very bighearted with their Christmas gift giving in 2017. The staff and myself were overwhelmed by your generosity and wishes and I certainly appreciated the time taken by parents and students in writing "thank you" messages at such a busy time of the



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

This is the first "full" StMM's Bulletin for 2018 and I hope all our families find it informative and useful as a means of communication to our Community. I would expect all students in Years 3 to 6 to read all school communication.

What a great start to the year! Welcome back to all our students and their families from a well-rested holiday to an exciting and action filled year of learning. A special welcome to all our new students, especially our new Kinders, who I am sure will feel very happy in becoming part of the caring and friendly community here at St Margaret Mary's. We have grown from 543 students in 2014 to 582 students this year, a strong indication of the wonderful catholic education that has been part of Merrylands for the past 76 years.

I can assure our new families that St Margaret Mary's School is a very active Catholic community who work together in the best interest of our children. Last year was a celebration of our history and a point in time where we acknowledged the individuals and families who have played their part in our journey as a school.

As a Catholic community, all members of the St Margaret Mary's community are called to do God's work in a world that challenges us to be followers of Jesus. We constantly speak about the "Listen, Share & Act" aspect of our lives here at St Margaret Mary's. That is, to Listen to the Gospel, Share the Good News and put this into Action.

I am very excited and looking forward to working with all our community in continuing the journey in 2018. Please let me know if there is anything we can do for you.

God Bless and keep you safe.

Kevin Mills Principal

Back to School Prayer

We thank you for the fragrance of a new box of crayons, Lord, The rainbow in each perfect row;

Thank You for each bundle of snowy white notebook paper, Awaiting fresh possibilities.

May they remind us that You make all things new.

And bless us with abundance.

Thank You for this ruler; for every eraser that tops every pencil. May they help us remember to measure our blessings,

But never Your boundless love for us;

To allow for the making of mistakes as a normal part of human

As we lay out our new clothes for these first days of school, Help us remember to put on Christ each day, too,

And to "clothe the naked" as He asked us.

But mostly, God, help us remember,

That Jesus is always our best and most devoted teacher-

That we never outgrow all His lessons on,

How you want us to live and to love.

Welcome

Opening School Mass and Commissioning of 2018 School Leaders.

Parents, Grandparents, and Friends of St Margaret Mary's are invited to join us at our Opening School Mass and Commissioning of our 2018 Student Leaders, on Friday 9th February at 9:00am in the Church.

Administration

MAI Testing

Thank you to all the parents and students for your support with the MAI Testing. It ran very smoothly.

Student Medical Information

If your child/ren suffer from asthma or have a medical condition. and you have not informed the school office, could you please do so as soon as possible.

For example, if your child suffers from asthma, please supply an updated Asthma Action Plan from your child's doctor.

All medication must be brought to the school office by a parent and a medication form needs to be completed by the parent.

Photo Permission

From time to time photos and/or video footage of your child will be taken at school and school events. These photos and video footage may be used in the school newsletter, diocesan newsletter, in newspapers, brochures, advertising, websites or in publications. If you do not wish for photos or videos of your child to be published or shown on the website please notify the school office in writing by Friday, 16th February, 2018.

Allergies

As you may or may not be aware there are a number of children attending our school who have severe allergies to many different foods. This means that if these children come in contact with any food products they will have a severe allergic reaction.

We also ask that you remind your child/ren not to share their lunch or any other food with another child.

Change of Classes

Due to an increase in student enrolments at St Margaret Mary's there have been changes in some student classes. These changes were made to balance the number of students in classes. We are certainly reaching the tip of capacity.

School Uniforms

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles appropriate to their age and school expectations. Long hair must be tied back. Our Sun Safe programs require students to wear our school cap or hat when outside No Hat No Play. These hats and caps are available at the school office. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn.

Simple signet rings may also be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at 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.

Crunch and Sip

Just a reminder that Crunch and Sip is a break during class when students can refuel on fruit or vegetables and rehydrate on water. The break assists students



with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom.

2018 STAFF PERSONNEL

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

Principal Kevin Mills **Assistant Principal** Jennifer Veness

Religious Education

Co-ordinator Anne Prendergast Diane Antonucci Literacy Leader **Numeracy Leader** Melissa Fardella **Instruction Leader** Sue Tripp THE OFFICE STAFF Maria Pagano

Annmaree McGuirk Domenica Yenco Simone Dore (W. F)

THE TEACHING TEAM Kindergarten Teaching Team

Melissa Fardella Ashley Ghabach Jacinta Iau

Year One Teaching Team

Maxine Allen Emma Swanson Timothy Greaney

Year Two Teaching Team

Jessica Azar Karen El - Zakahem Dale Yearsley

Year Three Teaching Team

Pauline McFarlane Chris Tenido Andrew Kelleher

Year Four Teaching Team

Francine Attard Vanessa Del Monte Marina Tuma

Year Five Teaching Team

Diane Antonucci Cara Essey Melina Laguzza

Year Six Teaching Team

Anne Prendergast Daniel Maunick Helen Golack

Michele Balogh-Caristo Librarian

Learning Support Team

Nicole Ashe Susanne Yanz Kellie Foley (T, W, Th) Georgette Attard (M, T, W) Marie Debes (M, T, W) Michele Balogh-Carito

Sophie Ryan (w)

Speech

IT Matthew Rahme

RFF (Tues/Wed/Thu)

Mary Chetty Nancy Gaid Belinda Martino

Teacher Aides

Paulette Michael Paulette Albertin Haifa Rizk Ruth Henrisson Brian Melocco

School Counsellor School Maintenance

> Rob Stewart Mr Joe Culican

Canteen Georgina Hay Cleaner Annette Zeaiter

Parish Car Park

The parish car park is for parishioners who attend weekday masses. The parking spaces at the church end of the car park are for the parish office staff and parishioners, this includes the disabled spots near the parish office.

Important Dates for Term 2018

Friday, 9th February Opening Whole School Mass and Commissioning of the 2018 Student

Leaders.

Monday, 12th February P&F Meet & Greet Morning Tea 9am in

the LARC.

Tuesday, 13th February Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival.

Wednesday, 14th February Ash Wednesday.

Whole School Mass 9am.

Wednesday, 21st February St Pauls Visiting Year Six Boys.

Cerdon Visiting Year Six Girls.

Friday, 23rd February. Diocesan Swimming Carnival.

Wednesday, 28th February Year Six Prayer Service 2:15pm in

Learning Space.

Monday, 5th March Catholic School Week.

Tuesday, 6th March Open Day 11:30am—1:00pm.

Tuesday, 13th March Year Two Prayer Service 2:15pm in

Learning Space.

Wednesday, 14th March Student Prayer 8:15am in LARC.

Thursday, 15th March Year Three Prayer Service 2:15pm in

Learning Space.

Saturday, 17th March St Patricks Day.

Tuesday, 20th March Year Five Prayer Service.

Wednesday, 21st March Year Four Prayer Service.

Monday, 26th March. Holy Week.

Wednesday, 28th March Student Prayer 8:15am in LARC.

Thursday, 29th March Holy Thursday.

Staff Professional Learning Day.

Friday, 30th March Good Friday. Sunday, 1st April Easter Sunday.

Monday, 2nd April Easter Monday Holiday.

Tuesday, 3rd April Students Return after Easter Break.

Thursday, 5th April Year One Prayer Service 2:15pm in

Learning Space.

Wednesday, 11th April Student Prayer 8:15am in the LARC

Thursday, 12th April Kindergarten Prayer Service 2:15pm in

Learning Space.

Friday, 13th April School Closes for Term One.

Monday, 30th April School Resumes for Term Two.

Sports Days

Children are required to wear their sports uniform on their allocated days. Correct sports uniform must be worn along with appropriate shoes. Hats must be worn at all times when outside.

Kinder Tuesday and Thursday

Year 1 Wednesday and Friday

Year 2 Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 Wednesday and Friday

Year 4 Wednesday and Friday

Year 5 Wednesday and Friday

Year 6 Monday and Friday

School Hours

Parents are reminded that school commences at 8:40am and finishes at 3:00pm. It is important that students are here by 8:30am to begin classes at 8:40am.

There is no supervision in the mornings before the 8:15am bell.

From 8:15am until the 8:30am bell it is a walk and talk time only. Students are reminded that there is to be NO running or ball games in the playground in the mornings. If you are dropping your child/ren off or picking them up from the Parish Car Park please remind your child/ren about the safety around cars and the dangers of running in this area..

Parents are also reminded that they need to collect their child/ren from school at 3:00pm. If you are running late please contact the school office. The school office is open from 8:15am to 3:15pm every day.

Parents there is no parking before or after school (between signs) in Henson Street and Davies Street. These are drop-off and Car-Pick up only.

Codes of Conduct

At our school we have three Codes of Conduct for our students. In our behaviour management policy we show the following:

"The whole school community of St Margaret Mary's continues to provide an environment that enhances our Christian values and embraces the diversity of people and cultures. The members contribute to ensure that each individual receives their basic needs of Love, Belonging, Importance, Freedom and Fun. This is achieved by members knowing they have the......

Right

- to be happy and feel safe
- ♦ to learn
- to be respected

and the Responsibility

- to allow others to feel happy and safe
- to allow learning to occur
- to show respect for everyone.

Therefore, the school maintains a Code of Conduct that states:

- Everyone has the right to Teach and Learn
- Everyone has the right to feel Valued and Respected
- Everyone has the right to feel Safe and Secure.

We ask that you speak with your children about our three Codes of Conduct. We have high expectations that our students will be consistent with their behaviour and learning.

Library Borrowing

Each grade is allocated a time and day for the children to borrow books from the school library. Each child must have a library bag. This bag cannot be a plastic shopping bag but it can be an old pillow slip. The school office has library bags available for \$12.00 each.

All students can borrow before school Monday to Friday 8:15am—8:40am.

Kindergarten	Thursday				
Year One	Wednesday				
Year Two	Monday				
Year Three	3B Wednesday 3R Monday 3Y Tuesday				
Year Four	4B Monday 4R Tuesday 4Y Wednesday				
Year Five	Friday				
Year Six	Friday				

Personal Growth

Student Leaders for 2018

Congratulations to the following students on achieving their new positions and we look forward to their enhanced participation and representation in our school community in 2018.

School Captains Costa Zoumpoulias

Chelsea Genares

Vice Captains Jacob Mifsud

Christina Putrus

Faith Community: Charbel Bou-Rached

Rita Bougoide

Teaching & Learning: Dominic Horley

Rachael Mansour

Personal Growth: Tania Younan

Naydeen Poumale

Partnership: Joseph El-Rassi

Laura Gittany

Tosi (Yellow) Matthew Lichaa Maur (Green) Joey Farah

Kosta (*Red*) Peter Bou-Rached **McGovern** (*Blue*) Kerubino Benjamin

Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival

Good luck to all the students who will be representing our school at the Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 13th February at Mt Druitt Swimming Pools.

If your child has been selected to represent our school and has not yet returned their form and payment could you please do so by Friday 9th February. Students attending the carnival need to be at school by 6:45pm as the bus will be leaving on time.

Our Four Pillars of Learning

The Four Pillars of StMM's are directly linked to our Award system. Mr Mills holds a Principal's Morning Tea with students who have received an award for each Pillar and thus a Principal's Award. These morning tea's are held once a term.

Faith Community

At St Margaret Mary's School 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

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

Partnership

At St Margaret Mary's School we believe that Partnership is communicating, interacting and co-operating with others. Partnership is having a connection with others to have a go, it is agreeing on an idea and completing it together.

Personal Growth

At St Margaret Mary's School 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 attitude. We want to show respect and be more like Jesus.

Our Four Pointers of Learning









TIMIL

BIRTHDAYS



Anthony Chen Scott Ilufi Kaemon Tong Arjun Gautam Claire Fetrie Matt Yu Raphael Mejilla Maya Nader Prince Benjament Myles Shrestha Caroline El Bayeh Georgio Haydamous Charlie Bedrossian Jack Hewitt Jayden Ortiz-Gonzalesa Mikaele Apikotoa John Barakat Megan Yalda Bishoy Gaid Sarah Habib Malik Daniels Angie Habib Fetuli Toamotu Jolene El Khoury Niki Oates Alakiir Biar Himalee Upreti Annalise Draiby Foni Alphonse Chanelle Haouchab George Nakhoul Samuel Edwards Theresa Draiby Alex Lu Mikayla Georges Phoebe Afful Bella-Rita Injerkouchian Valentine Williams Esther Binas Altivan Victor Clara Fetrie Annalise Anderson

Costa Zoumpoulias Alexis Todarello Luis-Frederic Abi Khalil

Salamon Agok Helen Michael

Congratulations to all those children who celebrated their birthday around this time and during the holidays.



Partnership

Parent/Teacher Interviews

The format for our Parent/Teacher meeting in Term 1 will be finalised at the staff meeting this week. A separate note will go home at a later date with all the information including dates and booking details.

Car Pick Up

Any parent wishing to join Car Pick Up will need to see the office to complete a form and be issued with a car number to be displayed on their front windscreen. Children will be given a corresponding number to attach to their bag. It is important that all parents involved in this service are attentive to the rules of the road.



Book Club



Approximately twice a term children are given the opportunity to order books from Scholastic Book Club. It is important that when you are ordering items offered by Scholastic that you read the information provided in the catalogue regarding the product. If you are not fully satisfied with your purchase parents are asked to contact Scholastic as the school's role is only ordering and distribution.

It is not compulsory to order these books. The order forms will be sent home with your child and are to be completed and returned to the school with the exact money (no change will be given). Payment can be made by cash or through the scholastic on line ordering for credit cards payments. Please ensure that your child's name, class and amount enclosed are clearly marked on the envelope as well as on the order form.

Parents now have the opportunity to order their child/ren's books directly from Scholastics via the parent LOOP. Information regarding the LOOP can be found on the Scholastic website or through the brochure sent home with your child.

Student Banking

St Margaret Mary's participates in the student banking program which is run by the Commonwealth Bank. If your child is in years 1-6 and has a student banking account, they can participate in this program.

Student Banking Day is on **Tuesdays** and will commence on **Tuesday**, 27th **February**. Students need to bring their bank books to school on this day and hand it to their class teacher. If your child would like to open a bank account, you can open an account at the Commonwealth Bank online.

For more information regarding student banking, please contact the school office.

Parents and Friends

Meet and Greet

St Margaret Mary's P&F would like to invite all parents of St Margaret Mary's to a Meet & Greet Morning Tea to be held after the Morning Assembly on Monday, 12th February, from 9:00am —10-00am. We look forward to seeing and meeting you there.

Second-hand Uniform Shop

Our Second-hand Uniform Shop is open on the first Monday of the month after the Morning Assembly from 9:00am—9:30am.

If your child/ren have out grown their uniforms and you would like to donate them to the uniform shop, you can leave them at the school office.

We are in need of girls summer and winter uniforms and sports shorts and shirts for all sizes.

P&F Committee for 2018

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Uniform shop Coordinator
Fundraising Committee

Tanya Georges
Natalie Georges
Wendy Ndaira
Cheryl Moses
Mirna Raftery
Sharon Tilbrook
Nancy Notaris
Pauline Poumale
Mary Aoun
Vera Doueihi
Caterina Trentadue
Loranne Baini
Rita Guidone
Nadia Scale

Skoolbag App



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

This app also allows parents to notify the school if your child is sick by completing the online E Form.

Our **School Name** for Skoolbag App is **SMMPM**.

Please see later in this newsletter on how to download the App on your phone.

School Website

The school newsletter is available online, via the school website or the Skoolbag App. There will be copies available from the school office if required. All School Newsletters are available on our school website www.stmmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au.

Cerdon College Students

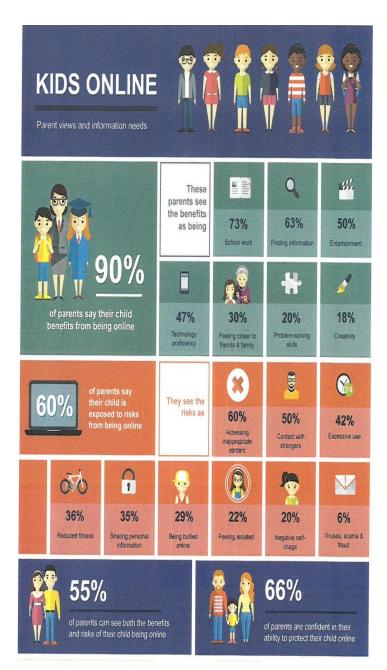
We are happy to be working with 8 Year 12 students from Cerdon College who are completing the Year 12 Exploring Early Childhood course. Part of their course requirements will be observing and interacting with children 0-6 years. The Cerdon students will observe how children play, learn, interact and communicate with one another and their teachers.

This will occur 1-2 times per term for about 1 and half hours, usually on a Tuesday.

We look forward to welcoming and assisting the Cerdon students and wish them success in their learning with us.

Jennifer Veness

Assistant Principal



Child Protection for Volunteers

Parents wishing to help out at St Margaret Mary's by either, helping in the canteen, at sporting activities or P&F fundraising must complete the following Building Child Safe Communities as part of the CEDP new Child Protection modules for parents. If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers



Canteen Helpers

Do you enjoy conversation with your lunch? Would you like to see your children occasionally during school hours? Are you looking for a way to become involved at school, in a social relaxed way and you have completed the Child Protection Module? Then the canteen is the answer you've been looking for. We require some new faces to join our wonderful team of canteen ladies. If you can spare a day in a week, fortnight, month or even occasionally, please fill out the form and return it to the school office.

We really do need the help! Many hands do make light work and your child would love to see you in the canteen. Mums, Dads, Nans, or Pops are all welcome. Lunch is provided. If you would like any more information please see Georgina in the Canteen.

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

- 1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
- 2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
- 3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
- 4. The app is FREE to download.
- 5. When installed click "Open'
- 6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
- 7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
- 8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

- 1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
- Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
- 3. Click the school name when it appears in the search
- 4. Click the "Install" button.
- Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
- Click "Open" when installed.
- 7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
- 8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.



For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 81 or 10 device users:

- 1 Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 81/10 Device
- 2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
- 3. Install the Skoolbag app
- Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
- 5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
- 6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
- 7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

TUE WED MON THU

every learner every day 🗹

ABSENCES ADD UP!



2 DAYS A MONTH



MISSING MORE THAN



YEAR OF **LEARNING IN**



DID YOU KNOW



PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



EACH DAY MISSED:

- Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life



SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.

every learner every day 🗸



Canteen Pricelist -2018

	SANWICHES	•			Large Water	\$1.50	
	<u> </u>	_			Small Water	\$1.00	
	Baked Beans	\$3.00			Mineral Water	\$2.00	
	Buttered	\$1.00			Just Juice	\$1.50	
	Cheese	\$2.80			Juice Cup	\$1.00	
	Chicken	\$3.50			Up & Go	\$2.50	
	Ham	\$3.50					
	Jam	\$2.00			HOT FOOD:		
	Salad	\$4.00			Corn Cob		\$1.00
	Salmon	\$3.50			Chicken Burger		\$4.00
	Tuna	\$3.50			Cheese Burger		\$3.50
	Vegemite	\$2.00			Beef Burger		\$4.00
					Fish Burger		\$4.00
	EXTRAS :				Lasagne		\$4.50
	Tuna/Salmon	\$1.70			Spaghetti Bolognaise		\$4.50
	Meat	\$1.20			Fried Rice		\$4.50
	Bread roll	\$0.50			California Sushi Roll		\$3.20
	Other	\$0.70			Tuna Sushi Roll		\$3.20
					Chicken Nuggets x5		\$3.50
RECESS:				(Extra Nuggets \$0.70	each)		
	Fruit (Seasona	al)		\$0.50	Fish Fingers x4		\$2.00
	Jelly			\$1.00	(Extra Fingers \$0.50 e	each)	
	Jelly + Custard	d Cup		\$1.00	Hot Dog		\$3.00
	Custard Cup			\$1.00	# (Extra Frankfurt \$2.	.00 each	1)
	Party Pies			\$1.00	Large Pie		\$4.30
	Soup (Terms 2	2 + 3 on	ly)	\$1.00	Small Pie		\$3.00
	Garlic Bread		\$0.40/	oiece	Sausage Roll		\$3.20
	Cheese Melt		\$0.50/		Chicken + Corn Roll		\$2.00
					Mini Spring Rolls x3		\$1.50
	SALAD BOX	FÇ.			Hash Brown		\$1.00
	Garden Salad		\$4.20		Pizza Slab		\$3.80
	Meat Salad		\$5.20		Pizza Rounda		\$3.20
	Tuna/Salmon	Salad	\$5.70		Supreme Pizza Single		\$3.00
	Tulla/Salliloli	Jaiau	75.70		Hawaiian Pizza Single	9	\$3.00
					SAUCE:		
					Tomato, BBQ, Sweet	+ Sour	\$0.30
					en Protest Division (1985)		

Fork/Spoon \$0.10

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Milk \$2.00