



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 8

Update

Wednesday, 22nd March, 2017

Diary Dates

Thursday, 23rd March

- Year Five Prayer Service 2:15pm in Learning Space.
- Mini Vinnies' Cupcake Stall.

Friday, 24th March

Monday, 27th March

- 8:40am Assembly and School Prayer.

Tuesday, 28th March

Wednesday, 29th March

- QCS Survey's due to the school office today or need to be completed online by end of today.
- Year One Liturgy 2:15pm in Learning Space.

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.

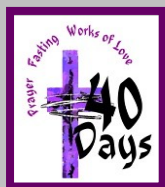
School Photos

School Photo's will be taken on Tuesday, 4th April. Please mark this date in your diary.



Skoolbag App

All parents are encouraged to have the Skoolbag App, as this will be the main preference for communication to all parents. Our **School Name** for Skoolbag App is **SMMPM**.



Administration

Staff Professional Learning Day

We will be holding a Professional Learning Day **on Monday, 24th April**. This will be a pupil free day for students.



Student Attendance

Congratulations to Year One who are now leading the attendance rate, followed closely by Year Five, Kindergarten are coming in third followed by Year Six in Fourth place. Please remember attendance at school is very important in your child's learning.



School Fees

Term One school fees are NOW OVERDUE, unless arrangements have been made. Reminders will be sent out to all families with outstanding fees.

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



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.

QCS Survey

60 families from our school have been selected to participate in the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta Schooling Survey. If your family has been selected, surveys must be completed by Wednesday, 29th March. If you are completing the paper survey, these need to be returned to the school office by Wednesday, 29th March.

Lost Property

All lost property is now on the silver seats near the canteen. All lost clothing without names will be sent for washing and donated to the Second Hand Uniform Shop if not collected by Friday, 24th March. All food containers not labelled will be thrown in the bin. We ask that you please ensure all articles are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Personal Growth

Friday Afternoon

A special assembly was held on Friday afternoon. Congratulations to all of the students who received their Gold Premier's Reading Challenge Award and also the 82 students that entered the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge.

The eight students from Years Five and Six that competed in the Kids' Lit Quiz earlier in the day received certificates and briefly described what the competition was about. They enjoyed testing their knowledge on a wide variety of books and competed against mainly high school students. A great effort was shown by both StMM's teams!

We had fun with Mr Mills revising the 4 Pointers as a school. Mr Mills also announced that now Year One was leading in attendance this month.

To end our assembly we trialled a new seating area for afternoon dismissal and Car Pick Up during wet weather.



Teaching & Learning

Kids' Lit Quiz

Do you think you know a lot about books, history, even trees? Well, the two teams from St Margaret Mary's thought so! Two teams entered this year's Kids' Lit Quiz, each consisting of four people. Combined we had a lot of knowledge about books because we enjoy reading and practised answering a lot of literacy questions. This really encouraged us to read more and read a variety of books.

On Friday, 17th March, our two teams travelled to Cerdon College for the Merrylands Heat of the competition! There were ten categories, each with ten questions, that we were given on the day including: Picture Books, Myths, Body Parts, Statues, Realms, Weapons, Thieves, Worlds, Animals and Trees!

The school who won this heat got to compete in the Nationals in Sydney. The winner of the Nationals will travel to Canada later in the year for the Finals! Unfortunately, the two StMM's teams didn't make it, but they made a tremendous effort! There were not many primary schools competing, so to compete against high school students was pretty difficult! The two teams were extremely happy with their results and had lots of fun participating.

Aarushi: "This was a really worthwhile and fun experience. We had to work together as a team, as we all knew different things in the categories we were given. We did a really good job! I think reading is fun!"

On behalf of the Kid's Lit Quiz teams, we hope you pursue more books and even take part in the Kid's Lit Quiz next year! Happy reading!

Mary Fakhr (Year Six)

Maths!

Year Six constructed square metres out of newspaper. We measured the length and width to make sure it was 100cm by 100cm. Then we carried the

newspaper into the corridor and estimated the area of the corridor by using the newspapers.

We had loads of fun with this task.

By Anthony Lim and Raymond Zhang (Year Six)

Prey are Dreams

Eagles, take your flight,
For your prey is below you to smite,
Proud or humble, it's time to aim,
Bring back home food to rise to fame,
There is no time for any excuse,
Fly or not, it's your decision to choose,
To grow taller, you need to soar high,
Answer your dreamy calls with a mighty cry,
But when that fox steals your catch,
The answer to your problem is not to scratch,
Let the canine sneak away,
For your dreams are yours anyway.
Let not your dark anger flow mighty bird,
Because your hopes are yours to gird,
And they are only yours to compart,
For no one can steal from your heart.

By Mary Fakhr (Year Six)

The Lamington Man

"Catch me if you can. I am The Lamington Man!"

Year Four had an amazing experience reading to Year One their fantastic story The Lamington Man. Everyone in Year Four used their imagination to create an entertaining story. They had figure out a whole new story as if they were the author.

We asked Year One a whole series of questions on the book. They were so clever. They answered the hard questions we gave them to test their listening skills.

By Raquel Nasr and Summer Shrestha

Faith Community

Monday Morning Assembly

The Mini Vinnies' Group thanked everyone for their support buying flowers for the Compassion Garden display. They raised over \$100 for Project Compassion. Mini Vinnies will continue to raise money for the less fortunate by holding a Cupcake Stall on Thursday.

We were reminded to focus on the Four Pointers each day and try to have full attendance at school this month.

Year Three Liturgy

Last week Year Three celebrated the theme of Lent by participating in our grade prayer service. It was wonderful to see so many parents and family members be part of this prayer service with us. Lent is such a special time in our Church that leads to Easter. We reflected on what Lent is, how we can be more involved and what Lent really means to us.

St Patrick's Day

On the 17th March, the students and staff of St Margaret Mary's were invited to wear green to represent St Patrick and the clover he used to explain God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Many people wore green ribbons in their hair, green bangles, green socks, green shoelaces and some even made clovers and pinned them on their shirts!

By Lilli Eve Loncar and Elizabeth McFarlane (Year Six)

Year Six Liturgy

Year Six hosted a liturgy on the 16th March, 2017, with the theme of Lent. We started by singing our first hymn One Faith, One Hope, One Love. For the gospel reading we read the parable

'Jesus Heals the Blind Man'. Then we had reflection time listening to "I wonder" statements. Year Six had an amazing liturgy and we appreciated the parents that gathered together to pray in the morning with us.

By Jessica El Ghoussain & Joseph El Khoury (Year Six)

Parent to Parent

Easter Basket/Tray Donations

We would like to thank all the parents who have donated baskets and/or trays for our Easter Raffle. We are still in need of baskets/trays. All donations can still be left at the school office.



2016 Winners

Easter Raffle Books

Easter Raffle tickets sold and unsold are to be returned to the school office by Friday, 24th March. Parents please ensure your child's name and class is on every ticket sold by your family, as this will make it easier for distributing the prizes.

Easter Egg Donation & Mufti Day

Friday, 31st of March, will be a Mufti Day where students are asked to donate an Easter egg for the Easter Raffle.

Easter Prize Wrapping

We will need lots of helpers on Friday, 31st of March, 2017, to wrap the prizes. If you can spare any time between 9am-1pm (toddlers and babies welcome) all help will be greatly appreciated. If you are unable to help but can send in a plate of food or drinks for the helpers it would also be appreciated.



Easter Raffle Helper

- ☐ I am able to help with the wrapping of Easter Egg Prizes on Friday, 31st March.
- ☐ I have completed both parts of the Child Protection Module on the CEDP website in the last 2 years.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Time Available: _____

Child's Name & Class: _____



I am unable to help but I am able to provide morning tea e.g. sandwiches, quiche, biscuits etc.

Name: _____

Child's Name & Class: _____



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
2. 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.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. 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 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. 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 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.

