



St Margaret Mary's School

A Dynamic Community of Learners in Action

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Wednesday 9th April 2014

Newsletter No 11

Important: Please Note a change of time for our Holy Week Liturgy will now be held at 12midday.

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

Our Bishop Anthony tells us "Lent is practice for Easter. It's when we go into training as Christians. It's our spiritual fitness regime." And in a few short days we will be asked to repeat our baptismal promises and proclaim the resurrection. A joyous task for God's people and one we are able to celebrate because of all our preparation. I look back on the Infants celebration of Ash Wednesday in our school hall, where the students were very clearly telling us that we need to do three things in Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Bishop Anthony gave us some practical tips on these three aspects of Lent in building up our preparation for Easter.

A few suggestions

Extra **prayer**: try a weekday Mass in addition to the Sunday ones; the family rosary; some time of adoration; some quiet time with God every day, even if it's just a few minutes more than normal. Confession, is THE Lenten prayer.

Extra **fasting**: no meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday but how about every Friday? Skip the snacks between meals. Pick something you really like and often eat or drink – not something you really won't miss much and so can easily give up. Fast from your smart phone on Fridays.

Extra **almsgiving**: Project Compassion is a favourite way of giving to the poor at this time. Don't just give the loose change that weighs down your pockets or purse: give so it bites a bit. Give so you've got to give up some luxury, some little pleasure, for once. How else might you help the needy? How about visiting a sick or elderly person, or volunteering some time to a charity?

Bishop Anthony goes on to say *"In the end, of course, saint making is God's work not ours. Hopefully, our little simplicity are motivated and empowered by God's grace and open our hearts to receiving all the more from Him. Hopefully, our little penances manifest our love for God. If we enter the 'desert' of Lent to discipline our passions it's only so we can enter more fully into the 'dessert' of Easter when we will express those passions with alleluias. As St Augustine taught in his famous Confessions, it is by quieting the passions that we allow ourselves to listen to God – and then to sing with Him."*

On behalf of St Margaret Mary's Staff I wish all in our Community a joyous Easter Celebration built upon the reflection of the Cross and the person of Jesus, who gave of himself so that we might live.

God Bless

Kevin Mills
Principal

Please ensure you have completed your own checks on any organisations or clubs that have distributed leaflets via then school or Church.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and parents of St Margaret Mary's for their warm welcome. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with such a talented and committed staff and being part of the learning journey of the beautiful child of StMM. Keep safe and spend time celebrating your faith with family and friends.

Kindergarten Enrolments

Kindergarten 2015 enrolments will take place at the beginning of term 2.

If your child was born between 1st August 2009 and 31st July 2010 you will need to contact the school to collect an enrolment form.

However, we will be finalising the form over the holidays and it will be available on the school website from week 2. You can download, fill out and return it to the school office.

Winter Uniform

Students return to school on Monday 28th April in Full Winter Uniform. There will be a 2 week grace of change over into winter due to weather changes. It is at the parents discretion as to whether their child wears the full winter uniform or full summer uniform.

Students with long hair are reminded they are to tie their hair back with school coloured ribbons or hair ties



Holy Week



Holy Week the most important week for our Church and school family.

Friday 11th April at 12.00 midday in the church the students will present to the school community the events of Holy Week.

Infants: Palm Sunday

Year Three and Four: Holy Thursday

Years Five and Six: Good Friday

We invite parents to attend and share these presentations with us. Children may leave with their parents after they have had their names marked off by their class teacher at the end of the liturgy.

Car Pick Up

Our car pick is under review. We will be looking at other schools. Children are reminded about being attentive.

Infants

All infants grades now have new furniture. We are still awaiting on the final delivery of tables.

Next Week's Happenings

**Thursday
10th April**

**Friday
11th April**

Holy Week Liturgy in 12midday in the Church.

Students may go home with parents after the liturgy

School Closes for Term 1

**Monday
28th April**

School Resumes for Term 2

8:40 am Morning Assembly and Prayer Service.

**Tuesday
29th April**

Student Banking

**Wednesday
30th April**

Important Dates for Term 2

Monday 28th April	School Resumes Students to Return in Winter Uniform
Friday 2nd May	Wrapping of Mother's Day Gifts
Friday 9th May	Mother's Day Liturgy Mothers Day Stall
Tuesday 13th May	Yrs 3&5 NAPLAN TESTING
Wednesday 14th May	Yrs 3&5 NAPLAN TESTING Yr 6 Leave for Canberra Excursion
Thursday 15th May	Yrs 3&5 NAPLAN TESTING Yr 6 Canberra Excursion
Friday 16th May	Yr 6 Return from Canberra Excursion Assembly Grades to be Advised
Tuesday 20th May	School Photos ICAS Computers Competition
Wednesday 28th May	P&F Meeting 7pm in Staffroom
Friday 30th May	Assembly Grades to be Advised
Friday 6th June	Professional Learning Day (Staff Development Day)
Monday 9th June	Public Holiday
Wednesday 11th June	Book Fair Arrives
Friday 13th June	Assembly Grades to be Advised
Friday 20th June	Semester One Reports go home
Monday 23rd June	Parent/Student/Teachers Interviews
Tuesday 24th June	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 25th June	Parent/Student/Teacher Interview
Friday 27th June	Feast of the Feast of the Sacred Heart Assembly Grades to be Advised School closes for Term 2

Privacy Amendment

The new Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012, introduces significant changes to collection, use and disclosure of *Private Information*.

These documents are on the system website in [Policy Central](#).

www.parra.catholic.edu.au/policy-central



BIRTHDAYS



Mark Zabala	Dennison Law	Hussein Ali	Tianna Gattuso
Christian Tuara	Angelina Horish	Bennett Saahene	Ella Sallitt
Charbel Ghasb	Gabi Schinella	Leonardo Beos	Maribel Ramos Montoya
Christina Putrus	Jemma Bazouni	Alannah Elias	Jacob Farah
Joseph Abou Zeid	Epaphras Owusu	Jonathon Maroun	Alaura Lassiter
Isabella Youssef	Maun Higgins	Eanman Lee	Nicholas Gama
Makayla Seniuk	Christian Karam	Abuka Ayac	Therese Ibrahim
Raquel Saliba	Billy Mekdessi	Vansessa Mekdessi	Simeon D'Souza
Jessica El Ghoussain	Julian Delogado Molina	Cheska Mendoza	

Congratulations to all those children who celebrate their birthday around this time and during the Holidays.

St Margaret Mary's Parish Holy Week Timetable

13th April	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Sat 12th April 6pm Sun 13th April 7:30am, 9am 10:30am (Procession with Palms), 6pm
14th April	Holy Monday Second Rite of Reconciliation—7pm
16th April	Holy Wednesday Morning Mass 9am No evening mass – only Novena to Our Lady—6:30pm
17th April	Holy Thursday No morning Mass Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm
18th April	Good Friday Stations of the Cross—10am Celebration of the Passion of the Lord—3pm
19th April	Easter Saturday No morning Mass The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night 6pm
20th April	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Morning Mass—7:30am, 9am, 10:30am Evening 6pm

Tuckshop

Thursday April 10th

Friday April 11th

Monday April 28th

Tuesday April 29th

Wednesday April 30th

Roster

L.Saliba

M.Raftery

L.McLeay

Merrylands West Drapery and Workwear

The shop will be closed over the Easter Break 17th April to the 21st April.



DELANY COLLEGE
Grimwood St, Granville 9637 7788
delanygranville.catholic.edu.au

OPEN DAY
7 May 2014
3.30pm - 6pm

catholic co-education connected

Accepting enrolments for Year 7 2015



St Pauls Catholic College, Greystanes
Enrolments for Year 7, 2015

St Pauls CATHOLIC COLLEGE
Many Gifts - One Community

Enrolment packs are now available on our College website or at the College front office.
Enrolment applications for Year 7, 2015 close on:
Friday 30th May 2015
Limited spaces still available in Years 8 - 10, 2015.

Address: 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes - Phone: (02) 8888 3700 - Fax: (02) 8888 3799 - Web: www.stpaulsgreystanes.catholic.edu.au

Go4Fun

Free fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier & happier

Do you have children 7 to 13 years old?

Are you worried about their weight?

Go4Fun runs for 10 weeks during school term. Sessions are run twice a week for two hours after school.

Registrations for the next school term are now open. To find out more or enquire about a location near you call: Free call 1800 780 900 or sms 0409 745 645 for a call back or visit www.mendcentral.org/go4fun.

INTERVIEW



On Friday the 28th of March students from the Year 5 and Year 6 Media Team interviewed Mrs Gatt-Petrini the Principal from St Bernadette's Primary School who visited our school to exchange information with our Principal Mr Mills. From the questions we asked Mrs Gatt-Perini, as a principal, her most memorable moments are being with the children. Her role is to be responsible for all teachers, staff and students. She believes children should challenge themselves, be open to new things and respect others. An interesting event

that their school did to raise money for charity was to have "Busking" in the playground. They also made "Fun Looms" to raise money for Project Compassion. We also discovered that they have a Media Team at St Bernadette's made up of the SRC students.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS



On Friday night the Year 5 and 6 students reverently enacted The Way of the Cross, to the St Margaret Mary Parish community, in preparation for our Easter celebration.

COMMUNITY WORKERS



On Wednesday the Year 1 students had lots of fun dressing up as a community worker. They also pretended to be chefs and made yummy pizzas. On Friday Year 1 visited Merrylands Library and posted some very important letters.



The School Band



This week the school band played lovely concert songs for Mr Mills.

They also showed him our rest position, warm up and many well played songs.

In the band we have two drummers, five clarinetists, four trumpeters, four flutists, three saxophonists and one bass guitar. We meet on Thursdays at 7:45AM.

The reason we have all of our wonderful talents is because of our wonderful teacher Mrs Ciccarelli. We also had other students watch us play our magnificent songs. Everybody packed up their instruments plus the back row of chairs.

After band we went to class and we came back at our assigned times to practise in class groups. For example: Year 5 people at 9:00 have to do their lessons for half an hour. We have three to five people per half hour. We think that everybody enjoys playing in the band and hopefully it will continue for many years to come. We also had new students join the band this year and they are learning fast!!! because of our wonderful music teacher, Mrs CCCCC! Our assigned times help us with things we need to work on, like rhythm or creating your own song.

The band plays lots of music including Geronimo, Hit The Spot, Power Rock, Beethoven's Ninth and many more!!

If YOU want to join the band or watch us simply go to the Creative Arts Room before school on Thursdays and sit down and relax and listen to the great music the band plays!!

By Anthony Poumale and Maddison Laing.

