



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 40

Bulletin

Wednesday, 12th December, 2018

Diary Dates

Thursday, 13th December

- Yr 5 Sport with Cerdon Girls at Merrylands Park.
- Selected Yr 4 Students attending Gilroy Village.
- Yr 6 Graduation Mass 6:00pm in the church. The school community is welcome to attend.

Friday, 14th December

- Whole School Thanksgiving Mass 9:00am in the church. Parents welcome to attend.
- Yr 6 Graduation Dinner 6pm.

Sunday, 16th December

- 3rd Sunday of Advent.

Monday, 17th December

- 8:40am Whole School Assembly and Advent Prayer.
- Yr 6 Aquatic Centre Fun Day.

Tuesday, 18th December

- Yr 6 Mini Art Show with their parents.
- Whole Christmas Concert 11:00am on the Assembly playground.
- Yr 6 Farewell after the concert.

Wednesday, 19th December

- School closes at 3:00pm for students.

Thursday, 20th December

- Staff Professional Learning Day. This is a Pupil Free Day.

Friday, 21st December

- Staff Professional Learning Day. This is a Pupil Free Day.
- School closes for 2018.

Tuesday, 29th January

- Staff return for 2019.

Wednesday, 30th January

- Early Year Assessment for Kindy 2019 as per booking time.
- MAI Testing for Yrs 1-6 2019, as per booking time.

Thursday, 31st January

- Years 1-6 Return for 2019
- Early Year Assessment for Kindy 2019 as per booking time.

Friday, 1st February

- Kindergarten 2019 commence.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

I received this email and thought I would share it with you all.

Dear Kevin,

I'd like to thank St Margaret Mary's school community for the contribution made by your students and staff to our World Youth Day 2019 Commissioning Mass on Sunday 9th December.

I am deeply appreciative of just how much your staff gave to coordinate the rehearsal, transportation and supervision of 35 students at a weekend event. That's very impressive!

After the Mass, I had several people comment on just how moving they found the respectful participation of the children, and many (along with me!) were especially impressed by their singing in Spanish by themselves. St Margaret Mary's has some very gifted students!

I am also very grateful for the chance for parents, pilgrims and parishioners to see firsthand how far-reaching are the fruits of WYD – here was a clear example of how future generations in our Church get involved and inspired by the pilgrims who attend.

I am particularly grateful to Marina and Melissa for placing their gifts at the service of the wider Church in conceiving the idea to involve their students in this way and then to make it such a joyful experience for them and us.

Thanks again and please know that your students were truly a highlight of the WYD 2019 Commissioning Mass.

May you have a blessed and holy Christmas.

Yours in the service of Christ,

Sr Rosie

Assistant Director, Catholic Youth Parramatta



Administration

Office News

School Fees

All School fees need to be finalised by Friday 14th December unless arrangements have been made. All arrangements are to continue during the school holidays.

Hats, Caps and Library Bags

Due to a price increase from suppliers, all prices will increase, commencing 2019

2019

Hats \$12.00

Caps \$12.00

Library Bags \$15.00

If you wish to purchase any hats caps or library bags at the old prices, they will be on sale from the school office until **13th December**.

Years 1-6 MAI Testing Student interviews 2019:

Dear Parents of **current** Kindergarten to Year Five 2018
your code is; 3q2n5

A letter was sent home with each student in their report envelopes notifying you of the new code to enter to book your child/children in for Maths interviews on Wednesday, 30th January. It is vital that you put your child into **next year's grades interviews** – some interviews have been booked incorrectly for the beginning of this year. Therefore, if your child is currently in Kindergarten you must book Year 1, 2019, if your child is in Year 1 this year then you must book Year 2, 2019 etc. Do not worry about the class colour; book your child into the ½ hour time slot that suits you. If the interviews are fully booked for that grade, please do not worry as the students will be tested on return to school in 2019.

For **new Kindergarten students starting in 2019**
your code is:dupmj

If you have not already registered your hour interview we have timeslots
All bookings: www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2019, please let the office know as soon as possible, in writing. It is a CEDP Policy that 10 school weeks notice is given to the principal before the removal of your child from the school, otherwise a full term fees will be required to be paid.

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.

Student's Classes

It is a school policy that the make up of classes are revised at the end of Kindergarten (Early Stage One), Year Two (End of Stage One), Year Four (End of Stage Two) and as needed in other years. It must be remembered that the structure of our school facilitates a number of students working with a number of teachers. The decision of movement of students is at the discretion of the Principal.

Next Weeks Newsletter

We will be sending home a newsletter next week with Mr Mills' Christmas message, Staffing for 2019 and Margaret Mary's Parish Mass Times. The newsletter will be a paper copy as well as being available online through the Skoolbag App.

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**.



The 'Good Book'

This year we introduced the 'Good Book'. Students have used this book to showcase and record the work that they were proud of. Teachers and children are transferring work from other books into the 'Good Book'. This book will be sent home next week. If you wish to keep your child's other books, please contact your child's teacher.

Semester Two Reports

Semester Two reports have been sent home with your child today. This learning report is designed to provide accurate information about your child's learning. This report evaluates your child's progress as an individual, who is developing spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially. It is very important to recognise your child's success and progress in all areas of development. We congratulate students on their hard work and to all parents on the support of their child, as individuals.

Monday Morning Assembly

On Monday morning, we celebrated the 2nd Sunday of Advent with a liturgy that was organised by Years 3 and 4. We closed our eyes and prayed for everything that is now happening in Australia. We would like to thank Miss Tuma,

Miss Fardella, Mrs Prendergast and the Choir, for giving up their time to go to the Cathedral and sing beautifully at the World Youth Day Mass on Sunday. They performed in front of 800 people with only two practices in the Cathedral. This was an amazing achievement for our school.

On Thursday, we have the Year Six Graduation Mass at 6pm. On Friday, we have a Thanksgiving Mass which will be our last Mass for 2018. Parents are invited to join us in the church at 9am. The Yr 6 Graduation Dinner will be held at 6pm, Friday night. We have a Christmas

display in the LARC that shows the Nativity Scene set up by some Year 6 students. Natalia Issa from Year 5 made a beautiful decoration that is also in the LARC for all those who want to see it. To end our morning assembly, the choir sang the World Youth Day song for all of us.

By: Media Team



Important Dates for the end of Term

Thursday, 13 th December	Selected Students attend Gilroy Nursing Home. Year 6 Graduation Mass 6:00pm.
Friday, 14 th December	Whole School Thanksgiving Mass 9am. Year 6 Graduation Dinner 6pm.
Sunday 16 th December	3 rd Sunday of Advent.
Monday 17 th December	Advent Prayer and Assembly. Year 6 Aquatic Centre 9am.
Tuesday, 18 th December	Year 6 Mini Art Show for Yr6 and their Parents 9am Whole School Christmas Concert from 11:00am. Year 6 Farewell after the Concert.
Wednesday 19 th December	School Closes for Students for 2018.
Thursday 20 th December	Staff Professional Learning Day. School Closes for 2018.
Friday 21 st December	Staff professional Learning Day off site.

Important Dates for 2019

Tuesday 29 th January	Staff Return for 2019.
Wednesday, 30 th January	K2019 Early Years Assessment as per booking time. Yrs 1-6 MAI Testing as per booking times.
Thursday 31 st January	Yrs 1-6 commence for 2019. K2019 Early Years Assessment as per booking time.
Friday, 1 st February	Kindergarten commence.
Friday, 8 th February	P&F Meet & Greet morning tea in the LARC 9am.

Requirements List for 2019

Primary, Years 3 - 6

Stationery

Pens (Blue & Red) (Years 4, 5 & 6 only)

Pencils x 4 (HB)

Packet of Colouring Pencils
Or

Packet of Twistable Crayons

Sharpener

Eraser

Ruler

Scissors

Glue Sticks

Packet of Whiteboard Markers

Highlighters

Infants, Kinder - Year 2

Other

Headphones

Boxes of Tissues x 2

Packet of Baby Wipes x 2

Library Bag

Items may need to be restocked through the year

Stranger Danger

As the school holidays commence next week, parents are reminded to talk with their children about the importance of Stranger Danger and how it can affect them and people around them.



Lost Property

Please claim your lost property by this Friday 14th December.

Any items not claimed will be given to the P&F Second Hand Uniform Shop.

Faith Community

Thanksgiving Mass

Parents are invited to join us at our Thanksgiving Mass on Friday, 14th December, at 9:00am in the Church.

Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Christmas Card Competition. We received some very creative cards that some students in Year 4 will be taking to Gilroy Nursing Home tomorrow. Congratulations to the following students;

Infants Winners

Priscilla Gergies – Kindergarten

Daniel Tran -Year 2

Primary Winners

Angelique Baaini -Year 4

Ana Langi -Year 6

Mrs Attard

Mini Vinnies

Co ordinator



Christmas Concert

Tuesday 18th December 11:00am



Parents, Grandparents and friends are warmly welcomed to St Margaret Mary's Christmas Concert. It will begin at 11:00am on the lower playground outside the LARC. Chairs will be set up on the playground area for parents and grandparents. Each grade will perform, including the School Band and the Choir. There will also be a presentation made by the P&F, this will then be followed by a farewell to our Year Six Students.

The students are asked to **wear Christmas Mufti**.

At the conclusion of the concert you are welcome to take your children home but they must get their names ticked off by the class teacher. If you wish your child to go home with another parent, please send a note indicating this.

This is a wonderful event for all the community to celebrate together the joy of Christmas.

We look forward to you joining us at our last official function for 2018.

Year 6 Mini Art Show

Year 6 parents are invited to a mini art show from 9:00am—10:30am, before the concert on the 18th December 2018.

World Youth Day Commissioning Mass

On Sunday, 9th December, the School Choir were invited to sing the theme song for the World Youth Day and perform a liturgical movement at St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta. This was an important Mass for all the pilgrims embarking on a journey to Panama next year, including Miss Tuma and Miss Fardella.



Thirty Five students from Years 3-6 attended this special day. We arrived at the Cathedral, and took a photo on the stairs of the choir. We went inside the Cathedral to practice with the band and the adult

choir. We were so amazed at how huge and stunning the Cathedral looked. After our practice, we were treated with some yummy pizza, drinks and some snacks. Before we knew it, it was time to begin the Mass! We were nervous but so excited to perform something we have been working hard on. Mr Mills was so impressed and proud of us, that he gave us 2 mufti cards each!!!! It was such an amazing day and we all enjoyed it. This day wouldn't have been possible without Mr. Mills, Miss Tuma, Miss Fardella, Mrs Prendergast and of course, Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen for giving us this wonderful opportunity. Thank you for your support and efforts for making this day happen!



By: Yasmine Abraham & Felicity Roach (Yr 4)



Teaching & Learning

Are you smarter than a 4th grader?

The challenge was set... our last homework project for 2018 was to create the best and most challenging

game ever! We could create an online Kahoot quiz or a board game based on our understanding of EVERYTHING we have learnt this year. We played and presented our games in small groups to test our

knowledge. Our games will be put to the test this Friday, when we challenge the students in Year 3. We wonder... are they smarter than a 4th grader?

Written by: Mikayla Gadd and Sophia Tannous



Personal Growth

Student Leaders for 2019

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 2019.

School Captains	Summer Shrestha Billy Russell
Vice Captains	Janessa Georges Anthony Baaini
Faith Community:	Nevah Shrestha Isabella Youssef
Teaching & Learning:	Mirabelle Madakker Jacob El Rassi
Personal Growth:	Mayullah Lamin Jayden Nguyen
Partnership:	Shakira Georges Effie Kapetangiannis
Tosi (Yellow)	Shadi Danil Mya Silva
Maur (Green)	Joseph Epenian Lydia Neculman
Kosta (Red)	Noah Elias Sarah Fakhr
McGovern (Blue)	Fred Tannous Raquel Nasr



BIRTHDAYS



Christian Nakhoul	Mayom Mayom	John-Paul Elias	Daniel Tran
Athanasios Gavrilos	Lucas Leonardi	Rhos Shi Wang	Stephanie Hewitt
Malek Ghaban	Lucas Altinbas	George Skaf	Zara Derbas
Lydia Zhang	Mikayla Maree Georges		Patrick Lamin
Angelina Khoury	Kamil Bahi	Dalin Mose	Noah Elias
Angelina Oadd	Ruby Shrestha	Jacob Leke	Anthony Chen
Vika Fonua	Anthony Feng	Monica Lamin	Scott Ilufi
Nyadeng Manyang	Pal Patel	Kaemon Tong	Samar Bassi
Cecelia Pickering	Helen Michael	Arjun Gautam	Claire Fetrie
Gurleen Kaur	Matt Yu	Adian Rigby	Joab Hada
Raphael Mejilla	Sanvi Gupta	Jordan Escalada	Biar Biar
David Fung	Sarah Cheng	Charbel Younan	Pavitar Pansi
Georgio Haydamous	Daniel Kassis	Dany AbouZeid	Shirak Yaghya
Prince Benjament	Havana Smith	Nikolai Krga	Alanieta Sandys
Christopher Ndaira	George Sandys	Maroun Ibrahim	Maya Nader
Charlie Bedrossian	Copper Smith	Myles Shrestha	Jack Hewitt
Jayden Ortiz Gonzales	Caroline El Bayeh	Mikaele Apikotoa	

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



Teaching & Learning

Year 5 Sport with Cerdon



This term, Year 5 have been lucky enough to participate in a sport program with Year 10 girls from Cerdon College. We walked



from school to Merrylands Park to meet with the girls. The girls from Cerdon were really nice and they helped us improve our skills by playing games related to soccer, oztag, frisbee and running. We hope that next years, Year 5 students are able to do the same program and enjoy the activities too!



Partnership

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge is back on for 2018! Students throughout the Diocese of Parramatta have the chance to win one of four iPad Minis!

The Summer Reading Challenge is all about discovery and new ideas - whether it's a new book, character or genre that you enjoy, we want to hear about your love for reading. This year, we're hoping to see more entries than ever before!



St Margaret Mary's Parish

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday, 24th December, 2018

- **6pm-** Family Mass (Children are welcome to come dressed as angels, shepherds or kings.)
- **11.30pm-** Christmas Carols
- **MIDNIGHT MASS**

CHRISTMAS DAY- Tuesday, 25th December, 2018

- 7.30 am
- 9.00 am
- 10.30 am

No Evening Mass



NEXT LEVEL SPORTS CLINIC

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS! REGISTER NOW!

nextlevelsports@live.com.au

Next Level Sports Clinic will be running sports clinics on the following dates:

Friday 21st of December 2018 'Christmas Theme' Clinic (St Patrick's Parramatta)

Monday 21st of January to Thursday 25th of January

Head teachers present at both clinic will be Mr Younis (of St Patrick's) and Mr Maunick (of St Margaret Mary's)

Join us for fun with plenty of activities, games, exercises & a free lunch on Thursday!

Students are welcome to attend all week or selected days.

Act now, as spots are limited!

For more information (dates, location and other enquiries)

Contact David Younis at: nextlevelsports@live.com.au
(Emails returned promptly)

Like us on Facebook! Search for "Next Level Sports Clinic"