



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 9

Bulletin

Wednesday, 3rd April, 2019

Diary Dates

Thursday, 4th April

- Yr 6 at Delany College 9am—3pm
- Yr 3 Excursion to Sydney Tower 9am - 3pm
- Yr 5 Healthy Kids - Big Vegie Crunch 10am - 10:30am.

Friday, 5th April

- Yr 1 Excursion to Seymour Centre seeing Room on the Broom 9am - 3pm.
- P&F Easter Raffle Tickets Due today.

Monday, 8th April

- Whole School Assembly and Prayer.

Tuesday, 9th April

Wednesday, 10th April

Thursday, 11th April

- **Mufti Day** - P&F Easter Egg Donation.
- P&F Easter Basket Wrapping 9am - 1pm.
- P&F Easter Raffle Draw.

Friday, 12th April

- Holy Week Prayer Service 11:30am - 1:30pm.
- School Closes 3pm for Term 1

Monday, 29th April

- School Resumes for Term 2
- Whole School Assembly and Prayer.

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.

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**.



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Boys & Girls,

The following extract is from Sr Leone and I share it with you as we journey through Lent;

The following prayer beautifully captures the longing of the Church for the world. It is described as a prayer for the courage to embrace the world in the name of Christ, and it reads:

'Father in heaven, the love of your Son led him to accept the suffering of the cross that we whose humanity he shared might glory in new life. Change our selfishness into self-giving. Help us to embrace the world you have given us, that we may transform the darkness of its pain into the life and joy of Easter.'

True humility is not
thinking less
of yourself;
it is thinking of
yourself less.

'Help us to embrace the world'. This needs courage, for it is a lot easier to stand back and, from a safe distance, criticise the false values condoned or encouraged by others. Of course there is a place for criticism. Our personal experience, however, is that criticism is helpful only when it comes from love. This is because when someone does not love us we know that they do not understand us, and so we tend to defend ourselves against criticism that is felt as unjust.

It is the same in the public arena. When Christians criticise without love, those who are criticised will defend themselves against the criticism that they see as unenlightened. When this happens nothing good is achieved. Furthermore Christians who act in this way are not following Jesus whose command was to love one another. If we love we may well be in a position to criticise. If we do not love we had better be silent.

Next time we find ourselves criticising any person, could we ask ourselves two questions. Firstly do I know this person? Do I really know him or her? If I don't, then there may be a place for criticizing what he or she is doing, but there is no place for criticising the person. And the second question is: If I know this person do I love him or her? If I do, then perhaps there is a place for criticism born of love. If not, then let silence guard my tongue lest I only harden the position I am aiming to correct and thus contribute to the harm that I seek to oppose.

Yours in Christ

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Never stop
doing little things
for others. Sometimes
those little things
occupy the biggest
part of their
hearts.

Administration

School Fees

Term 1 fees are now overdue unless you have opted for an arrangement with the school for the year. If you have any queries regarding your statements or have not received your statement, please contact Maria in the school office.

Enrolments

Kindergarten 2020 enrolment forms are available at the school office. If you have not yet returned your enrolment form please do so by Thursday 11th April. Interviews will take place during the month of May. If you have any family or friends wishing to enrol their child at St Margaret Mary's and were born between 1st August, 2014 and 31st July, 2015, please contact the school office for an enrolment form.

Student Attendance

Congratulations on your attendance this term. We are currently in the top 20 in the diocese at 89.7%. Congratulations to Year 3 who are currently at 95.1% attendance, followed by Kindy on 94.1%, Yr 4 90.4%, Yrs 1 88.2%, Yr 2 87.4%, Yr 5 87.3% and then Yr 6 85.4%. Congratulations to all the students who will receive a Personal Growth award for 95% and above attendance. Please remember attendance at school is very important in your child's learning.

Principal Awards

Mr Mills was looking forward to holding a Principals Morning Tea this term, but due to not enough students receiving an award, the Principals Morning Tea will be held early next Term.

Canteen News

Georgina, who is our current canteen provider, has decided that the end of Term 1 will be her final day at St Margaret Mary's. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Georgina for her dedication to our school.

We will take Term 2 as a time to refurbish the canteen space. We have put in place a service for our students from a neighbouring school. They will take orders and have them delivered to the school each day (further instructions on how to order will be communicated in the near future). We will be working from a simple cold option menu and this will be for term 2 only – Normal canteen will resume from term 3.

Leaving

Just a reminder to notify the school in writing if your child will be leaving our school. We require the date of leaving and the new school your child will be attending. Please note that CEDP policy is you must give the school 10 weeks notice.

Winter Uniform

Students will be required to return to school in Winter Uniform for Term 2. There will be a two week grace period for students. All students must be in full winter uniform by Monday, 13th May.

Important Dates for Term Two

Friday, 12 th April	Holy Week Prayer Service 11:30am - 1:30pm.
	School Closes for Term One.
Monday, 29 th April	School Resumes for Term Two.
	Students Return in Full Winter Uniform.
Wednesday 1 st May	CEDP Parent Retreat.
Friday, 3 rd May	Yr 6 Writers Festival 8:30—2:30.
Monday, 6 th May	Kindergarten 2020 Interviews Commence.
Tuesday, 7 th May	Diocesan Cross Country at Sydney Motor Sport Park Eastern Creek.
Thursday, 9 th May	P&F Mother's Day Wrapping.
Friday, 10 th May	Mother's Day Liturgy. P&F Mother's Day Stall.
Sunday, 12 th May	Mother's Day.
Monday, 13 th May	P&F Mother's Day High Tea after the Morning Assembly.
	All Students must be in Full Winter Uniform.
Tuesday, 14 th May - Friday 24 th May	NAPLAN Testing Period
Wednesday, 15 th May	Yr 4 Excursion to Elizabeth Farm and Old Government House.
Sunday, 19 th May	Pentecost.
Wednesday, 22 nd May	Primary Athletics Carnival at Gipps Road Sporting Complex.
Friday, 24 th May	Our Lady Help of Christians.
Wednesday, 29 th May	Year Six Canberra Excursion.
Thursday, 30 th May	Year Six in Canberra.
Friday, 31 st May	Year Six return from Canberra.
Wednesday, 5 th June	Stage Three Boys Soccer Gala Day.
Sunday, 16 th June	Holy Trinity.
Wednesday, 19 th June	Yrs 5 & 6 Excursion to Capitol Theatre Charlie & the Chocolate Factory 9am 7pm.
Tuesday 25 th June	Yr 4 Young Australia Workshop Incursion.
Wednesday, 26 th June	Stage 2 Girls and Boys Soccer Gala Day.
Friday, 28 th June	Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Friday, 6 th July	School Closes for Term Two.
Monday, 23 rd July	School Resumes for Term Three.

R. Rubbish
I. In
B. Bin



R. Right
P. Place
R. Right
T. Time



H. Hats
O. On
H. Hands
O. Off



B. Be
F. Friendly
G. Gentle



Faith Community



Holy Week



In Week 11 we will be remembering Holy Week, the most important week for our Church and school family. As a school, we will celebrate the events of Holy week on one day.

On Friday 12th April: We will be presenting the events of Holy Week in one liturgy with different grades being responsible for a different event in Holy Week:

Infants: Palm Sunday

Year Three and Four: Holy Thursday

Years Five and Six: Good Friday and Easter Sunday

The Re-enactment will be held in the Church and will begin at 11.30am.

Parents and friends are most welcome to join us to remember these important events.

Anne Prendergast

Religious Education Coordinator

Year 4 Project Compassion



Year 4 have been learning about Indigenous Australians in English, History and Geography. In groups, we chose a topic and then wrote three questions that we wanted to know the answer to. We re-

searched our answers and then presented our answers in a creative way using materials like clay, shoe boxes, coat hangers and sticks. Some people made mobiles, others made dioramas and some made sculptures with clay. We had a lot of fun making the project and learning about Indigenous Australians.

By: Daniella Gerges and Aluel Hawach



Partnership

St Margaret Mary's Parish

Holy Week Ceremonies

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday 24th March -6pm- Vigil

Sunday 25th March-7.30am, 9am & 10.30am, 6pm
(blessings of palms and olive branches at all Masses)

Monday 26th March -9.15 am Mass only

Tuesday 27th March-9am & 7pm Masses

Wednesday 28th March-9am Mass only.
No evening Mass & Novena

The Chrism Mass- St Patrick's Cathedral

Wednesday 28th March -7.30pm

Holy Thursday 29th March- *No Morning Mass*

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper- 7.00pm

Friday of the Passion of the Lord - Good Friday

Stations of the Cross -10am

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord-3pm

Holy Saturday 31 March *No Morning Mass*

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night-

7pm until approx. 9 pm

Sunday of the Resurrection- 1st April

7.30am, 9am, 10.30am & 6pm Masses



Holy Week

Teaching & Learning

Room on the Broom

Iggety, Ziggety, Zaggety, ZOOM!

The witch and her cat came out from the dark, spooky forest.

On Friday, March 29th the Infants Team presented their own production of 'Room on the Broom' for the Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students. The staff used black fabric to create a stage scene in the Year 1 classrooms and dressed up as the different characters from the story.



Here are some responses from the students:

George KY - I liked the part when the bird came down from the sky.

Helaina 2B - I liked the part when the dragon came out from the spooky forest.

Emily KB - I loved when the cat fell down with the witch.



Jason 2R - I loved the part when the wind made the witches hat fly off.

Zayne 1Y - I really enjoyed the part when the broom snapped in half because they were too heavy.

Louna 1R - I really enjoyed the part when the dragon scared the witch.

William KR - I thought that the part when the frog came leaping out was amazing.



Thank you to all the staff that acted the book out and to the staff that organised the production, it was a great success!

By: Yasmine Abraham and Joseph Doueithi Media Team



Personal Growth

Monday Morning Assembly

At our Monday morning assembly we congratulated the students selected to be Library Monitors and part of the Media Team from Year 5. We also offered our thanks to the Media Team and Library Monitors for all their help so far this year.



Mr Mills explained that we hope to have the hall finished just before the term ends and we look forward to using the new COLA during Term 2.

The students and community of StMM's would also like to say thank you to all the parents who came on Friday to help clean the Harmony Day display off the LARC windows.

This week, Year 3 are going on an excursion to Sydney Tower on Thursday and Year 1 are going on an excursion to the Seymour Centre to watch 'Room on the Broom'. We hope they have a great time and learn lots of new vocabulary during their big day out!

By: Yasmine Abraham Media Team



Personal Growth

NSWCPS Championships

On Wednesday, 27th March Summer Shrestha, Nevah Shrestha, Isabella Blandon Cano and Mikayla Gadd represented St Margaret Mary's and as well as the Parramatta Diocese in the New South Wales Catholic Primary Schools Championships. We swam against other catholic schools in the whole of NSW and our achievements were great!

Summer swam in the 50m freestyle coming in the top 10 overall. Summer, Nevah, Isabella and Mikayla swam in the 4x50m freestyle relay coming in the top 15.

Thank you to all the parents who helped on the day by taking us to the competition and also supported us during our races. Thank you Mrs Foley for helping on the day. It was an amazing first time experience especially as a team.

Nevah and Summer Shrestha



By

P&F News

Easter Egg Donation & Mufti Day

On Thursday, 11th April, students are allowed to wear everyday clothes to school. Clothes must be of neat and tidy appearance. In exchange for wearing Mufti clothes they are asked to donate Chocolate Easter Eggs for the P&F Easter Raffle. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday, 11th April, and prizes will be sent home with the children on this day.



Easter Basket/Tray Donations We would like to thank all the parents whom have sent into the office Easter Basket/Tray Donations. We are still in need of Baskets/Trays. All donations need to be sent to the school office by Friday morning at the latest.

Easter Raffle Books Parents could you please ensure your child's name and class is on every ticket sold by your family as it makes distributing prizes easier for the fundraising committee. All sold and unsold raffle tickets need to be returned to the school office by Monday 8th April no later than 9am.

Easter Prize Wrapping Thank you to all the parents whom have volunteered to help us on the day. We will be in the Staff Study from 9am to start the wrapping of the prizes. If you are unable to help but can send in a plate of food or drinks for the helpers it would be much appreciated.

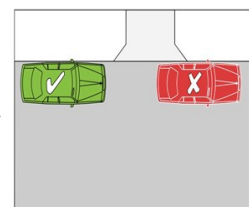
Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school

There have been a number of issues recently during Morning DropOff at our Top Gate in Davies St. Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children and others safer during drop-off and pick-up times during the school week:

- Make sure your children are **fastened** in the correct child car seat for their age and size and that it is fitted correctly.
- Stick to the **40km/h speed limit** in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
- **Always give way** to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Always park and **turn legally** around schools. Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous during busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Drop your children off and pick them up on the **school side** of the road in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area.
- **Never call out** to them from across the road – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- It's safest for children to get out of the car through the **Safety Door**, away from passing traffic. This is the rear footpath side door of the car.

Parking Around St Margaret Mary's

We have worked hard at developing very positive relationships with our neighbours. Car Pickup and Morning Drop off work exceptionally well when everyone is following the instructions.



I am however, concerned with a number of parents who are not parking correctly in the parish carpark or on the streets around our school.



BIRTHDAYS

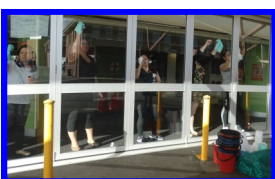
Christian Portelli	Keene Garcia	Yashi Patel
Richard Maj	Jiarong Liu	Jenna Faqirzada
Akur Maduk	Isabel Mazzocco	Jason Zoumpoulas
Charbel Ghasb	Pelagia Yakimov	Roy Khzam
Iris Shi Wang	Leonardo Beos	May Derbas
Jayden Ibrahim	Dia Maria Layous	Sai Medakker
William Bazouni	Jasmine Makdessi	Henry Yang
Alexander Xue	Epaphras Owusu	Isabella Youssef
Hilton Yip	Emanuel Higgins	Anthony Farah
Eanman Lee		

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

Partnership

Parents Working Bee

Last Friday morning, our wonderful parents had their own Working Bee. They had the job of cleaning up all the Harmony Day artworks and the paint on the LARC windows. At the end, the windows were looking spotless, they did such a great job! Perhaps they



even looked better than they did before we put the Harmony Day artwork up! All the ribbon on the orange poles were taken down and put in a box to be used again next time. All of us at St Margaret Mary's would like to say a big

thank you to the parents for all their help at the Working Bee and to everyone who helped out on Harmony Day.

By: Yasmine Abraham and Joseph Doueithi Media Team

