



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 27

Bulletin

Wednesday, 4th September 2019

Diary Dates

Thursday, 5th September

- **Ball Free Day**
- [Infants Sports Carnival 10:30am - 12:15pm.
- Whole School Picnic Lunch 12:20-1:15pm.

Friday, 6th September

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Sunday, 8th September

- Birthday of Blessed Virgin Mary.

Monday, 9th September

- Whole School Assembly and Prayer

Tuesday, 10th September

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Wednesday, 11th September

- Year 5 Debating Team at Delany College.

Ball Free Day

Due to the Infants Sports Carnival
NO Footballs, Basketball, Soccer balls or Handball etc are allowed at school tomorrow 5th September. This will be a BALL FREE DAY.

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,

Moving with the times the following quotes are in a visual format for our community. Feel free to cut your favourite out to place on your fridge or have a dinner discussion.

**A HAPPY FAMILY IS
BUT AN EARLIER HEAVEN.**



**The love of a family
is life's greatest blessings.**

Family
YOUR BIGGEST
SUPPORT SYSTEM

FAMILY:
where life begins
and love never ends.

You are born into your family
and your family is born into you.
No returns. No exchanges.

Everyone needs a
house to live in,
but a supportive family
is what builds a home.


FAMILY:
AN ANCHOR
DURING
ROUGH
WATERS.

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Term 3 School Fees

Term 3 fees are now over due, unless you have opted for an arrangement with the school for the year. If you have any queries regarding your statement please contact the school office.

Please note, one terms notice (10 school weeks) in writing, must be given to the principal/school before the removal of a student or a full terms fee will be payable.

Updating our Information

Having accurate, up-to-date information on our students is an important part of maintaining their safety and wellbeing, and supporting their learning. It also assists schools to make good decisions about how best to support and care for all students.

If any of your contact details have changed including Emergency contacts, please contact the school office to update these changes.

Infants Tabloid Carnival

The Infants Tabloid Carnival will be held on Thursday, 5th of September in the School Playground. Students will be participating in a range of fun activities facilitated by their teachers.

Concluding the Tabloid Carnival parents are invited to join their children for a picnic lunch in the playground. Parents will be able to take students home after lunch.

We invite all parents and friends to come and be a part of this exciting day for the infants students.

Tabloid Start Time: 10:30am

Tabloid Finish Time: 12:15pm

Picnic Lunch: 12:20pm - 1:15pm for K - 6

Picnic Lunch

All parents and friends are invited to join all St Margaret Mary's students for a picnic lunch on Thursday, 5th September from 12:20pm - 1:15pm in the School Playground. Parents are reminded to bring a picnic blanket to sit on and food.



Excursions/Incursions and Representative Sports

It is the policy of StMM's that staff must have the confidence to supervise our students on excursions and incursions (including sporting activities). This enables the staff to look after and care for all students in their care. If the behaviour and/or attitude of any particular student is of concern, the parent/carer will be informed and a process put in place in the hope the student realises the need to address the concerning issues. The principal will make the final decision with regard to the student and attendance.

Electronics & Toys

Students are reminded not to bring electronic devices or other toys to the school. If any of these items are brought to school they will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the term.

School Hours

Parents are reminded that lessons begin at 8:40am and finish at 3:00pm. Children should be at school by 8:30am.

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

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.

Staff Professional Learning Day

Friday, 18th October 2019

This is a Pupil Free Day

Lunches

Teachers and staff are concerned by the number of students who are throwing their lunch in the bin because they do not like what has been packed for them to eat, or they are just not eating their lunch. We have also had a number of students who have come to the office saying they have no lunch.

Parents please speak with your child regarding the waste of food not being eaten. Please ensure your child has lunch and recess has been packed everyday before they leave home.

Student Wellbeing

StMM's endeavours to provide a safe environment where all students' needs are catered for equally without further discrimination and fear. The number of children with food allergies in Australia is increasing and it is estimated that 1 in 20 have a food allergy and 1 in 50 have a peanut allergy. The most common food allergies are peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, almonds, cashews etc) cow's milk, soy, seafood and eggs. The health and wellbeing of students at this school is carefully considered in all activities.

It is important all families are aware that StMM's has a number of students who have a range of Allergies (Some anaphylaxis).

These include, but not limited to the ones listed above with ten students needing an Epi-pen if they come in contact with the trigger allergy.

Allergies: Allergies occur when the immune system produces antibodies against substances in the environment (allergens) that are usually harmless. Once an allergy has developed, exposure to the particular allergen can result in symptoms that vary from mild to life threatening (anaphylaxis).

Anaphylaxis: Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. Although there has been an increase in the number of children diagnosed as at risk of anaphylaxis, deaths are still rare. However, deaths have occurred and anaphylaxis must therefore be regarded as a medical emergency.

Did you know?

- Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires a rapid response.
- A child can have an allergic reaction from simply shaking hands or sharing toys with students who have eaten foods earlier in the day.
- The key to prevention is identifying triggers and preventing exposure to these triggers.
- Adrenaline given through an adrenaline Epi-pen is the first line treatment for anaphylaxis. The Epi-pen is designed so anyone can use it in an emergency.

Tips for Students

- Do not swap food
- Wash hands after eating
- Tell the teacher if you are worried about particular food
- Know which friends have an allergy.

Tips for Parents

- Discourage children from swapping food.
- Check all food labels.
- Inform the school of all allergies.
- Work with the school to make a Health Care Plan.
- Supply an Epi-pen to the school.
- Check Epi-pen expiry date regularly.
- Teach your child about their allergy.

Faith Community

Father's Day Celebrations

On Friday, 30th August, early in the morning we began our celebration of Father's Day with bacon and egg rolls and warm coffee for all the fathers! Students got to enjoy breakfast with their fathers from 7:30am. Then, we began our liturgy led by Kindergarten. Mrs Prendergast read the Gospel and spoke about Jesus and how he loved his father. Kindergarten and Year 5 sang a song about fathers. During the day, each grade was given time to go to the Father's Day stall. We all had to remember to use our manners as

we bought gifts from the mother's and father's running the stall. Thank you to all the fathers, grandfathers, step dads, Godfathers and uncles who came and celebrated Father's Day with us. By: Yasmine Abraham Media Team



Rainbow Serpent

Equipment:

- Rainbow serpent template
- Deck of cards

How to Play:

- Choose two cards.
- Place them on the snake (number line).
- Keep repeating this process keeping in mind all the numbers need to be in order of smallest to largest.



Teaching & Learning

Year 5 Planetarium IncurSION

Did you know that there are more stars in the universe than there are grains of sand on planet earth? Year 5 students have been learning about Earth's Place in Space in Science. To learn more about the topic, the Year 5 teachers and students went to the Planetarium to see how space works and what it looks like. We all went into a dome held up



by air and our instructor showed us how the moon orbits around the earth and how the earth orbits around the sun. We also learnt how the seasons work and how they operate on earth. Year 5 students also saw how you can connect the stars to see constellations and there are stories from the Aboriginal people and the Europeans to explain them. Year 5 students also learnt how to pick out some of the constellations from earth. We also watched a movie about two kids that were exploring space. We were able to lay down and take our shoes off like it was a real movie! Year 5 students also learnt how mercury is really hot during the day but is actually really cold at night and if you put your foot on mercury when it's hot it will melt. Gary the instructor also told us that the planets further away from the sun are always the coldest and they are Uranus and Neptune. The largest planets are Saturn and Jupiter and they are called gas giants. Did you know you could fit 2.5 million earths on one sun? Far far away from the sun is a galaxy, it is called the Milky Way. No it is not the chocolate that we eat.



By: Liam Sarkis and Joanne Farah

Partnership

Year 5's Visit to St Paul's Creative Art Show

3,2,1 action! On Thursday, 29th August, Year 5 went to St Paul's Catholic College Greystanes for the matinee performance of their Creative Arts Show. When it hit 1 o'clock, the show started. The



theme of the show was 'Gone but Not Forgotten' and we saw students from Year 8 to Year 12 perform. Everyone was really amazed when a student in Year 10 played the piano with a blind-fold on! Some of the boys that performed were ex-students of St Margaret Mary's, including an amazing drummer,

Joey Abou Zeid. We enjoyed singing along to the songs and seeing the performances live! It was a great afternoon! By Joseph Doueihy and Talia Moses Media Team



Personal Growth

Monday Morning Assembly

At Assembly on Monday, 2nd September, Yasmine Abraham and Anthony Baani congratulated the winners of the quiz question that was displayed on the big screen last week. The winners in infants were Sena Pauls from KB and Joshua Clark from 2Y. The winners from primary were Wendy Asante from 6Y and Sarah Daoud from 6Y. Miss Essey also congratulated the winners of the maths competition. The two winners from infants were Luke Zhang and Ethan Muscat. The two primary winners were Lucas Chang and Coby Kasparian. Miss Fardella announced that on Thursday, infants would be having their Tabloid Carnival. All parents are welcome to come and encourage their kids from



10:30am. The picnic lunch Prendergast and Mrs Attard gave out black Mini Vinnies beanies to the students that participated in the Winter Sleepout.

By Keisha Manalansan and Rhos Shi Wang Media Team



will begin at 12:20pm. Lastly, Mrs

Stage Three Netball Gala Day

Swish! The netball hits the net, excitement hits our faces... GOAL! On Wednesday, 28th August, selected students from Year 5 and Year 6 went to Jamison Park, Penrith to represent our school at the Netball Gala day.



parent cheer squad! We all had a blast playing for our school!!

The girls team won 5 games and the boys team lost 1 game! Thank you for all the teachers who helped train us and supported us on this day as well as our par-



BIRTHDAYS



Julian Balkitis	Thomas Fisher	Joyce Sangi
Garang Deng	Deng Deng	Christos Gavrilos
Giselle Jammal	Klara Simic	Christian Greco
Marcus Greco	Madison Mose	Jordan Nakhoul
Charli Baini	Marcel Baini	Dareen Joka
Alexander Fares	Rebecca Saba	Achol Aleu
Sienna Gil	Cindy Gao	Isabel Cinello

Congratulations to all those children who celebrated their birthday around this time.

Partnership

StMM's School Fun Run

We're excited to be participating in the *School Fun-Run* again this year! Our *School Fun-Run* will be on **Thursday 17th October, Week 1, Term 4.**



Next week students will bring home sponsorship forms and a parent letter. Once you have the form, jump online at schoolfundraising.com.au and create a student profile page. Once you do this and raise at least \$1 online, you will be entered into the \$20,000 Ultimate Family Experience!

Students who raise \$10 or more will receive a reward, and the more money you raise the better the reward, and the more you help the school!

The *School Fun-Run* is a healthy fundraiser. The event sends a message to students about having fun while being healthy, all while helping the school raise funds.

If you have any questions please contact the *School Fun-Run Office on 1800 FUN RUN.*

From the Bishops Office

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 29th September. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'Making it Real: Genuine human encounter in our digital world'. It shares Pope Francis' challenge to us to 'boldly become citizens of the digital world'. It points out that we are called not just to be inhabitants of this world, but active citizens shaping it.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Office for Social Justice website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02)8306 3499. Order the Statement online at: bit.ly/socialjusticeshop Follow us on Facebook: @socialjusticeACBC or Twitter: @JusticeCatholic.

