



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 32

Bulletin

Wednesday, 23rd October 2019

Diary Dates

Thursday, 24th October

- Dance Fever Multisport.

Friday, 25th October

- World Teachers Day.

Monday, 28th October

- Whole School Assembly and Prayer.

Tuesday, 29th October

- Invitational Swimming Carnival for Students in Yrs 2-5.
- Yr 5 Students attending Swimming Carnival as Spectators.

Wednesday, 30th October

- K2020 Parent Information Evening at 6pm in the hall.

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2020, 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.

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 **SMPM**.



Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Boys & Girls,

October is special for Catholics as it is the month we dedicate to Mary. The following is a background written by Christopher Castagnoli about Mary and the role she played in the journey of our church.

She has a unique role in our history as the Mother of God, conceived without Sin, who by her own free will agreed to bring the "Word made flesh", (John 1:14) our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ into the world. Her life in the Gospel years was one of service and great devotion to Jesus, from Bethlehem where she gave birth to Him, to Calvary in Jerusalem where she stood by His cross during His Crucifixion, from Crib to Cross, as it were.



While she has a somewhat low profile in the Gospels, her words there still ring true with us today and challenge us to follow her example of humility, obedience, and service to God.

We read when she gives her famous assent to becoming Jesus' mother: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word" (Lk 1:38). A short time later she proclaims with joy when visiting Elizabeth, her relative, that "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour" (Lk.1:46-47).

And, last but not least, what are her final words in scripture? "Do whatever he [Jesus] tells you" (John 2:5). (This is her request to the waiters at the Wedding Feast at Cana right before Jesus turns water into wine)

Jesus, as He was dying on the Cross, gave us His mother to be our Mother as well when he entrusted her to St. John's care (Jn 19:26-27) Numerous theologians and Saints have confirmed this.

Mary was conceived and lived a life "full of Grace" (Lk. 1:28). And she wishes very much to share the graces given her by God on our behalf. Pope Pius XII said "Whenever we speak of Mary or speak to her, let us not forget that she is really our Mother, for through her we received divine life. She gave us Jesus himself, the source of grace.

Remember that Mary always seeks to be a bridge not a barrier to Her Divine Son our Lord Jesus Christ! Don't ever feel afraid to approach her in prayer for grace, strength and her intercession to Jesus for your personal intentions!

Mary plays a central role in the life of our Church and our relationship with God. I ask you to reflect on the qualities of Mary and how these can be lived out in your life.

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

School Uniforms

Lowes Merrylands is the preferred supplier of our school uniform and all parents are encouraged to purchase all items from Lowes who will supply the correct uniform. You can now purchase your child's school uniform from Lowes via the link below.

<https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online/st-margaret-mary-s-primary-school-merrylands>

Lowes will soon have the official school logo on the pocket of the boys short sleeve shirt. We will advise you when these will be available.

School Hats

Students are reminded that they must have a school hat. No Hat, No Play.

School hats can be purchased from the school office for \$12.00 each.

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 8:15am. From 8:15am until 8:30am, 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.

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.

Kindergarten 2020

Just a reminder to all parents who have a child starting Kindergarten in 2020. Our Parent Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 30th October at 6pm in the school hall.

School Canteen

Our school canteen has now been operating for two weeks. Parents and students are reminded the canteen is not run by the school. If you wish to order your child's lunch or recess you can order online via the Flexi Schools website or you can order at the canteen before school. The cut off time for all online orders is 9am on the day of the order, however, orders may be placed ahead of time. www.flexischools.com.au

Students can also purchase snacks from the canteen at recess and lunch time.

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 packed everyday before they leave home.

Thank you

Thank you to all the teachers and parents involved in organising our school Colour Fun Run held last Thursday. Everyone had lots of fun and a great day

BOOKCLUB NOTICE

It is preferred that Bookclub orders are placed online. However, if you would like to send your order to school, please ensure the Order Form is completed correctly.

Please have the correct money, **(NO CHANGE will be given)** and Order Forms in a sealed envelope with your Child's name and class, clearly marked.

Where possible, please avoid 20c, 10c, 5c, pieces.

Your Child's Class Teacher will send this envelope to the School Office.

All Orders must be received in the School Office by no later than 9am

Monday 28th October 2019

LATE ORDERS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

Monday Morning Assembly

On Monday, 21st October, Mrs Toma congratulated the people who represented St Margaret Mary's on the last day of Term 3 at the Touch Football Gala Day. Mrs Antonucci reminded us that Dance Fever will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays until week 9.

Also, Year 6 will have their Sustainability Day at Central Gardens on Wednesday this week. Mr Mills also reminded us about the Playground Pointers and that we must remember to play safely around younger students.

By Keisha Manalansan and Rhos Shi Wang Media Team



Teaching & Learning

Dance Fever Multisport

Have you heard the exciting news? St Margaret Mary's students have been given an opportunity to be involved in a fun new program taught by the professional instructors from 'DanceFever Multisport'.

These Instructors will be teaching the students skills associated with keeping their minds and bodies fit; such skills as partnership, concentration, breathing and calming techniques and body movements to improve strength, coordination and spatial awareness. This 40-minute lesson will take place in the school hall from Week 2 to Week 9 on a Wednesday and Thursday.

We are looking forward to experiencing the benefits that 'DanceFever Multisport' will bring into our school community.

2Red Students

2 Red students are to wear their sports uniforms on Wednesday and Fridays for the rest of the term due to DanceFever.

Faith Community

Infants Prayer Service

Last term, on Wednesday 25th September, the infants students and teachers gathered with their families to celebrate a Prayer Service with the theme of "Belonging". The students read some readings and sang hymns with actions

in response to our Prayer Service theme. We shared the story of "Jesus being Baptised by John the Baptist" and learnt that we are all welcome and be a part of God's family. Thank you to all the parents and families who celebrated this special Prayer Service with us.



New Religious Education Curriculum

2019 has been a productive and exciting time for Religious Education as the New Curriculum continues to be developed for implementation within all schools across the Parramatta Diocese. Having the great privilege of being selected as one of the developer schools, Year 1 took part in trialling a draft learning cycle in Term 2, showing

results of improved learning outcomes and student growth. Since then, all teachers have continued to engage in professional learning to develop their understanding of the New Curriculum and the inquiry learning pedagogy which underpins it. This term all grades are taking

part in the trialling process, engaging in teaching and learning experiences based on the draft learning cycles of the New Curriculum.

The focus areas being explored this term are;

- Kindergarten: Jesus was like me
- Year 1: Humanity of Jesus
- Year 2: Humanity of Jesus
- Year 3: Respect and Responsibility
- Year 4: The Holy Spirit
- Year 5: Mission
- Year 6: Ecumenism



This marks a great opportunity for students and teachers alike as they embark on a new learning journey, growing together in knowledge and faith. We will continue to provide updates and strive to keep you informed of the new developments as we move through the trial process. If you would like more information on

the details of the New Curriculum or have any questions, please see Mrs. Attard or Mr. Yearsley.



Personal Growth

Staff vs Students Soccer Game

To celebrate the last day of Term 3, the school gathered under the new COLA to enjoy a staff vs students soccer game! Below are some photos from the afternoon!



Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day



Swish! As I swiftly run past the players on the other team like The Flash, we score a try! Stage 3 students represented StMM's at the Touch Football Gala Day on the 27th September in the last week of Term 3. All the students that attended the



Gala Day displayed great sportsmanship, fairness and most importantly had a lot of fun. We would like to thank the parents who came and supported us on the day. We would also like to say a special thank you to Mr Fakhr and Mr Epenian for coaching us in the lead up to the event and for Mr Russell and Mr Zoumpoulis for



assisting with the coaching on the day. We are grateful for the opportunity to attend these awesome days!

By Jack Bedrossian and Reece Fakhr



BIRTHDAYS



Sarah William
Angelica Langi
Elijah Leibbrandt
Isabella Roach
Anthony Saba
Maxine Kwansah-Aidoo
Juan Londono-Blandon
Sara Luccitti
Rozaly Alashkar
Shalom Cherinet Dorcha

Mitchell Rigby
Luka Stanic
Elena Lin
Mirabelle Medakker
Isabella Patino
Marcus Poumale
Guransh Kaur
Thomas Saleh
Yaak Akoy

Elissa Maghazli
Summer Powell
Nathan Baralla
Claudia Lichaa
Jacob Horish
Monica William
Lisa Shrestha
Aarya Syeed
Nicolas Scale.

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

School Colour Run

On Thursday, 17th October, we had the School Colour Fun Run. All grades participated in this event which commenced at 10:30am and ended with a picnic lunch with our parents. As the students walked around the course, parents that volunteered to help, splashed water on our shirts and sprayed us with the coloured powder. The playground and our clothes were a rainbow of colour by the afternoon! We would like to thank the P&F and Mr Mills for organising this amazing Colour Fun Run.

By Isabella B and Joseph D Media Team



Partnership

ST MARGARET MARY'S MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

(formerly International Food Festival)

WHEN: Saturday, October 26 at approx. 7.15pm (after the 6pm Vigil Mass)

WHERE: Our newly refurbished School/Parish Hall

- All-you-can-eat buffet with delicious food from cultures around the world.
- Entertaining cultural performances throughout the evening

Raffles:

\$5 tickets – 10 draws for prizes including: \$350 voucher from Michelle Portelli Cakes, Our Lady gold pendant, 2 x \$299 Garmin Vivomove HP Smartwatches with warranties, Sanli 4-stroke lawnmower, Tonka Mighty Motorised Vehicle & Big Rig set, 2 x \$100 fashion sunglasses, Easy Home carpet cleaner, Hewlett Packard all-in-one printer, Kodiak boy's 24" bicycle.

\$2 tickets – 20 draws for prizes including 2 x \$99 Garmin Vivofit Jr Smartwatches with warranties, DVD & game player, appliances, homewares, beauty products and much more!

Lucky Door & Lucky Seat prizes

Bottled water, soft drinks, ice creams and barista coffee on sale; tea and coffee by donation

TICKETS: Adults \$15
Children (3-12 years) \$5
Infants (under 3 years) Free

Proceeds go to St Margaret Mary's Parish

