



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Newsletter No 24

Update

Wednesday, 9th September, 2020

Diary Date

Thursday, 10th September

Friday, 11th September
Staff Development Day

This is a student free day

Monday, 14th September

Tuesday, 15th September

Wednesday, 16th September

Drink Bottles

We have made adjustments to our bubblers, so children are able to refill their bottles when needed. It is wonderful to see so many children using their new drink bottles with their names clearly marked.

Lunch Orders & Canteen

The school canteen is open to students during the day. All lunch orders MUST be ordered through the Flexischools online ordering and must be ordered by 9am.

Skoolbag App



Our **School Name** for Skoolbag App is **SMMPM**.

The Skoolbag App is our main source of communication to our families. If you do not have this App on your phone you are missing out on a lot of information.

Principal's Message

Parents and Carers

A number of our classes have been watching webinars from the Australian Government's eSafety Commissioner looking at responsible online behaviour. We are doing this to help your children safely navigate their digital world and educate them to avoid harmful online experiences. Your support and guidance can give your children the confidence to make sound decisions online — and ask for help when they need it. The following information can be found on the eSafety Commissioner's Site.

3 key strategies

- **Be engaged, open and supportive**
- **Set some rules**
- **Use the available technology**

For Children aged 5 to 12, it is important to:

- Keep the computer or device in an area of your home that can be supervised. And check in regularly with your child to see what they are viewing.
- Stay engaged with their online activity. Consider setting up your own accounts with the sites they use most so you can see how they work and understand the risks.
- Explore the online world with them to help establish that this is not just a solitary activity. Play games and do a creative project together.
- **Think about social media readiness. Most social media sites require users to be at least 13 years of age before they can register.**
- Encourage respect and empathy. Teach them to avoid sharing or posting things that may upset others and start building resilience. Teach your child that there are ways they can deal with material that worries or frightens them. **This includes immediately telling you of any concerns or uncomfortable material.**

Review your rules as your child grows older

- Be clear about how much time they can spend online, the apps they can use, the websites they can visit and what they can share or post online.

Technology tips for parents

- Ensure your own devices are protected by a password or pin, so your child cannot accidentally come across inappropriate content. If you are thinking about giving them their own tablet or smartphone, check out are they old enough?
- Use parental control tools appropriate for the age and experience of your child. Be upfront about this and get your child on board. Let them know that these can be reviewed and changed as they get older and they continue to demonstrate responsible behaviour. Consider installing a 'child-friendly' search engine that will allow them to explore a limited number of sites.

A simple rule for StMM's students is: Parents are to have access to all the student's online activity and there is no reason why a child's password is not shared with a parent.

Take care & keep safe.

Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Staff Professional Learning Day

Friday 11th September

*This is a student free day
(No students attend school on this day)*

Parent/Teacher Interviews.

Teachers are contacting parents over the next couple of weeks for phone interviews regarding their child. Teachers will be calling either before school, after school or during their breaks. Please note, if you miss the phone call, the teachers will try to contact you again.

Activity Fees and Overnight Excursions 2020

Dear Parents, more information will be provided in term 4 with regards to grade activity fees and overnight excursions.

School Uniforms

Due to the unseasonable and changeable weather over the next 3 weeks, children can choose to wear either their full summer uniform or full winter until the end of term. Children will still wear their sports uniforms on their respective sports days.

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly, including the correct **socks**. Our Sun Safe program—No Hat No Play requires students to wear our school cap or school hat when outside. These hats and caps are available to purchase at the school office.

COVID-19 Information

Sick Leave & Documentation

We ask all our families to follow the guidelines below as we value the well-being and health of the St Margaret Mary's Community.

- Currently, no student should attend school if they are unwell (Doctor's Certificate).
- Each student who is absent from school or who has been sent home because they have flu-like symptoms, need to see a doctor or must have a COVID-19 test.
- A negative COVID-19 test result must be provided to the school before a student can come back to school. The notification can be a NSW Health or COVID-19 Testing Centre letter, SMS or email and / or a medical certificate.
- Students are not able to return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free.

Faith Community

Year 3 Prayers of Intercession

Dear God,
Please help all the people who are sad, sick and homeless.
Please help with Covid-19 and other people who are in hospital.
Please help the poor people who live on the streets and don't have food.
Help the sad people who might have lost a person they loved.
I love you.
Amen

By: Emily N

Dear God,
The world is in a difficult situation at this time.
Please keep everyone safe and healthy.
Make the world strong so they can defend themselves against the coronavirus.
Please make Covid-19 go away so that the world can live in peace and go back to the way they lived before.
Bless everyone and make them strong.
Amen

By: Ameerah

Dear Lord,
Please make Earth a safe place with happiness.
Let the sun shine on our way and let us see Your beautiful creation.
Also let us enjoy Your creation that You have made and let the animals from the bushfires not become extinct.
Amen

By: Ryan L

