



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

7 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands 2160 Tel (02) 8633 8400

Email: stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Wednesday, 1st February

Update

2023 Term 1, Week 2

Dear Parent/Carers, Boys and Girls

Welcome back to a new school year. This update is full of information for parents and students.

Important Information For 2023

Administration

School Hours

Parents are reminded that school commences at 8:40am and finishes at 3:00pm. It is important that students are here by 8:30am to begin classes at 8:40am. There is no supervision in the mornings before the 8:15am bell.

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.

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.

Updating Parent Information

It is important for parents to ensure all information and contact details are up to date.

Please notify the school office via email if you have moved house or changed your contact number. It is also important to update your emergency contacts.

Who can I go home with?

If the occasion arises that you are unable to pick up your child/ren from school, please contact the school office advising who will be picking up your child/ren. Also a letter advising your child/rens class teacher if you know in advance as to who will be picking up your child.

StMM's School Contact

In the case of a genuine emergency or have any questions please phone the school office on 8633 8400. If you wish to contact a staff member, please do so via the school office. Contact with the office may also be via the school's email address:

stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au.

Photo Permission

From time-to-time photos and/or video footage of your child will be taken at school and school events. These photos and video footage may be used in the school newsletter, diocesan newsletter, in newspapers, brochures, advertising, websites or in publications.

If you do not wish for photos or videos of your child to be published or shown on the website please notify the school office in writing by Friday, 10th February 2023.



Administration

School Uniforms

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles appropriate to their age and school expectations. Long hair must be tied back. Our Sun Safe programs require students to wear our school cap or hat when outside. No Hat No Play. These hats and caps are available at the school office. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Simple signet rings may also be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at school.

Student Medical Information

Allergies

There are a number of children attending our school who have severe allergies to many different foods. This means that if these children come in contact with any food products, they will have a severe allergic reaction. We also ask that you remind your child/ren not to share their lunch or any other food with another child.

Asthma

If your child/ren suffer from asthma or have a medical condition and you have not informed the school office, could you please do so as soon as possible.

For example, if your child suffers from asthma, please supply an updated Asthma Action Plan from your child's doctor.

All medication must be brought to the school office by a parent and a medication form needs to be completed by the parent.

School Newsletter & Update

For all our new families, especially our Kindy families, the school 'Bulletin' is printed every second Wednesday which is a four page newsletter and sent home with the eldest child. The 'Update' is a small newsletter which is only uploaded onto Compass & the school Website.

Crunch and Sip

Just a reminder that Crunch and Sip is a break during class when students can refuel on fruit or vegetables and rehydrate on water. The break assists students with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom.



Reading Diary

Every student at StMM's is expected to read each night and record their efforts in the Reading Diary. Setting aside a time to read each night at home is an excellent routine to establish before students enter high school. If parents feel their child is responsible (Yrs 5 & 6) the student may do the recording and sign off.

Administration

Codes of Conduct

At our school we have three Codes of Conduct for our students. In our behaviour management policy we show the following:

"The whole school community of St Margaret Mary's continues to provide an environment that enhances our Christian values and embraces the diversity of people and cultures. The members contribute to ensure that each individual receives their basic needs of Love, Belonging, Importance, Freedom and Fun. This is achieved by members knowing they have the.....

Right

- to be happy and feel safe
- to learn
- to be respected

and the Responsibility

- to allow others to feel happy and safe
- to allow learning to occur
- to show respect for everyone.

Therefore, the school maintains a Code of Conduct that states:

- Everyone has the right to Teach and Learn
- Everyone has the right to feel Valued and Respected
- Everyone has the right to feel Safe and Secure.

We ask that you speak with your children about our three Codes of Conduct. We have high expectations that our students will be consistent with their behaviour and learning.

Teaching & Learning

Requirement List for 2023

PRIMARY Years 3 – 6	
Stationery	Other
✓ Pens (Blue & Red) ✓ (Years 4, 5 & 6 only)	✓ Headphones
✓ Pencils x 4 (HB)	✓ Small Whiteboard
✓ Packet of Colouring Pencils or Packet of Twistable Crayons	✓ Library Bag
✓ Sharpener	✓ Box of Tissues x 2
✓ Eraser	✓ Pump Soap x 1
✓ Ruler	✓ Packet of Bay Wipes x 1
✓ Scissors	
✓ Glue Stick	
✓ Packet of Whiteboard Markers	
✓ Highlighters	
INFANTS Kinder – Year 2	
Other	
✓ Headphones	
✓ Box of Tissues x 2	
✓ Packet of baby wipes x 2	
✓ Library Bag	
<i>Items may need to be restocked through the year.</i>	

Important Dates for Term 1 2023

Friday, 3 rd February	Kindergarten Commence at 8:40am – 2:30pm
Monday, 6 th February	Kindergarten 8:40am – 2:30pm for the whole week.
Monday, 13 th February	Kindergarten will finish at 3pm from this day onwards.
Wednesday, 15 th February	P&F Annual General Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm
Friday, 17 th February	StMM's Opening Whole School Mass and Commissioning of the 2023 School Leaders at 9am.
Wednesday, 1 st March	Ash Wednesday
Friday, 3 rd March	Whole School Photo's
Monday, 6 th March	Beginning of Catholic School Week
Tuesday, 7 th March	Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival at Mt Druitt for Selected Students
Thursday, 9 th March	Yr 3-6 School Cross Country at StMM's
Tuesday, 14 th March	Diocesan Swimming Carnival at Blacktown Pool for Selected Students
Wednesday, 15 th March – Tuesday, 28 th March	NAPLAN Testing for Years Three and Five
Friday, 17 th March	St Patricks Day
Saturday, 25 th March	Annunciation
Thursday, 6 th April	Holy Thursday School Closes at 3pm for Term 1
Friday, 7 th April	Good Friday
Sunday, 9 th April	Easter Sunday
Monday, 24 th April	School Resumes for Term 2

Sports Days

Children are required to wear their sports uniforms on their allocated days. Correct sports uniform must be worn along with appropriate shoes. Hats must be worn at all times when outside.

Kinder	Tuesday and Thursday
Year One	Tuesday and Friday
Year Two	Wednesday and Friday
Year Three	Thursday and Friday
Year Four	Wednesday and Friday
Year Five	Tuesday and Friday
Year Six	Monday and Friday

Teaching & Learning

St Margaret Mary's 2023 Staff List

The Executive Team

Principal	Kevin Mills
Assistant Principal	Rochelle Borg
Religious Education Co-ordinator	TBA
Instructional Leader	Sue Yanz
Literacy Leader	Diane Antonucci
Numeracy Leader	Melissa Fardella
JigSaw Leader	Francine Attard
IT Leader	Daniel Maunick
IT Trainee	Diederik Lubbers
The Office Staff	Maria Pagano Annmaree McGuirk Domenica Yenco Simone Dore Bernadette Alexander
Librarian	Michele Balogh-Caristo
Diversity Team	Nicole Ashe Jacinta Iau Sue Yanz Georgette Attard Karen El-Zakhem Maxine Allen Michele Balogh-Caristo Marina Toma Jill Tate Sophie Ryan Lyn Burton Carol-Ann Essey
Guided Discovery Team	Mary Chetty Nancy Gaid Belinda Martino
Teachers Aides	Paulette Albertin Haifa Rizk Michelyn Wehbe Suzie Kassis Sonia Banzato
School Counsellor	Brian Melocco Caitlin Grainger
School Maintenance	Paul Bartolo Joe Culican
Cleaner	Annette Zeaiter

The Teaching Team

Kindergarten Teaching Team

KBlue	Timothy Greaney
KRed	Marie Debes / Jacinta Iau (F)
KYellow	Melissa Hanna
Diversity	Jacinta Iau

Year One Teaching Team

1Blue	Isobel Reed
1Red	Melissa Fardella / Rawa Simhairi (W)
1Yellow	Sarah Madeline
Diversity	Maxine Allen

Year Two Teaching Team

2Blue	Anna Tan
2Red	Melina James
2Yellow	Diane Antonucci / Pina Amond (F)
Diversity	Marina Toma

Year Three Teaching Team

3Blue	Cara Daoud
3Red	Helen Golack
3Yellow	Amanda Mekdessi
Diversity	Georgette Attard

Year Four Teaching Team

4Blue	Jessica Azar
4Red	Kellie Foley / Carol-Ann Essey (F)
4Yellow	Emma Downing
Diversity	Karen El-Zakhem

Year Five Teaching Team

5Blue	Vanessa Del Monte
5Red	Francine Attard / Rawa Simhairi (Th)
5Yellow	Chris Tenido
Diversity	Lyn Burton

Year Six Teaching Team

6Blue	Nancy Kubti
6Red	Daniel Maunick
6Yellow	Pauline McFarlane
Diversity	Nicole Ashe



Teaching & Learning

Our Four Pillars of Learning

The Four Pillars of StMM's are directly linked to our Award system. Mr Mills holds a Principal's Morning Tea with students who have received an award for each Pillar and thus a Principal's Award. These morning tea's are held once a term.

Faith Community

At St Margaret Mary's School we believe our Faith Community encourages us to live our Catholic Faith. We practise our faith by participating in Liturgies, prayer and lessons. We want to follow our School Motto "Love the Truth" by listening, sharing and acting on the words of God.

Teaching & Learning

At St Margaret Mary's School we believe Teaching and Learning is working to the best of our ability in all Key Learning Areas. We work with other students, teachers and staff to ensure quality work together, listening, sharing and helping others at all times.

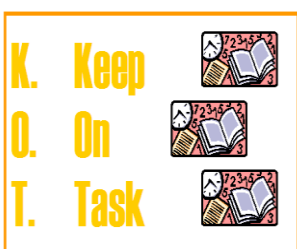
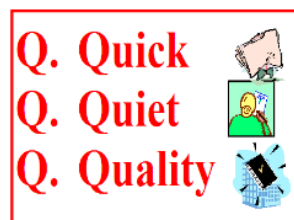
Partnership

St Margaret Mary's School we believe that Partnership is communication, interacting and co-operating with others. Partnership is having a connection with others to have a go, it is agreeing on an idea and completing it together.

Personal Growth

At St Margaret Mary's School we believe Personal Growth allows us to set our individual goals and strive to achieve them. We use our gifts and talents when working towards our goals in the areas learning and attitude. We want to show respect and be more like Jesus.

Our Four Pointers of Learning



Personal Growth

Student Leaders for 2023

Congratulations to the following students on achieving their new positions. We look forward to their enhanced participation and representation in our school community in 2023.

School Captain

Bridget Langi
Charlie Bedrossian

Vice Captains

Catherine Saouma
Ethan Muscat

Faith Community Pillar Leaders

Cristina Tran
Anthony El Ghoussian

Teaching & Learning Pillar Leaders

Jason Lou
Sarah Chang

Personal Growth Pillar Leaders

Acheel Majock
Daniel Kassis

Partnership Pillar Leaders

Rose Tahan
Jacob Nguyen

JigSaw Leaders

Ysobelle Jara
Raymond Hayek

IT Leaders

Benzeng Chen
Zara Yazbeck
Joshua Clark
Lucas Fisher
Mikaelo Lorenzo Santos
Kayla Mifsud

Tosi

Jasmine Mekdessi
Alexander Khoury

Maur

Anaseini Mataele
Christian Nakhoul

Kostka

Chanelle Hauchab
Ruby Shrestha

McGovern

Jayda Saahene
Jessica Halteh

Our Four Pointer of the Playground



Partnership

Parking

Parents, there is no parking before or after school (between signs) in Henson Street and Davies Street. These are drop-off and Car pick up only. When driving around the school, please obey all road rules especially No U-turns in the school zone and No Parking across the neighbours driveways.

Parish Car Park

The parish car park is for parishioners who attend weekday masses. The parking spaces at the church end of the car park are for parish office staff and parishioners, this includes the disable spots near the parish office.

Canteen – Update Flexi-schools

Parents are reminded to update your child's class on the Flexi Schools app before ordering lunches. This will ensure that lunches are delivered to the correct class in time for lunch.

Lowes Uniforms

Lowes will be re-locating to an exciting new retail store in Parramatta Westfield. Unfortunately, in co-ordinating the move, we have been instructed to vacate our current premises early. Consequently, our Parramatta store will be closed on **Friday 3rd February** and at this stage the new store won't be available for about 12 weeks. The last day of trade will be **Thursday 2nd February**.

Uniforms are readily available online and from 6th February will be at Lowes Fairfield, 54 Smart Street Neeta City Shopping Centre, Shop G44, Fairfield NSW 2165.

We sincerely apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause, with the hope that the bright new retail store with more space in Parramatta will provide some recompense.



StMM's Car Drop Off & Pick Up

10 STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL DROP OFF

1. All children should be ready for their school day before you reach the drop – off zone.
2. If your child is not ready to get out of your car please do not enter the drop – off zone.
3. If you have a child that had a meltdown en route to school please pull over somewhere private and address the issue.
4. In the interest of public safety do not attempt the double play of talking on your phone and driving while negotiating school drop off.
5. Do not get out of your car.
6. If your child is carrying a large backpack plus equipment, please make arrangements to help them unload from the safety of the Parish car park.
7. If you are in a hurry don't honk your horn or attempt to squeeze into a line opening.
8. If your child's teacher is on duty please resist the urge to speak about your child.
9. Never, ever park in the drop off line.
10. Remain calm and patient at all times.

In review, the perfect drop off scenario should be as follows..

1. Kids are dressed
2. Backpacks are ready on the seat
3. Approach the drop off zone fully alert
4. Hands on steering wheel
5. Eyes forward when it's your turn for car unloading
6. You initiate the "bye bye, have a great day" sequence
7. Children unload swiftly and with all of their belongings
8. Ease away from the curb
9. Drive away from the school
10. Drive away slowly taking the safety of our children into consideration



Practices for Afternoon Car Pick Up

We have been informed by police & the Parking Patrol Officers of the Holroyd Area that we only have control of the StMM's school block on Henson Street. This means the following:

- The only dedicated Car Pick-Up queue is the length of the school block in Henson Street
- Joining this queue must be done following all road and traffic rules including signage
- Parents/Carers are now able to join the Car Pick-up queue via Davies Street & Henson Street
- Parents/Carers are to ensure they give way correctly taking into account all signs & road rules
- Cars that are lined up across from the school block in Henson Street will be booked. The police view this as double parking
-

Aspect to follow for Car Pick-Up

- Have your number visible for the teacher to call
- **Remain calm and patient at all times**
- Adults to remain in cars
- **Follow all road rules**



Breakfast

Yoghurt & Muesli **\$3.00**
Cereal with Skim Milk **\$3.00**
Raisin Toast **\$2.50**
Toast with Spread From **\$1.50**
Toasted Sandwiches From **\$2.50**
Banana Bread **\$2.50**

Fresh Salad Box

Greek Salad Reg **\$3.50** Lrg **\$5.50**
Chicken Caesar Salad Reg **\$4.50** Lrg **\$6.50**
Tuna Salad Reg **\$4.00** Lrg **\$6.00**
Pasta Salad Reg **\$3.50** Lrg **\$5.50**
Seasonal Fruit Salad Reg **\$3.50** Lrg **\$5.50**
Tub of Watermelon Reg **\$3.00** Lrg **\$4.50**

Hot Food

All foods are grilled or oven baked (No frying)

Baked Vegetable Spring Rolls **\$4.50**
Chicken Breast Nuggets **\$4.50**
Grilled lean Cheese Burger **\$5.50**
Chicken Burger **\$5.50**
Lean Meat Pie **\$4.50** Potato Pie **\$5.00**
Lean Hotdog **\$4.00** add Cheese **\$4.50**
Baked Potato Wedges **\$4.50**
Spinach and Feta Roll **\$5.00**
Macaroni and Cheese **\$5.50**
Pizza Wraps (Cheese/BBQ/Meat) **\$5.50**
Lean Sausage Roll **\$4.50**
Beef or Vegetarian Lasagna **\$5.50**

Snacks

Garlic Bread 4 inch **\$3.00**
Baked Hash Brown **\$2.00**
Want Want Rice Snacks 2 for **0.50c**
Carrot or Cucumber Sticks with Hommus **\$1.50**
Home made pizza slice **\$1.50**
Baked Potato Chip cup **\$2.00**
Noodle Cup **\$2.00**
Cheese and Crackers **\$1.50**
Pretzel Cup **\$1.50**
Sugar Free Jelly **\$1.50**
Custard & Jelly **\$2.00**
Mini Pie/Sausage Roll **\$2.00**
Canteen Approved Chips from **\$2.00**
Pauls Choc Yogo **\$2.00**
Fresh Fruit Pieces **\$1.00**
Low Fat Muffins **\$2.50**

Many more healthy snacks available on counter starting from .50c

PRIMARY SCHOOL MENU

St Margret Margaret

Mary's Primary

Sandwiches/Wraps

Cheese and Tomato **\$3.00**
Vegemite or Jam Sandwich **\$2.50**
Cheese & Salad Sandwich **\$4.50**
Chicken breast Sandwich **\$4.50**
Ham/Cheese/Tom **\$4.50**
Ham/Cheese **\$4.00**
Tuna sandwich **\$4.50**
Falafel Wrap **\$5.50**
Chicken Salad Wrap **\$6.00**
Kafta (lamb Mince) Wrap **\$6.50**
Ham Salad Wrap **\$6.00**
Tuna Salad Wrap **\$6.00**
Cheese Salad Wrap **\$6.00**

Extra toppings 0.50c

Gluten Free, Bread roll or Lebanese bread \$1.00

Alternating Daily Specials

Check the daily special board or Flexi schools

Butter Chicken with Rice **\$5.00**
Pasta Bake (Chicken/Tuna/Vegetarian) **\$5.00**
2 Kafta patties, Hommus and Leb bread **\$5.00**
Beef Nachos with Cheese **\$5.50**
Sushi Chicken or Tuna **\$5.00**
Spaghetti Bolognaise **\$5.00**
Homemade Pumpkin Soup **\$5.00**
Spaghetti Napolitana **\$5.00**
Baked Fish Cocktails with Salad **\$5.50**

Frozen Treat/Drinks

100% Orange Frozen Juice Cup **\$2.00**
Ice Block **\$1.50**
Icely Mony **\$2.00**
Billabong ice cream **\$3.00**
Icely Poles **\$2.50**
99% Fruit Juice Slushie **\$2.50**
Spring Water 600mls **\$2.50**
100% Juice (Apple/Orange) **\$2.50**
Chill J flavoured water **\$3.20**
Flavoured Milk 300ml **\$3.50** Plain **\$2.50**

St Margaret Mary's School Canteen

St Margaret Mary's School Canteen is run by a private company.

All lunch orders must be ordered via the "Flexi-Schools" ordering system by 9am each morning. Details of how to order via Flexi-Schools are listed below. A canteen price list is available on flexischool.

How to register for Flexi-Schools

- Either go to the App Store and search flexischools – it is free to download or log in via your computer www.flexischools.com.au and register



Parents ▾ Schools & Suppliers ▾ My Account Register Q

Connecting School Life

The only app that combines school communications, online ordering and payments in one easy location

Download the app

Order now



The registration form is titled 'flexischools Simplify your day'. It contains the following elements: a registration instruction, two email input fields, a 'Register' button, and a 'Forgot your details?' link.

flexischools
Simplify your day

Enter your email address below and click Register. We will then send you an email to complete the registration process.

Email Address

Confirm Email Address

Register

Forgot your details? >

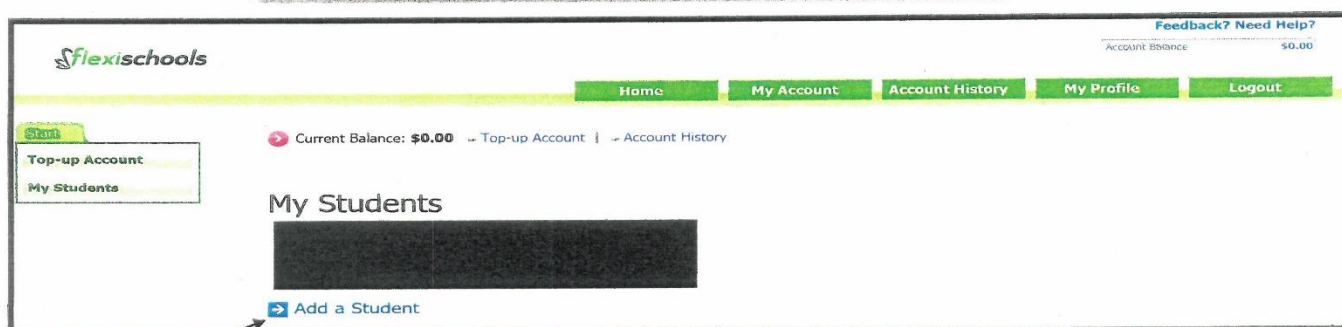
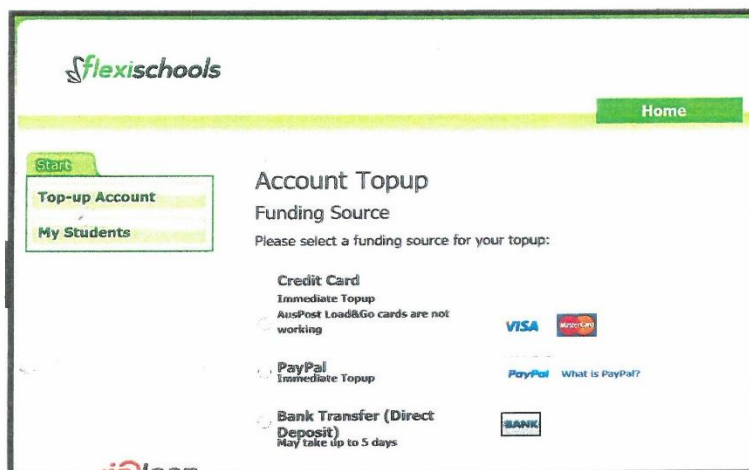
How do I register for a Flexischools account?

You can register by following these steps:

- You can access the service at by clicking the "Register Now" button below
- Submit your email address to create an account.
- Go to your Inbox and open the registration email from Flexischools.
- Click on the link provided (or copy and paste the link in a new internet browser window).
- Follow the registration process, creating a password and completing your personal details.
- Add users to your account. This could be your students or yourself if you are a staff member, Alumni or friend of the school.

Helpful Hints: If you have a Senior Student and you would like them to be able to login to see their balance or place online orders for the canteen, please enter their email address during the setup process and they will be sent a registration email.

Flexi schools will then ask you to set up your students and put some money into your account.



Flexi schools will then ask you to select St Margaret Mary's School and nominate your child/children's class(es).

Once this is done you will be able to make your order.

Ordering is simple and you may order in advance. **Warning: All orders must be in before 9.00am**

We have simplified our ordering process and would like you to login first so we can customise your ordering experience.

To see the services at your school, go to **My Account** or **Order now** to login and access all the services available to your student.

If you don't have an account with us click "**register**"

If you are a friend of the school or guest you can still **register** and add yourself as your student at the school you are ordering at.