



# St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April **Update** 2023 Term 2, Week 1

## Diary Dates

<b>Monday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> May	• Kinder 2024 Interviews Commence
<b>Tuesday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	• Kinder 2024 Interviews continue
<b>Wednesday</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	• Kinder 2024 Interviews continue
<b>Thursday</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> May	• Whole School Athletics Carnival

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

The following are several ANZAC messages, past and present reflecting on the meaning of ANZAC to a range of people. Yesterday was not about a holiday, but rather about a deep belief in the good of people and what we can do as when we are challenged.

*"They need to know. Not to glorify war, but the reason they are free Australians today is because of what happened as part of those stories in different parts of the world," he told the crowd."*

*"It means to me not only to represent our fallen soldiers, but also our present soldiers, and also to usher in a new generation of soldiers as well."*

*"They've done something good for our lives so that we get to do stuff peacefully,"*

*"Tell my people of Australia that to-day I am joining with them in their solemn, tribute to the memory of their heroes who died in Gallipoli. They gave their lives for a supreme cause in gallant comradeship with the rest of my sailors and soldiers who fought and died with them."*

*"We acknowledge those members of our Defence Force who are helping in international efforts, including those deployed to Europe to train Ukrainian soldiers so they can defend their country from an unjust and illegal invasion. A reminder that peace is not something we can nor should take for granted."*

*"Each person who took up arms and took part was a person with family and friends, a history, a community back home they were a part of. They had hopes and dreams – things they had achieved and things they still wanted to do. Many had partners back home waiting for them, many had friends fighting alongside them."*

Our generation and the next are responsible for the carrying of this Australian tradition into the future. In a society that reflects the overuse of social media and suffers from the need for instant gratification, it will be our challenge to maintain the true spirit of the ANZACs.

Take care and God bless,

*Kevin Mills*

Kevin Mills  
Principal



# Administration

## Term 2 Uniforms

We would like to inform you that students will have the option to wear their summer or winter uniform for the first 2 weeks of next term. All students will be expected to be in full winter uniform from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

## Police Message

The Highway Patrol Division of the Police have asked us to reinforce our morning arrival and afternoon dismissal procedures. They are very clear about booking parents and carers who do not follow all the road rules. Please take the time to read and follow in the interest of our community's safety:

### Morning Arrival

#### Arrival Times

- Supervision begins at 8:15am
- Children at school by 8:30am
- Lessons start at 8:40am

**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

### Afternoon Dismissal

1. Top Church Gate.
2. Car Pick-Up - Henson Street (Car numbers are called by staff)

#### Practices for Afternoon Car Pick-Up

- Car Pick-Up commences at 3:00pm
- The only dedicated Car Pick-Up queue is the length of the school block in Henson Street between the Pick-up Signs.
- Joining this queue must be done following all road and traffic rules including signage.
- Parents/Carers are to ensure they give way correctly, taking into account all signs & road rules.
- The Police and Council Rangers will book cars not following the road rules.

### Aspects to follow for Car pick-up

- **Stagger your arrival between 3:00pm and 3:30pm**
- **Have your number visible for the teachers to call**
- **Remain calm and patient at all times**
- **Adults to remain in car**
- **Follow all road rules.**

# Administration

## Kindergarten 2024

**Enrolments are now taking place.** *If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2019, please collect an enrolment form from the school office.*

Emails have been sent out to all families with an interview date and time to all families who have returned forms. For those families who have not received an interview date and time, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

We still have a number of families who have outstanding enrolment forms, please return to the school office immediately.

## Canteen/Lunch Orders

The school canteen is open to students during recess & lunch. All lunch orders **MUST** be ordered through the Flexischools online ordering and must be ordered by 9am. Please ensure that the student's class is correct when ordering on the Flexischool App.

## Lost Property

Please note that we do not have a lost property collection point.

Parents and students are asked to ensure all students belongings are labelled with child's name and class. All lost items handed into the school office with a name will be returned to the child. All lunch boxes and drink bottles with no names that are left on the playground will be placed in the rubbish.

## Letter from CSDP

Please see attached a letter to you from Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, inviting everyone in our local communities to learn more about the Diocesan Synod that will take place in October 2023.

Announced by Bishop Long on 5 March, the Diocesan Synod will gather clergy, consecrated people and the laity across our Diocese to listen, discern, and respond to the Holy Spirit through voices of the People of God in Western Sydney and The Blue Mountains.

To prepare members of the faithful across the Diocese to share their stories, the Synod Committee will be hosting two information sessions via Zoom on Thursday 27 April from 6:30pm to 7:30pm and again on Friday 28 April from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Click [here](#) to register.

More information is available at the dedicated Diocesan Synod website [parracatholic.org/synod2023](http://parracatholic.org/synod2023), in this Catholic Outlook article, and in the following short videos:

[Bishop Vincent's Invitation \(Video\)](#)

[What does 'Synod' mean? \(Video\)](#)

I warmly invite you to participate in this inaugural Diocesan Synod.



## Administration

### Important Dates for Term 2

Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten 2024 Interviews Commence</li> </ul>
Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten 2024 Interviews Continue</li> </ul>
Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten 2024 Interviews Continue</li> </ul>
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whole School Athletics Carnival</li> </ul>
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Students to be in Full Winter Uniform</li> </ul>
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diocesan Cross Country</li> <li>StMM's Choir Visit Cardinal Gilroy Village</li> </ul>
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P&amp;F Mother's Day Wrapping</li> </ul>
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mother's Day Liturgy</li> <li>P&amp;F Mother's Day Stall</li> </ul>
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mother's Day</li> </ul>
Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ascension</li> </ul>
Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pentecost Sunday</li> </ul>
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year Five History Excursion</li> </ul>
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day</li> </ul>
Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holy Trinity Sunday</li> </ul>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year Six Canberra Excursion</li> </ul>
Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whole School Photo Day</li> </ul>
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feast of the Sacred Heart</li> <li>Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day</li> </ul>
Monday, 26 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year Four Excursion</li> </ul>
Wednesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day</li> </ul>
Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Closes for Term 2</li> </ul>
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Resumes for Term 3</li> </ul>

## Faith Community

### ANZAC Ceremony

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April we held an ANZAC Day liturgy to remember and respect the people who fought for Australia. We started the Liturgy by lowering the flag to half mast, after that we had some time to remember the ANZACs while listening to the Bugle calls. Year 6 students led us in a prayer and Mrs McFarlane shared an ANZAC poem. We then sang the National Anthem while lowering the flag back to half mast again.

Lest We Forget  
By: Claire F and Isabel C



### Return to School Assembly





**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen** OFM Conv DD STL  
Bishop of Parramatta

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24 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience as our Synod team has been busily undertaking preparations for the upcoming Synod. The team, led by Qwayne Guevara, is about to finalise a multitude of resources, promotional material as well as confirmation on logistics on the Synod process and the lead-up to the event in October.

As you are aware, this is the first Synod for our Diocese, and I would like to hear from as many people as possible. This means input and support from clergy, consecrated, families, young people, and those on the margins.

The theme that I have chosen for the Synod is Isaiah 43:19 "Behold! I am doing a new thing." These are the words of the prophet Isaiah calling his people to embrace a new future out of the long exile. We too are being called today to embody anew God's transforming power in the world.

My hope is that our Synod gathers the fruits of the Spirit grown in various fields, including the recent Plenary Council, and invigorates us for greater participation, communion, and mission in the life of our local Church.

As Principals, I need your assistance to help make the Synod a success. I personally invite you to organise, lead and encourage your community of teachers, students, and families to participate in a local consultation or create a submission online.

In the coming days, you will have access to resources and information in preparation for submissions opening in May and continuing through to the end of July. The team is here to support you, and I encourage you to get in contact with Qwayne and her team at [synod2023@parracatholic.org](mailto:synod2023@parracatholic.org)

The Synod will be formally convoked on Sunday 28 May 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta on Pentecost Sunday. I invite two representatives from your school to attend.

Below is a brief timeline for you to understand the process up until the Synod event in October and your involvement. Applications to attend the Synod event in October will open in August, and I encourage you to consider creating an application for yourself or encourage someone from your school to apply

I thank you for your time and patience as we embark on a new chapter of listening and discerning what the Holy Spirit is calling our Church to be.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen** OFM Conv.  
Bishop of Parramatta



## TIMELINE

<b>March 2023</b>	Convocation of the Synod Preparatory Commission meets Planning and preparation commence
<b>April 2023</b>	Promotional material finalised and sent to all parishes, schools, agencies, ministries and more. Information and resources disseminated to the above. Clergy lunches with Bishop Vincent commence
<b>1 May 2023</b>	Submissions open online
<b>28 May 2023 Pentecost</b>	Convocation Liturgy at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta
<b>May, June, and July 2023</b>	Gathering of submissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local consultations in schools, parishes, community centres etc.,</li> <li>• Local gatherings</li> <li>• Online submissions</li> </ul>
<b>31 July 2023</b>	Submissions close
<b>August 2023</b>	Synthesise submissions and draft Synod Working Document Synod Membership Applications Open
<b>September 2023</b>	Clergy to provide feedback on draft Synod Working Document Synod Membership finalised
<b>October 12 – 15, 2023</b>	Synod event