



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Wednesday, 26th July 2023 **Update** 2023 Term 3, Week 2

Diary Dates

Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August	• Writers Festival
Monday, 31st July	• P&F Second hand Uniform Sale 9:00am – 9:30am
Thursday 3rd August	• Kindergarten 100 days at school
Thursday 3rd August	• Compass & BCSC Module Assistance for Parents & Carers 8:30am – 9:30am

Principal's Message

OUR BISHOP: Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen

Bishop Vincent Long was born in 1961 in Dong Nai in Vietnam. Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, his family has been dispersed: his mother, brother and sister are in Melbourne, three brothers are in Holland, a sister remains in Vietnam, and Bishop Vincent is now in Parramatta. In 1984, he became a professed Conventual Franciscan friar (OFM Conv) and studied for the priesthood in Melbourne.



After his priestly ordination on 30 December in 1989, he was sent to Rome for further studies and was awarded a licentiate in Christology and Spirituality from the Pontifical Faculty of St Bonaventure. He served as an assistant and then parish priest for seven years in Kellyville within the Diocese of Parramatta and for seven years in Springvale in Victoria before being elected Superior of the Order of Friars Minor Conventuals in Australia in 2005. He served as Assistant General in Rome from 2008 until 2011, responsible for the Asia-Oceania section of his Order.

In 2011, he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne in which role he served for nearly five years. Bishop Vincent is the first Vietnamese born bishop to lead a diocese outside of Vietnam and the first Vietnamese born bishop in Australia. During that period, he was Episcopal Vicar for Justice and Peace and for Social Services and was Chair of the Catholic Education Commission (Victoria).

Nationally, Bishop Vincent is the Chair, Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service. On 5 May 2016, he was appointed the fourth Bishop of Parramatta in succession to Bishop Anthony Fisher OP following his appointment as Archbishop of Sydney in 2014. On 16 June 2016, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv was installed as the fourth Bishop of Parramatta at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta.

Next week we will share our Bishop's coat of Arm and Motto: Duc in Altum 'Go out into the deep'



*26th July Feast of St Anne & St Joachim
the Grandparents of Jesus*

God Bless & Take care,

Kevin Mills

Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Staff Changes and Adjustments

At StMM's we have been able to cover all positions and cope with the staff accessing leave during the first six months of 2023. This leave includes sick, long service, professional learning, and carer's entitlements. During the first four weeks of Term 3 there will be a number of staff accessing their leave. We have locked in a number of excellent teachers in filling these positions as we move forward. As written last term we ask you to be aware that it is extremely difficult to secure staff for schools due to a widespread shortage. We have been blessed to have great teachers and teacher assistants supporting and looking after our students in their learning journey.

Opening of StMM's School Library

What a week for StMM's Library!!!! The most borrowed books from the new shelves since 2018. The children have really enjoyed the return of the books and are treating the new space with great respect, like they are at home. The Infants students have set borrowing time during the school day, while the primary are expected to borrow during lunchtime. Mrs Balogh-Caristo is on duty to support the students with their choice of books.

New Library Monitors

Congratulations to Klara Sh, Shalom C.D and Jennifer H. These are our three new StMM's Library Monitors. These students ensure the space is well organised and help Mrs Balogh-Caristo with the daily operation of the Library. They were presented with their badges at Monday's Assembly in front of all the school.



Teaching & Learning

Naplan 2023

Congratulations to our Year 3 and 5 students who received their Naplan Individual Results earlier this week. This report outlines your child's results from the Naplan Assessments conducted in Week 8 of Term 1. Individual student performance is measured using 4 proficiency levels: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs Additional Support.

Naplan provides teachers, parents and students information relating to a student's strengths and areas of need and enables teachers and students to develop learning goals in literacy and numeracy. If you have any questions relating to your child's Naplan results, please contact your child's teacher via the school office.

Faith Community

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

At next Monday mornings assembly, the Mini Vinnies will be launching the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. We are asking families to donate particular food items that will be used to create snack packs for the homeless. A note will also be sent home with details about the foods we are requesting. Many thanks in advance for your ongoing support and generosity

Personal Growth

StMM's School Clubs / Groups

Last term a number of primary children wrote to Mr Mills seeking to increase the variety of activities during lunchtime. The school has started a Chess Club which will be followed by Art & Craft (A&C) and Origami Groups. As written last week, these activities will be aimed at developing a range of social, educational and intellectual skills while building a sense of community. Such activities will create a vibrant atmosphere where children can connect with others. Mr Mills will be monitoring the growth of the groups at StMM's

Personal Growth

Monday Morning Assembly

On Monday 24th July, Mr Mills hosted the morning assembly. He started off with a uniform check to make sure students were wearing the correct uniform. The Colour Captains and Mrs Foley presented participation awards to the Stage 3 and Stage 2 Boys and Girls soccer teams. Mrs Balogh-Caristo presented badges to three Year Five girls who are now 'Library Monitors'. We then finished the assembly with the National Anthem. *By: Iris S.W & Klara Sh.*



Selection to Represent StMM's

Following our guideline of ARM is a key to be selected to represent StMM's at an event outside the school. We have in the past declined students the privilege of representing StMM's due to their inability to live out these guidelines. This may include excursions and incursions.

Our Guidelines:

- **Attitude:** you must choose and bring a positive attitude to the event.
- **Respect:** you must show respect to all individuals: staff referees, competitors, teammates.
- **Manners:** you must always use your manners: at school, travelling, during the competition.

Partnership

Important dates for P&F Term 3

Event	Date	Time
	Term 3	
2nd Hand Uniform Sale	Monday 31 st July Week 3	9am-9:30am
2nd Hand Uniform Sale	Monday 21 st August Week 6	9am-9:30am
Father's Day Gift Wrapping	Thursday 31 st August Week 7	All Day
Father's Day Stall	Friday 1 st September Week 7	All Day
2nd Hand Uniform Sale	Monday 11 th September Week 9	9am-9:30am

All parents/carers that wish to volunteer and assist the P&F in any activities, must complete the CSPD Building Child Safe Communities online undertaking form and training module for volunteers. Please do so as soon as possible.

This can be accessed via www.parra.catholic.edu.au

1. Hover your cursor over 'About'
2. Click on 'Student Safety'
3. Scroll down & Click on 'Go to Volunteer and Contractor Training'
4. Scroll down & Click on 'Start Now'
5. Click on 'Begin Undertaking'
6. When you get to screen 5 - only click on/highlight
'I am a parent or close relative of a child at all of the selected location(s)'

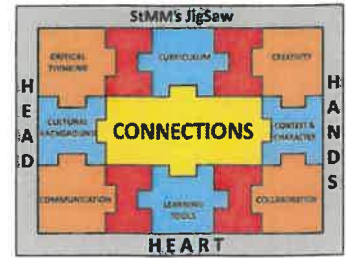
Once your form has been "Submitted", the system will generate an automated email to confirm and approve the status of your submission within 24 hours. All Volunteers need a BCSC status that is **Approved** to provide services to our school.

Please forward this approval email to the school stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au

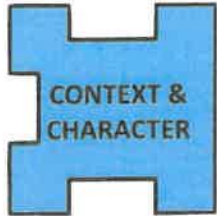
- Thursday 3rd August from 8:30am to 9:30am Mrs Yenco & our IT Trainee Kenan will be in the LARC to assist parents & carers with accessing Compass & completing the BCSC modules.

JigSaw Corner

StMM's JigSaw Pedagogy



The Blue Pieces



Context at St Margaret Mary's is the environment, community and the times in which we live, that influences how we interact with others.

Character at St Margaret Mary's is our personal and unique traits that grow and emerge through our lived experiences and learning journey.

Context and Character are visible in our faith community where everyone is welcomed and respected. It is shown in our empathy, resilience and adaptability to prepare learners for challenges in our constantly changing world.



Cultural Background at St Margaret Mary's is our unique identity. It is shaped by our Catholic faith and acknowledges our history, our traditions and our multicultural community. It gives our school personality, passion and purpose.

It is visible in the way we connect and communicate within our faith community and society. Our Cultural Background influences our expectations, Whole School Practice and shared values.

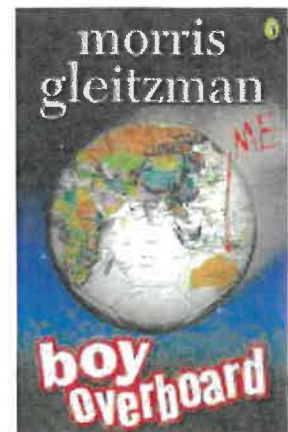
Using Context and Character and Cultural Background in Year 6

In Year Six, the students are constantly making connections to all parts of JigSaw. Particular focus during English lessons have been in the JigSaw areas of Context and Character and Cultural Background when reading the novel 'Boy Overboard' by Morris Gleitzman. Students have been reflecting on the themes of refugees, St Margaret Mary's multicultural diversity, events happening in the world at the moment and connecting to their own experiences or family experiences.

*We learn to show empathy for others through discussion and a focus on these blue pieces of JigSaw

*Learning about our own personal stories and connections, having family members come to Australia as refugees has reinforced our understanding of Cultural Background

*The novel 'Boy Overboard' is such an important Learning tool that has so much Context in the world today because refugees are still forced to leave their homeland, even though this book was written 20 years ago. The crisis between Russia and Ukraine makes it still such a current issue.





Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese

25 July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we welcome students and staff back to school for Term 3, I am writing to thank you for your strong support of Catholic education and pursuit of academic excellence. Faithful to Sacred Scripture and Tradition, Catholic Teaching and Values, our 80 schools are deeply committed to supporting children and young people to grow in faith, learning and wellbeing.

In Religious Education, our schools are using *Sharing Our Story*, a Religious Education Curriculum that has been used for more than twenty years. In all subject areas, Catholic schools offer an education completely consistent with the teaching of the Church on the dignity of all aspects of the human person. We also appreciate the need to provide age-appropriate learning opportunities.

Our staff are continuing to prepare for the new curriculum being released by the NSW Government through NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). These changes are focused on the way that literacy and numeracy are taught. You can learn more about this [here](#). Our schools also teach the NESA curriculum for Physical Education, Personal Development and Health. Further information about this is available [here](#).

I recently met with the Council of Catholic School Parents to discuss the importance of partnerships between families and schools. Partnerships between parents/carers and schools that are based on trust and mutual respect are vital in supporting each child to achieve their best throughout their school journey.

As a system of low-fee paying Catholic schools, the modest fees that parents and carers can contribute help us to meet costs including wages for our dedicated staff. A reminder that any family experiencing hardship is encouraged to seek support by contacting their school principal for a confidential conversation about these matters.

We really appreciate your involvement in our caring, faith-filled learning communities across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

Yours in Christ

Jack de Groot
Executive Director of Schools
Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese



2023 Non-Government Schools Census collection notice

The Australian Government Department of Education (the department) would like to advise all staff, parents and guardians that it will collect certain information about your school, its staff and student body as part of the 2023 Non-Government School Census collection (the Census).

How and what information is collected for the Census?

Census information is provided to the department by your school legal entity (the approved authority) via the [SchoolsHUB website](#).

The Census provides information about your school and the number and characteristics of the school's staff and student body during a specific reference period. Characteristics collected through the Census include:

- teaching and non-teaching staff
- students' year level and workload
- students' gender and age (as on 1 July 2023)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and students
- students with disability
- students receiving distance education
- boarding and overseas students.

The names of students and staff are not collected, apart from the name, position and contact details of the staff member nominated as the primary contact for the Census.

Census special circumstances applications

Census special circumstances applications may also be made by schools to include a student/s who did not attend during the Census reference period but otherwise meets Census eligibility requirements. Schools will provide the department with information and documents about the student demonstrating their eligibility. The department does not require personal information about a student and asks schools to de-identify any documents before providing them.

Purpose of the Census collection

The information provided during the Census is collected by the department in accordance with the *Australian Education Act 2013* (the Act) and the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (the Regulation). The Act and the Regulation require the legal entity responsible for the administration of the school (the approved authority) to provide this information to the department to:

- Ensure the provision of Australian Government funding to schools is properly calculated and appropriately managed.
- Conduct research, statistical analysis and develop school education policy for the Australian Government.
- Meet national and international reporting obligations on school students in Australia.
- Publish and provide information about schools to the public.

Use and disclosure of personal information

Your personal information is protected by law under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identified individual or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with the Privacy Act, the Act and Regulation and any other applicable laws.

Your personal information provided to the department through the Census may be:

- Used or disclosed by the department for the purposes outlined above under the heading Purposes of the Census collection.
- Disclosed to the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to publish on the [My School](#) website and include as high-level data for ACARA's National Report on Schooling in Australia.
- Disclosed to state and territory government departments and authorities in accordance with the Act and Regulation.
- Disclosed to Australian Government departments and authorities in accordance with the Act and Regulation.
- Disclosed to non-government school representative bodies in accordance with the Act and Regulation.
- Disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department decides to audit or verify the information provided by an approved authority about a school. The contracted auditor may use previously collected information or request access to individual student records for comparison purposes. The contractors may pass this information onto officers within the department, if there is a discrepancy in the data provided by the school and the school's records and further investigation is required. The contracted auditor must handle personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act.
- Disclosed to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology support services to the department.
- Used to validate data from other collections undertaken by the department.
- Used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law including under the Act or Regulation, or otherwise permitted under the Privacy Act.



Other than in exceptional circumstances (for example, investigation of fraud relating to overseas students), the department does not disclose any of the personal information collected to overseas recipients.

You can find the department's privacy policy on the [Department of Education](#) website or request a copy from the department at privacy@education.gov.au. The privacy policy includes information about how to access or correct personal information held about you or your child, how to make a complaint about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles and how the department will deal with such a complaint.

What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. The approved authority of the school is responsible for providing the information to the department.

Contacts for further information

Your school can provide information about data provided for you or your child for the purposes of the Census. To find out more about the Census collection and reporting, visit [SchoolsHUB](#).

