



St Margaret Mary's School

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Wednesday 11th October **Bulletin** 2023 Term 4 Week 1

Principal's Message

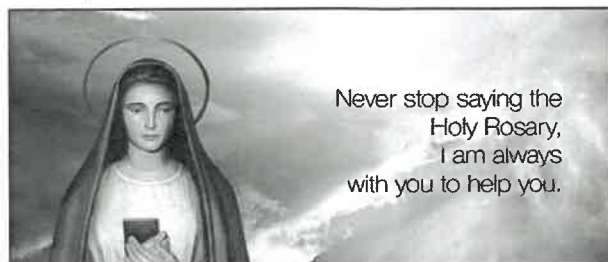
Dear Parents, Carers and children,

Welcome back from the holiday break, one I hope that has allowed individuals to spend time together and focus on family and fun. We are planning a week of celebration in honour of our patron saint, St Margaret Mary. There are details in this bulletin, and I would encourage all ex-students to visit our school on Tuesday between 3:30 & 4:30pm.

While Mary, the mother of Jesus, is a central figure in Christianity and well-known to many, there are some important and unique aspects of her life and role in Christian tradition. Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, dedicated her to the service of God at a young age. They brought her to the Temple in Jerusalem, where she lived as a young woman. The title "Mother of God." was affirmed to emphasise Mary's role as the mother of Jesus, who is both fully divine and fully human. This title underscores Mary's importance and her unique role in salvation history. Mary's "yes" to the angel Gabriel's message at the Annunciation is often seen as an exemplary act of faith and obedience. She is viewed as a model of discipleship for all Christians, as her response demonstrates complete surrender to God's will. Her journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem and her steadfast presence at the crucifixion of Jesus also highlight her role as a faithful disciple.

While October is not exclusively dedicated to Mary in the Catholic tradition, it is a month in which we, as Catholics focus on honouring Mary, especially through the praying of the Rosary. The following reasons explain why October is associated with Mary in our Catholic faith:

1. Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary: October 7th is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, also known as the Feast of the Holy Rosary. This feast day was established to commemorate the victory of the Christian fleet over the Ottoman Turks at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571.
2. Month of the Rosary:
October is often referred to as the "Month of the Rosary" in the Catholic calendar. During this month, Catholics are encouraged to pray the Rosary regularly as a way to meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life and to seek the intercession of Mary for various intentions.
3. Harvest Season: In many parts of the world, October coincides with the harvest season. This season of abundance and thanksgiving can be seen as an opportunity for Catholics to reflect on Mary as the "Mother of the Harvest" or the one who brings forth the fruits of God's grace and salvation.



Parishes and religious communities often hold special devotions, processions, and events during this month to honour Mary's role as the Mother of Jesus and a model of faith. It's important to note that devotion to Mary is a significant aspect of Catholic spirituality throughout the year, and October is just one of many months when Catholics honour and celebrate her.

Take care and God bless,

Kevin Mills
Principal

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Administration

Diary Dates

Thursday 11th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year Four Ranger Jamie Incursion
Monday 16th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Margaret Mary's Feast Day • P&F Second hand Uniform Sale 9:00am – 9:30am • StMM's Feast Day Liturgy 11:30am – 12:30pm
Tuesday 17th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • StMM's Feast Day Open Classrooms 2:00pm – 3:00pm • Back to StMM's for Ex Students 3:30pm -4:30pm
Wednesday, 18th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year Three 'Zingactiv' dance classes
Thursday 19th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • StMM's Feast day Fun Day & Sausage Sizzle
Saturday 21st October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • StMM's Parish International Food Festival
Monday 23rd October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miss Fardella's Farewell Liturgy 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Tuesday 24th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year One Ranger Jamie Incursion
Wednesday 25th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year Three 'Zingactiv' dance classes • Kindergarten 2024 Parent Information Evening 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 26th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindi Motiv8sport Incursion

Staff Formation Day



StMM's will be holding our Staff Formation Day on Friday 10th November. This day will be a pupil free day as staff will be focused on deepening our understanding of our Catholic faith, formation and identity.

As previously mentioned, the first two days of Term 4 were staff development days provided to all Parramatta Diocesan schools in order for staff to plan and prepare for the new English and Mathematics Curriculum.

We encourage all families to add Friday 10th November as an important date into their calendars and to make alternative care arrangements for their children.

Farewell Liturgy for Miss Fardella

We would like to warmly invite all families and friends to a farewell liturgy for Miss Fardella. The liturgy will be held on Monday 23rd October at 2:15pm. We look forward to celebrating Miss Fardella's extraordinary contribution to our community and hope you will join us.

Kindergarten 2024

Just a reminder to all parents who have a child starting Kindergarten in 2024. Our Parent Information Evening will be held on Wednesday, 25th October at 6pm in the school hall.

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 4, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible, as we have several families on our waiting list. It is a CSPD Policy that 10 weeks' notice is given to the principal before the removal of your child from the school, otherwise a full-term fee will be required to be paid.

Morning and Afternoon Dismal Morning Arrival

Arrival Times

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

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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.**

Faith Community

St Margaret Mary's Feast Day Celebration Week

Please mark the following dates in your diary to Celebrate the Feast of St Margaret Mary, the Patron Saint of our school community.

Parents and families are welcome to join us on these dates.

Monday 16th October

- 11:30am Liturgy All Welcome

Tuesday 17th October

- 2:00pm Open Classrooms
(Students may go home)
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Ex StMM's Students Welcome

Thursday 19th October

- 10am - 1:15pm P&F Colour Fun Day & Sausage Sizzle

Detailed information will be sent home with students Friday 13th October

If you **DO NOT** want your child to participate, please email the school office,

stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au

Highschool Ex-Students

Ex-Students are invited to attend St Margaret Mary's, Merrylands, on Tuesday 17th October 3:30pm to 4:30pm. They are invited to:

- Visit learning spaces.
- Have a chat with staff.
- Introduce yourself to new staff.
- Meet up with old friends.

Mini Vinnies

Recycling Project

Throughout Term 4, Mini Vinnies will be collecting and recycling bottles, cans and poppers through the Return and Earn system.

All of the money raised will be used for upcoming projects and to help those in need.



Please check the bottles are:

- Between 150ml and 3 litres
- In good condition (not crushed or broken)
- Empty
- Have the label attached
- Have the 10c label on the container to show it is eligible for a refund
- Remember to leave the lids on when returning your bottles

There will be labelled bins on the lower playground for your donations.

Thank you for your support,
Mini Vinnies

Teaching and Learning

Year 3 Dance Incursion - "Zingactiv"

During Term 4, Year 3 students will be participating in dance lessons run by "Zingactiv".

These fun lessons will be happening each Wednesday and so we ask that all Year 3 students wear their sports uniform on Wednesdays, as well as Thursdays and Fridays in Term 4. This exciting program will explore music, movement, the 'elements of dance', physical coordination, creativity and social interaction for our Year 3 students.

A dance program can provide a fun and engaging way to enhance the overall well-being of young learners, creating a positive impact on their future growth and development."

Year 4 Ranger Jamie Science Incursion

On Thursday 12th October students in Year 4 will be involved in a Science Incursion provided by Ranger Jamie Tours, looking at different types of forces. Students will engage with the power of forces as they participate in a series of scientific experiments and investigations. They'll be challenged to describe and interact with different contact and non-contact forces, including push and pull forces.

Year Five Movie Day

On the 19th September, Year Five had a movie day. We watched The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe after reading the book in class. We got to bring pillows from home to lay on whilst watching the movie. The teachers gave us popcorn and Turkish Delight to eat while watching the movie.

After lunch, an ice cream truck came, and we got to pick different types of cones and toppings. Year 5 had lots of fun. Thank you, teachers, for preparing this amazing day for us.

By: Mariam.G & Vanessa.I



Personal Growth

Principal's Morning Tea

On the 19th September the students who had received all four pillar awards were invited to attend the Principal's Morning Tea. It was a fun time for everybody who went. The hot weather meant we had to have the morning tea inside the hall.



There were lots of lollies for us to enjoy, such as jellybeans, gummy snakes and a whole lot more. There was a variety of chips and poppers to choose our favourite of the options available. A few minutes after we received our snacks we

moved on to the hot food and had mini pizzas. Those who wanted more pizza were able to get one more. We all had an amazing, fun time. We hope next term more students will be able to join the last Principals



Morning Tea for the year.
By Zara.L & Lydia.Z



Former StMM's Students

Congratulations to the following former St Margaret Mary's students who have received leadership roles for Year 12 at Patrician Brothers' College, Fairfield. We pray that God continues to guide them in this new and exciting leadership role.

Mario Beos (Homeroom Captain)
Charbel Bou-Rached (Homeroom Captain)
Joseph El Rassi (Homeroom Captain)
Bishoy Gaid (College Prefect)
Costa Zoumpoulas (Homeroom Captain)

Partnership

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

Saturday, 21 October at 7pm in the Parish Hall
TICKETS GO ON SALE THIS WEEKEND
Adults \$20* Children 3-12 years \$10*
Infants (under 3 years) Free
**includes one bottled water*

Tickets will be available from the Piety Shop after all weekend Masses and selected weekday Masses, and from the Parish Office during working hours. There's always a last-minute rush, so buy yours early!

FOOD PROVIDERS - Please note that the information session will be held in the Pastoral Centre on **Saturday, 23 September at 9:15am (after the 8:30am Mass)**. It is essential for food providers either to attend this meeting, or if unable to attend to contact **Belinda Tippetts** beforehand (0401 587 677).

CULTURAL PERFORMANCES - Any performer representatives who haven't contacted **Peter Carroll** (0414 070 082) should do so ASAP, as the program will be finalised soon.

PRIZE DONATIONS - Although the initial response for prize donations for the raffle, door prize, coin tosses, etc has been short of expectations, there's still time to bring new items (e.g. homewares, electronics, toys, sporting equipment, business vouchers/gift cards) to the Piety Shop or Parish Office. Enquiries please contact **Mike Jacobson** (0438 890 136).



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INSTORE & ONLINE

*1&C's apply, ex. vouchers, savings off original prices