



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 8th November **Bulletin** 2023 Term 4 Week 5

Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

During the past ten years of my principalship I have been able to enjoy a very positive relationship with our Parish at Merrylands. During my time, all three parish priests have been extremely supportive of my role as school principal, both professionally and personally. This support has extended beyond the parish priests to the wider community and people who have attended Mass in our church. It always gives me a sense of great pride when our school attends a parish mass and we are able to showcase the future of our Catholic Church.

The relationship between a Catholic school and a parish is a vital one, as they often work together to support the spiritual, educational, and community needs of their shared Catholic community. Here are five important aspects of this relationship:

1. **Spiritual Formation:** Catholic schools and parishes collaborate to provide a strong foundation for the spiritual development of students. This includes religious education, sacramental preparation (such as First Communion and Confirmation), and opportunities for students to deepen their faith through prayer, Mass attendance, and participation in parish activities.
2. **Educational Support:** The parish often provides moral support to the Catholic school, helping to ensure the school's academic excellence and success. This support can include funding, scholarships, and volunteer resources to enhance the educational experience for students.
3. **Pastoral Care:** Catholic schools and parishes work together to offer pastoral care and support to families and students. This includes counseling services, spiritual guidance, and assistance during times of crisis or personal difficulty. The parish and school can be a source of emotional and spiritual support for the community.
4. **Community Building:** The relationship between the school and the parish is integral to building a strong Catholic community. Events, fundraisers, and social activities can help foster a sense of belonging and unity among parishioners, parents, and students. These activities strengthen the bonds of the community and promote collaboration and engagement.
5. **Outreach and Service:** Catholic schools often engage in community service and outreach programs, and the parish can be a valuable partner in these efforts. Together, they can organize and support initiatives that serve the less fortunate, address social justice issues, and demonstrate the Catholic Church's commitment to compassion and charity.

In summary, the relationship between StMM's school and our parish is a multifaceted one, encompassing spiritual, educational, pastoral, community-building, and service-oriented aspects. Together, we work to provide a holistic and nurturing environment that reflects Catholic values and principles.

God Bless & Take Care,

Kevin Mills
Principal

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R

M

Attitude

Respect

Manners

Administration

Diary Dates

Thursday 9th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parramatta Marist High School 2024 Year 7 Orientation Day Year 2 Motiv8sport Incursion
Friday 10th November Pupil Free Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> StMM's Staff Formation Day – This is a pupil free day Catherine McAuley Westmead 2024 Year 7 Orientation Day
Tuesday 14th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Basketball Gala Day at Penrith Valley Sports Centre
Wednesday 15th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 Leadership Excursion – Teen Ranch Cobbitty Kindergarten 2024 Orientation Morning 9am – 10:30am Kindergarten 2024 Parent information Session 9am – 10:30am Year Three 'Zingactiv' dance classes St Pauls Greystanes 2024 Year 7 Orientation Day
Friday 17th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&F Disco with Jumping Castle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infants 3:30pm – 5:00pm Primary 5:15pm – 7:00pm

Police – Highway Patrol Visit

Yesterday a number of parents were booked by NSW Police for not obeying the road rules during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. We have been advised that they will be monitoring traffic around the school this morning and again this afternoon.

They are highlighting the importance of following all the road rules along with seatbelt wearing and are keen for all families to take the safety of their children seriously. Please ensure that you are obeying all road rules when dropping off and picking up your child/ren from school every day and stagger your morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up.

Uniform

Mr Mills spoke to the students on Monday regarding their uniform. He was very pleased with all the effort parents and carers have made to ensure the children look very smart. All students must wear the correct uniform, including socks and shoes. Classes have specific sports days where correct sport shoes must be worn. *Please do not let your child tell you that basketball shoes are allowed!!!*

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 4 or in 2024, 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.

New Principal Mrs Carlo-Stella

Yesterday we welcomed Mrs Carlo-Stella our new Principal to our school for the day. Mrs Carlo-Stella visited the learning spaces and spoke with students and teachers.



Lost Items

These glasses have been in the school office for quite some time.



These glasses were handed in at the school office recently.



Faith Community

Staff Formation Day

StMM's will be holding our Staff Formation Day on **Friday 10th November.**

This day is a pupil free day as staff will be focused on deepening our understanding of our Catholic faith, formation and identity.



All Saints Day Mass

On the 1st November, Primary participated in a mass to celebrate All Saints Day. The first thing we did was greet Father. We listened to the teaching from the word of God.



Father told us a few



things about himself. We talked about famous people who inspire us in our everyday life and how when he was little, he was a really good soccer player and wanted to be the best soccer player ever. He said that he looked up to the famous soccer player Cristiano Ronaldo and wanted to be even better than him. Until one day, God gave him a calling to be a Catholic Priest. We talked about what God wants us to be, not what other people want us to be. We also talked about how we are all Saints. If we can make someone laugh, we can make them feel loved. A few people from different grades read some parts of the gospel. Six of the Year 5 students did a Liturgical dance.

By Eli and Shalom Year 5



Teaching & Learning

Year Five Motiv8sports Incursion

On Friday 28th November, Year Five will participate in an incursion provided by Motiv8Sports. This leadership day is designed to allow students to show their leadership potential in preparation for the selection of school leaders for 2024. Students will engage in a range of leadership driven activities that will challenge and encourage them to use communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking.

Year Five "Junkyard Beats" Music Incursion

On the 6th November, Year Five had an incursion with Junkyard Beats. We explored various ways of making music out of junk. Firstly, we used plastic bags to create noises. Then, we used lids from plastic buckets to produce clapping sounds. Next, we used a pipe, balloon, and a garden hose to craft a junkyard saxophone. We also grabbed buckets and pairs of drumsticks to have some fun. Some students even had the opportunity to perform a drum solo in front of their Year Five peers. Finally, we utilised an instrument that played



soft, calming music.

By: Rebecca S and Daniella N

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Kindergarten Binwise Incursion

Last Monday 30th October, Kindergarten attended a Binwise Incursion hosted by Cleanaway. We learnt about ways to dispose of rubbish and recycle correctly. Students learnt interesting facts about waste and recycling. Students worked in teams to sort rubbish into the correct colours, yellow lid bin recycling bin, the green lid garden waste bin and the red lid general rubbish bin which gets taken to landfill. Students really enjoyed learning about waste and recycling.



Teaching & Learning

Kindergarten 2024 Orientation Morning

On Wednesday 1st November, Kindy 2024 students attended their first kindy orientation session. They learnt about the StMM's School Pointers and engaged in hands-on activities in response to a read text.

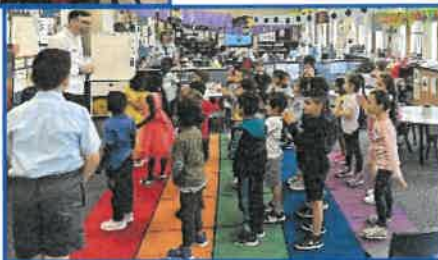


Many students were so excited about their first experience of 'Big School' and cannot wait to come back for the next session to meet their new friends!

We would also like to thank all the parents and carers who attended the workshop

in the hall with enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Looking forward to collaborating with you.

Kindergarten teachers



Personal Growth

Year 6 Basketball Gala Day

Due to an adjustment to the team draw, the students will be arriving back to school EARLIER than previously advised on the note sent out to parents/carers.

The coach is expected to return back to school at approximately 3.45pm.

Please ensure that you are at school to collect your child at this time.

Monday Morning Assembly

On Monday, 6th November, during Week 5, at the morning assembly, Mr. Mills talked about our new Principal commencing next year, who will be visiting our school on Tuesday 7th November to observe how we use the 4C's and follow in Jesus' footsteps. Next, Mr. Mills informed us about how the P&F put together a second hand uniform shop for parents to purchase school uniforms that children may need. Afterward, Mr. Mills discussed our school prayer and led us in singing the Australian National Anthem.

Vanessa I 5R and Shania G 5B

