Next Weeks Happenings

**Thursday 12th June**
Kindergarten Prayer Service
2:30pm in Learning Space

**Friday 13th June**
Years 3-6 Athletics Carnival to be held at Gipps Road Athletics Field Greystanes
Assembly: Years 2 2:00pm in the Hall

**Monday 16th June**
8:40am Morning Assembly and Prayer Service.
ICAS Writing

**Tuesday 17th June**
ICAS Spelling
Year 6 Prayer Service 2:15pm in Learning space

**Wednesday 18th June**
Year 3 CSIRO Incursion

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

On the weekend I attended mass at St Mary’s Cathedral, and I was reading the parish bulletin and thought I would share this with you.

*The Bush Fire of Pentecost*—When summer progresses in Australia there is a sense of anticipation, of expectation. It is the bushfire season. Millions of eucalypts breathe their oils which hang as a potent haze over the hills. The prevailing conditions are just right. One spark and all that potential energy would be ignited and fire would sweep through with great intensity. Those who report the real infernos not only speak of the flames but often of a mighty roar like a great windstorm heralding the approaching fire. The state of the world after Jesus’ death, resurrection and ascension was much like Australia in summer. There was a great air of expectation—Our Lord had promised that he would send the Holy Spirit.

Scientists tell us that, in the Australian landscape, there are few things more creative, more necessary, than an intense fire to burst open the seedpods in our eucalypt forests. It not only opens them up but it clears away competing undergrowth and allows new life to germinate in the ashes, to take root and to grow. This is what happened to the early Christian community (Mary and some women and the main male disciples) at Pentecost.

The tangled undergrowth of fear, anxiety and timidity was cleared away. The new life of the church was germinated, took root and has been growing ever since. It is the birth-day of the church, the Catholic Church, the universal church.

God Bless

Kevin Mills
Principal
Athletics Carnival.
Just a reminder about the primary sports carnival to be held on Friday 13th June at Gipps Road Athletics Oval Greystanes.

Students may wear a t-shirt of the house colour they are in for sport, eg. If your child is in Tosi, they may wear a yellow t-shirt. If they do not have a t-shirt to match their house colour, they must wear their school sports shirt. Students must also wear school sports short/pants, school HAT and bring SUNSCREEN

Please remember to LABEL ALL BELONGINGS.
Students are advised to bring something to sit on as the grounds are often wet. e.g blanket or towel.

THERE WILL BE NO CANTEEN AVAILABLE.
The students will need to bring their morning tea and lunch with them on the day. Students will travel to and from the carnival by bus
Most activities will be held close to the outer fence to allow better viewing by parents Only the parents with official badge will be allowed on the field during the running of the carnival.

Book Fair Has Arrived
A percentage of ALL sales will be given back to our school to purchase new books for the LARC. This will benefit ALL students at our school.

Place: The LARC

Student viewing:
Thursday 12th June or Friday 13th June.

STUDENTS ONLY can purchase books/items on:
Dates: Monday 16th June – Tuesday 24th June
Time: During class time

PARENTS & FAMILY MEMBERS can purchase books/items
Date: Thursday 19th June
Time: 8am - 4pm

Book Fair closes 11am Tuesday 24th of June
There will be no library borrowing during the Book Fair.
If your child is purchasing something, please send all money in an envelope marked with your child’s name, class and Book Fair on the front.
If you wish to pay by credit card an EFTPOS facility is available at the Book Fair, otherwise, please use the Credit Card option on the flyer or use the online or phone option on the Wish List.
If you wish to pay by cheque please make all cheques payable to St Margaret Mary’s School.

BIRTHDAYS

Mario Beos  Anthony Abousleiman  Thomas Gerrie  Maurice Georges  Adriana Haddad
Paul Hanna  Angel El Khoury  Celena El Khoury  Adam Sabooteh  Lexavier Amankwati
Jacob El Rassi  Porshea Masud  Isabelle Stipic  Edmond Kiwarkis  Krista Obmasca
Christopher Fares  Trodden O’Brien  Anthony Pousmale  Anthony Bejjani  Joseph Georges
Daniel Mifsud  Demi Portelli  Anthony Chiha  Matthew Lichaa  Mikayla Mekdessi
Mark Boulos  Jessica Aoun

Congratulations to all those children who celebrate their birthday around this time.
Kindergarten Enrolments
Enrolments for Kindergarten 2015 are now being taken. If your child was born between 1st August 2009 and 31st July 2010 you will need to collect an enrolment form from the school office. For enrolment enquires please contact the school office. We are limiting our numbers in 2015.

Leave
Mr Mills will be on leave the last 2 weeks of this term and the beginning of next term (Term 3). Ms Veness will be Acting Principal whilst Mr Mills is on leave.

School Fees
School fees for Term Two are now overdue. unless arrangements have been made. If you have any questions regarding your fees please contact the school office.

Reports
Semester One school reports will be sent home on Friday 20th June 2014.

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
We will be holding Parent/Teacher and Student interviews in Week 9, starting on Monday 23rd June. Notes will go home on Friday 13th June regarding interview times, so please mark these dates in your diary.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Day Interviews</th>
<th>Night Interviews</th>
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<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Tuesday 24th June</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Monday 23rd June</td>
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Tuckshop
Thursday June 12th | L. Saliba
Friday June 6th    | M. Cheng
Monday June 16th   | M. Cruz
Tuesday June 17th  | M. Aoun
Wednesday June 18th| C. Hitti, A. Guaracci, A. Essex

PARENT TO PARENT
If you would like to get more involved in the school and know what's happening and future plans, please join us at our next meeting to be held on Wednesday 11th June 2014.

Items on the agenda include:
Welcome
Minutes from Previous Meeting
Business arising from minutes
TreASurers Report
Mr Mills Report
School Photos for 2015
Fundraising Report
Easter Raffle
Mother’s Day Stall
Plans for Father’s Day
Outdoor Movie Night in October
General Business

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 11th June at 7:00pm

Head Lice Alert
At this time of year and with the holidays fast approaching we ask parents to check your child/ren's hair and if necessary begin the appropriate treatment.

Head lice are tiny insects that live in hair where they breed and feed on blood from the scalp. They are about the size of a sesame seed, have 6 legs and range from tan to greyish white colour.

How do you treat head lice?
Head lice treatments can be purchased from a chemist without a prescription, follow the instructions provided. No treatment kill 100% of nites (eggs), so a follow up treatment 7 days later is required.

After treatment is completed, check for evidence that the product worked. Comb hair with a fine tooth comb, wipe contents onto a tissue or cloth, and look for any movement. If lice are still active, wash hair and treat again.

Daily combing of hair will eventually remove all lice and nits (whether a chemical product has been used or not).

Do I need to keep my child home?
No, as long as head lice management is ongoing.

Stranger Danger
Parents are reminded with the holidays fast approaching we ask that you speak with your child/ren about the importance of Stranger Danger. There are a number of different websites you could share with your child/ren. This picture is from the following website, www.safety4kids.com.au
Mathematics

Well done to this month’s Star Performers on Mangahigh:

Dharm Patel (Yr 4)
Dennis Asante (Yr 4)
George Kapetangiannis (Yr 3)
Sharaze O’Brien (Yr 5)
Eric Lin (Yr 4)
Charbel Sahyoun (Yr 5)
Vanessa Cheng (Yr 6)
Jazmin Isaac (Yr 6)
Mark Boulos (Yr 4)
Shivam Malhotra (Yr )

We encourage all students from Years 2-6 to continue to go on Mangahigh to help their Mathematics. Our school’s Mangahigh homepage:

http://www.mangahigh.com/en-au/myschool/stmm1

House on Mars

If I were to design a house on Mars it would include……

• A Gravity Machine—to keep all things in the house on the ground/gives the house its own personal atmosphere. Because the atmosphere is so thin there is no gravity, so people cannot walk around unaided.

• A Water Supply—due to the dry planet. But there are small signs to show there was once water on mars but no current source of water is on the planet.

• 2 Oxygen machines—one on a space hub sucking air and sending it through an unbreakable tub and sends it to the second oxygen machine onto the house on Mares

• There is 38% weight loss on Mars, so to ensure a person’s safety, they need an air tank to weigh them down.

• The house will be built in a cave away from the Martian Volcanos and to shield it from harsh conditions, such as 25 m High dust storms and strong winds.

• The conditions in summer on Mars is up to 20°C in the daytime but then drops to minus 90°C at night time. So I would put a gap in between the 2 layers of walls which were made from an inflatable fabric and I would put insulation there to help with the different temperatures.

• The house would have straight walls to allow room fro the walk in tunnel but a curved roof to fill in most of the cave space and avoid too much dust coming in and shielding from the wind. Which is also why the house is back to front. With the back of the house showing from the caves opening, it ensures safety and protect it from the conditions and prevents a cave in.

• The walk in tube starts from the front of the cave where you walk through automatic closing doors, along the side between the walls of the cave and house, around to the back of the cave which is the entry of the house. Then you walk through another set of doors which again close automatically and quickly sealing in the cleaner air and oxygen coming from the machines.

• And using a very thick tube, there will be a hole in the roof of the cave and the house, where the thick tube will go through the cave onto the surface where solar panels have been positions in a place where they can receive the most sunlight. The power they collect is sent down the thick tube and into the house where it powers everything. The light is also used naturally to grow an indoor veggie patch for the food supply.

• There’s be an inflatable bed that would go anywhere in the house but also be easy to get it to Mars, carry in through the walk in tunnel and set up.

See you in Mars.

By Anthony Pounale.5Y

House on Mars

My House will settle at the very top of Olympus Mons the biggest mountain in the solar system. The outside look will look a little brown cottage and as for the furniture I could make it out of dry ice that fall from the sky that looks likes snowflakes, and I will definitely pack loads of soap and clothe if I am going to live on ‘The Red Giant’. I also forgot at the top of my cottage a flag will stand saying “Property of Georgia”.

By Georgia Abraham 5R

A House on Mars!

If I had a house on Mars… Wait, a house on Mars? That would be amazing! I would be the first person to be able to live on Mars. But, how would it cope with the conditions?

My house on Mars would be a gigantic mansion. Three stories high! Then inside the house there would be a button you press which would allow you to get all the oxygen you need in a day and you press this button everyday. This button would also give me some gravity so I could walk in the house. Of course I would need to bring my own water to store with me since the Red planet does not have any water on its surface. There would be a dome which wouldn’t allow any of the atmosphere to damage the home. The dome would go over the house and give some space to roam freely. It would be excellent to be able to afford and do this, to be on a new planet.

By Jarrod Dickson 5R
Half Yearly Learning Reports / Interviews

Students from Years 1 to 6 will receive a level of achievement in each Key Learning Area based on a scale described by the letters E - A. It is important to remember that the majority of students are expected to receive ‘C’ grades which indicate that they are achieving the expected outcomes. Students in Kindergarten will receive a level of achievement based on a scale: Working Towards, Working At and Working Beyond.

A lot of time and consideration is put into allocating the grades for each student. Grades are allocated based on a number of variables such as student work samples, assessment tasks, observations and class work. Please keep in mind that your child’s grades may have varied from previous years, especially if they have moved into a new stage this year. Below is an outline describing the level of achievement for each of the grades from A - E.

A the Student has an extensive knowledge and understanding of the content and can readily apply this knowledge. In addition, the student has achieved a very high level of competence in the processes and skills and can apply these skills to new situations.

B the student has a thorough knowledge and understanding of the content and a high level of competence in the processes and skills. In addition the student is able to apply this knowledge and these skills to most situations.

C the student has a sound knowledge and understanding of the main areas of content and has achieved and adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.

D the student has a basic knowledge and understanding of the content and has achieved an adequate level of competence in the processes and skills.

E the student has an elementary knowledge and understanding in few areas of the content and has achieved very limited competence in some of the processes and skills.

To put the A - E reporting system into perspective, it may be helpful to look at the analogy below for driving a car. Where do you fit on the scale?

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<tr>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A person on ‘L’ plates, must always be accompanied by an experienced driver.</td>
<td>A person on ‘P’ plates, drives independently but still learning.</td>
<td>Full driver license like most of us!</td>
<td>Advanced driver training with extra skills.</td>
<td>Grand Prix racer</td>
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The Half Yearly Learning Report is just one indication of your child’s progress and the interview with your child’s class teacher will give you a deeper insight into their strengths and areas for development. Students from Years K to 6 are encouraged to attend the interview with their parents so they can hear directly the praise for their achievements throughout the first half of the year and also the areas they need to focus on for the second half of the year.

All inquires and questions regarding reports can be directed to Ms Veness