Dear Parents

During this year and for the next two years our school has been involved in a Research reading Project with lecturers from Auckland University. Our pupil free day next Wednesday will also focus on improving reading for each student in our school.

To support this I offer you some thoughts on how you can help your child’s reading at home.

“In most home-reading programs you are expected to listen to your child read the book. The activity is intended as a sharing time and not as a test during which you correct every word your child has difficulty reading. If children are still very young, they may “read the pictures” or you may read the words to them.

As children get older and begin to develop reading skills, you can still read to them, but you should encourage them to read aloud to you, explaining what a word is when they ask for help or you feel they need the word to comprehend the meaning of the text. After reading or as you read, it’s a good idea to talk about the book. And, above all, it is important that the child finds the experience of reading enjoyable.”

If you feel that your child is experiencing difficulty in reading the books that he /she is bringing home please speak with one of the teachers on your child’s grade.

Carmel Agius

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
Wednesday 27th July

Students DO NOT come to school on this day.
Important Dates for Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st July</td>
<td>Primary Athletics Carnival Cancelled</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th July</td>
<td>P&amp;F Meeting</td>
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<td>27th July</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd August</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>2nd August</td>
<td>ICAS English Competition</td>
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<td>8th August</td>
<td>St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day</td>
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<td>15th August</td>
<td>Feast of the Assumption</td>
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<td>16th August</td>
<td>ICAS Mathematics Competition</td>
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<td>22nd August</td>
<td>Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th August</td>
<td>Diocesan Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd September</td>
<td>Father’s Day Liturgy</td>
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<td>4th September</td>
<td>Father’s Day</td>
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<td>7th September</td>
<td>Birthday of Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
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<td>12th September</td>
<td>Literacy &amp; Numeracy Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st September</td>
<td>MacKillop Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd September</td>
<td>School Closes for Term 3</td>
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Parents to Parent

Our next Parents and Friends meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th July at 9.00am in the Staffroom. Mark this date in your diary and come along to find out what will be happening at our school for Term 3. If you would like anything brought up at the meeting please put it in writing and leave at the school office.

Hanna Maroun
President

Tuckshop Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1/2 Week 1/2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday July 21</td>
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<td>Friday July 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday July 25</td>
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<td>Tuesday July 26</td>
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<td>Wednesday July 27</td>
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Library Borrowing

Each grade is allocated a day for the children to borrow books from the school library. Each child must have a library bag. This bag cannot be a plastic shopping bag but it can be an old pillow slip. The school office sells Library bags for $9.50ea.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
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<td>Year 4</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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BIRTHDAYS

Gerard Bleeker  Nicholas Tan  Avi Mehta  Radha Medakker
Elizabeth McFarlane  David Lamin  Stephen Balogh-Cariisto  Fadi Makdessi
Daniel Kim  Christian Demian  Antonias Gerges  Jonathan Al Dreiby
Fatima Caraan  Angelina Georges  Jacob Elkadi  Francis Sarmiento
Antonia Jurisic  Tatiana Elias  Adut Mayom  Ashley Daher
Lawrence El Salakawy  Eliana Chami  Steven Abosh  Matthew Ghannoum
Eloise Garcia  Aarushi Sharma  Lilian Sidra  Jazmin Isaac
Peter Chehab  Yel Chan  Taya Higgins  Sarah Albazouni
Dominic Elias  Joseph El Khoury  Charbel Chehab  Marcus Bounassif

Congratulations to all those children who celebrate their birthday during the holidays and around this time.
School Hours

At St Margaret Mary’s School lessons commence each morning at 8.40am and conclude at 3pm on Mondays to Fridays. The school grounds are open to pupils from 8.15am each morning and remain open to pupils until 3.30pm each afternoon.

Normal supervision of pupils by the school will be undertaken between 8.15am and 3.30pm on Mondays to Fridays, no supervision will be provided other than between those hours and no responsibility will be taken by the school for any consequences of the activities of pupils outside those hours.

Parents who allow their child to arrive at school prior to 8.15am, and/or to remain on the premises after 3.30pm, do so at their own risk. The school will not be responsible for supervision outside the hours stated above.

School Excursion Notes

All school excursion notes can be found on the school website.
If your child misplaces an excursion note replacements can be downloaded from the school website
To download from the website
www.stmmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au
News & Events
Parent Communication
You will find all the permission notes. If your note is not there then please let the office know.

Saint Margaret Mary’s Parish

Saint Margaret Mary’s Parish cordially invites all those that know Fr Bray to attend the solemn Mass of his 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood on Saturday 23rd July 2011 at 11.00am at Saint Margaret Mary’s Church Merrylands.

Light refreshments will follow afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Sacramental Program

A reminder to all families involved in the Sacramental Program, that classes begin this Sunday 24th July 2011.

For further information and enquiries please contact Connie Kizana 0413 950 800.

School Photos

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 2nd August.
The photo envelopes will be given out to students next Monday 25th July and are to be returned to school on the day of photos.
The family envelopes will be available from the school office from Monday 25th July.

Package Prices
A Photo Book $24.00
Other packages are available.

For further information please contact Kerrie Booth in the school office.

Child Protection

Parents wishing to help out on school excursions, in classrooms, in the canteen, at sporting activities, P&F activities or any activity that involves contact with students other than your own are requested to complete the Child Protection Module.
This is a requirement as part of the child protection within schools.

To access the module go to
It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.
An online training module for use by volunteers is available. To use the module:
1. Open the module by clicking the Start
2. Read through the presentation.
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.
If you do not have access to the internet please contact the school office.
Car Pick Up Zone

When using the car pick zone please ensure you are abiding by the following rules

All vehicles **MUST** clearly display the **FAMILY NAME** on the left sun visor

Parents/Guardians **MUST** obey all Road Rules and parking Signs

All vehicles are to join the queue on Henson Street (via Mason Street or Holdsworth Street)

**NO** vehicle is to join the queue from Davies Street

All parents/guardians are to:
- Remain in their vehicles with the engine running
- Move along the queue

Teachers will:
- Bring students to the Pick up Zone
- Direct students to the kerb side door of the leading car (front car)
- If students are not ready, parents are to move on and rejoin the queue

In the event of bad weather
- Pick up may not occur and you will have to park legally and pick up students
- Raining: students will assemble in the lower playground and wait for their parents to collect them.
- Extreme weather: parents will need to collect students from classrooms, undercroft or hall as advised by messages through the PA system.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT AT ALL TIMES YOU ARE OBEYING ALL ROAD RULES, HOLROYD CITY COUNCIL OFFICERS AND FOLLOWING TEACHER’S DIRECTIONS.
PLEASE PUT YOUR CHILD’S SEAT BELT ON CORRECTLY!