



### Diary Dates

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

**Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

**Staff Reflection Day**  
(Pupil Free Day)

**Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> November**

- 8:40am Whole School Assembly and Prayer.

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November**

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November**

- P&F Annual General Meeting 6:30pm in the Staffroom. All Parents/Guardians welcome to attend.

### Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2018, please let the office know as soon as possible, in writing. It is a CEDP Policy that 10 school weeks notice is given to the principal before the removal of your child from the school, otherwise a full term fees will be required to be paid.

### Change of Details

If you have moved house or changed your contact details, please notify the school office as soon as possible to update your details in case of an emergency.

### Skoolbag App

All parents are encouraged to have the Skoolbag App, as this will be the main preference for communication to all parents. Our **School Name** for Skoolbag App is **SMMPM**.



## Principal's Message

# Staff Reflection Day

**Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018**

**This is a pupil free day**

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

I was sorry that I missed Monday's assembly and the announcement from Julia Finn of a grant to support the building of our COLA (covered outside learning area). I wish to thank the individuals who contributed to the application and celebrate with StMM's community on its success. The COLA will run the length of the playground from the staffroom up to the Parish centre and will be a wonderful facility for the school and parish.

It is vital that we remember we are an important part of parish life in Merrylands and I was very pleased to be at the Confirmation last week to celebrate with a large number of students and staff this significant milestone in their life journey. StMM's is a strong Catholic community that works hard to make an impact and difference in the wider community. We are seen as a people who are actively improving the lives of individuals that cross our path.

Bishop Vincent has challenged us to reach out to others and welcome them into our lives and be seen as making a difference. On Friday the staff will be attending a spirituality day where they will examine the early aspects of the Catholic Church in Australia along with the establishment of the faith in the area of Parramatta. It is important that we never forget where our roots are and the historical impact our Church has on the growth of Australia. The last part of our travels will be spent reflecting on "What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?" The work of the day with the staff of St Margaret Mary's is directly linked to the Australian Bishops Council's Plenary Council of 2020 that is being held so that we can dialogue about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia.

At the Mini Vinnies Sleepover the teachers ran an activity for the Year Five and Six students to share their personal thoughts and opinions on what God expects of them. There was a great deal of impressive material and views shared by these young people. At a later date an opportunity will be provided at the school and parish level for our parents and parishioners to contribute to the 2020 Plenary Council.

I look forward to reading our Community's responses to the Bishops' questions.

God Bless,

Yours in Christ

Kevin Mills  
Principal

## Administration

### Staff Reflection Day

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

This is a pupil free day

#### Christmas Concert

Our last official function for the school year will be our Whole School Christmas Concert. The concert will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 commencing at 11:00am.

#### Morning Assembly

On Monday morning we were lucky enough to be joined by Julia Finn, the local member for our area of Parliament. Julia told us that she had received a nomination from Mrs Georges,



Mrs Yenco and Ms Tripp, for a donation towards a new COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area). She was thrilled to be able to help and presented the school with a huge cheque for \$70,000. We were amazed by her support and are very thankful



that we will be able to create a space where we can still play outside on days that are raining and very hot. Thank you again to Julia Finn and to all the members of staff who nominated our school, we know that this money, along with the money raised at the Fete and the Colour Run will be put to good use!

By: Media Team

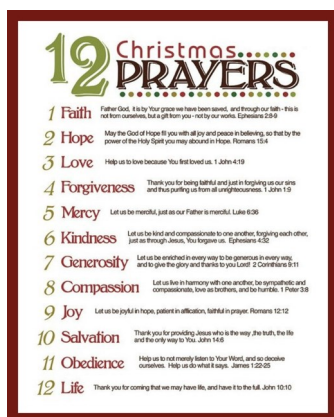
## Faith Community

#### Christmas Card Competition

Get creative and make a Christmas card! You can use things like paint, coloured paper or textas to make your card. There will be prizes given to the most creative in Infants and Primary. All cards will be given to the residents at Gilroy Nursing Home when some students in our school visit in Week 9.



Who: All students are invited to participate in this competition.  
What: Make a Christmas card and write a greeting inside.  
When: To be given to Mrs Attard by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018.  
Why: To spread joy this Christmas to the residents at Gilroy Nursing Home.



## Feast of Christ the King and Leadership *(parts of Fr Michael's Reflection)*



Granted the dramatic changes through which we have gone in the last hundred years, many question the wisdom of past organisational leadership in the church. This is an important issue if the Church is going to speak to today's world about institutional leadership that is inspired by the gospel.

Sunday's readings warn us against putting organisational leadership at the centre of our concern. This is because the leadership portrayed by the crucified Jesus is of a different kind. We are taught to look at Jesus on the cross. It is he who is lord and king. Those who exercised the kind of organisational leadership of which we have been speaking were people like the high priest, Pilate and Herod. They were bad leaders as is made obvious by their criminally unjust crucifying of Jesus. What they did was terrible, and we are right to name it for what it was, and to try to ensure that people in such positions do not abuse their power.

However a much more important lesson is to be learned. The real leadership which we see when we look at the crucifixion is not organisational decision-making leadership. We do not look to the High Priest, or to Pilate or Herod to see the real authority and power that stands out on the hill of Calvary. The most important area for leadership lies in the area of love. Christ the king shows us that ultimate power is the power of love. Ultimate authority is the authority that is exercised in loving. Ultimate leadership is leadership in love. Our lord and king is a victim of the unjust exercise of organisational leadership. But no one could stop him loving, and his self-giving love shines out in splendour from the cross. The love that flows from his pierced and broken heart continues to reveal the power of God and to overcome the evil that comes from the abuse of power.

Change takes time and a lot of courage. But we will bring about good change only in proportion to our love, for love is what God is, and love is what we see in the lord and king of history, reigning from the cross. This view of leadership based on love encourages and allows our full participation in the mystery of Christ.

## Teaching & Learning

#### Second Kindergarten Orientation Morning

The second Kindergarten orientation morning was held on Wednesday, November 14. The school was once again inundated by ninety excited and enthusiastic pre-Kindy students and their parents that will join our school community in 2019. The 2019 Kindy students were taken to the Kindy rooms and settled very well after their practice the week before.



The parents were treated to an information session on Mathematics and how it is taught at the school. Parents were also given a Mathematics Resource Gift Pack with a variety of maths equipment inside for them to use to practice some of the maths skills learnt during the session.

We are looking forward to the last Kindergarten orientation morning which will be held on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November. This final session will involve a presentation on Literacy in the school and give our 2019 Kindy students another opportunity to explore their new school.





# Personal Growth

## Year 5 Narrabeen Adventure!

On Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, Year 5 arrived at school bright and early at 7:15am. We had a big day ahead of us, we were heading to Narrabeen for a leadership day! It was a one and a half hour drive from Merrylands



to Narrabeen but it was worth it. Throughout the day we rotated through three activities including archery, canoeing and team building. At the team building activity we had to work as a team and cooperate with others, this was a good chance for the teachers to see us use leadership skills. One of the activities was to stack crates as high as possible while keeping all feet on the ground, one of our groups stacked 12 and the record was



16! After that we went on to archery. We had to hold the bow in a specific way and we got to shoot arrows at the targets. Some students even got a bullseye. Lastly, we did canoeing. We used canoes, stand up paddleboards and inflatable biscuits to move around on the water.



It was time to head home and arrived back at school by 4:00pm. It was a long day and we all needed an early night after the days adventures!

*By Jayden Nguyen and Raquel Nasr*



## BIRTHDAYS



Selena Pauls

Katrina Yu

Oliver Hak

Shadi Danil

Daniella Gerges

Nickolas Kemourtzi

Joseph Rahme

Lucinda Tran

Achel Majock

Kane Dawson

Michaela Robledo

Rachael Mansour

Amol Akoy

Gabriela Stanic

Jemima Afful

Congratulations to all those children who celebrated their birthday around this time.

## Year 5 Leadership Process

The process for deciding the Captains for 2019 began last week when Year 5 went on an excursion to the Academy of Sport and Recreation at Narrabeen and participated in a range of activities. The purpose of the day was to put students in a variety of situations where they would need to show leadership.

Following this excursion, students will have an opportunity to nominate students who they believe would make good leaders in 2019. When students are nominating, they must include reasons to support why this person would be a good leader. They are able to nominate up to 3 students. All staff members will also be able to nominate up to 3 students. Once the nominations have been collated, 12 students will be identified and they will have an opportunity to present speeches. Students will need to either accept or decline their nomination before they present their speech. Please note that students will not be guaranteed a Colour Captain position if they decline their nomination for School Captain. The School Captains, School Vice Captains and Pillar Captains will then be decided from this group of 12.

Colour Captains will be decided at a later date using a different process.

Students are encouraged to remember that all of Year 6 are leaders of our school and this process only determines who will be wearing a badge.

## Partnership

### P&F News

Important  
Dates

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Would you like to be part of events such as our annual Mother's & Father's Day Stalls and huge Easter Raffle or our School Discos.

Do you have some fun ideas so we can try to help raise funds for the school?

#### Come and join the P & F Committee.

The P&F, is a way parents can have a voice in the school, it is an excellent forum to be involved in.

Nominations for the following positions will be taken at the meeting:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Second Hand Uniform Shop and Fundraising Committee.

Please join us for our 2018 AGM (Annual General Meeting).

**When:** Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November.

**Time:** 6:30pm.

**Place:** The School Staff Room.

We Look forward to seeing you there.

#### COLOUR FUN RUN

On behalf of the P&F Association, we would like to thank all the staff, students and families of St Margaret

**SCHOOL  
FUN RUN**

Mary's for their wonderful support for this years Major Fundraiser. Thanks so much to everyone for participating in the *School Colour Fun-Run!* We are proud to announce that we have been able to raise as a community a total profit of **\$20,090.00**. The funds raised will go towards the much needed covered play area in the school grounds.

Thank you all once again, on behalf of St Margaret Mary's P&F 2018 Association.



**HAVE YOUR SAY**

**WHAT DO YOU  
THINK GOD IS  
ASKING OF US  
IN AUSTRALIA  
AT THIS TIME?**

**YOUR VOICE  
MATTERS**

Plenary Council 2020  
*Listen to what the Spirit is saying...*



 **DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA**

**SOME WAYS YOU  
CAN BE INVOLVED**

## **JOIN A SMALL GROUP**

Parishes, schools and other communities are hosting small groups. You are welcome to host your own group.



You can connect with others, listen to their insights, and share your own thoughts. Your group can then submit your responses to the plenary.

Find out more at  
[parracatholic.org/haveyoursay](http://parracatholic.org/haveyoursay)

## **CHAT WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY & COLLEAGUES**

Pick up these palm-sized cards to invite people you know into a conversation.



The reverse of the card offers a way of feeding back to the plenary.

Let's take advantage of this time to reach out to people we know and invite them to share their thoughts.

**Every voice matters.  
Every person matters.**

**MERRYLANDS WEST SCHOOL  
&  
WORKWEAR CENTRE**  
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PH: 02 9637 4502

**St Margaret Mary’s Primary School - Price List\***  
As of 1st October 2018

You can now purchase your uniforms on our website: [cruniform.com.au](http://cruniform.com.au)

How to create an account:  
Hover over **ONLINE SHOP** tab and select your school  
Your school’s **Sign up Passphrase** is **STM7867**

**LOWES**  
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for Christmas

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**20%<sup>\*</sup> OFF**  
**SCHOOLWEAR**  
AND EVERYTHING ELSE

**INSTORE & ONLINE - THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER**

\* Excludes gift cards & all sale packages. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Floor stock only.  
Suits and colours may vary from store to store.  
No rain checks. Please choose carefully, exchanges and refunds only with doctor. Includes seating 25% discount.  
Offer ends midnight (AEST) 15/11/18. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount.

# Asthma First Aid

## 1 Sit the person upright

- Be calm and reassuring
- Do not leave them alone



## 2 Give 4 separate puffs of blue/grey reliever puffer

- Shake puffer
- Put **1 puff** into spacer
- Take **4 breaths** from spacer

Repeat until **4 puffs** have been taken

**Remember: Shake, 1 puff, 4 breaths**

OR give 2 separate doses of a Bricanyl inhaler (age 6 & over) or a Symbicort inhaler (over 12)



## 3 Wait 4 minutes

- If there is no improvement, give **4 more separate puffs of blue/grey reliever** as above

OR give 1 more dose of Bricanyl or Symbicort inhaler



## 4 If there is still no improvement call emergency assistance - Dial Triple Zero (000)

- Say 'ambulance' and that someone is having an asthma attack
- Keep giving **4 separate puffs** every **4 minutes** until emergency assistance arrives

OR give 1 dose of a Bricanyl or Symbicort every 4 minutes - up to 3 more doses of Symbicort



### Call emergency assistance immediately - Dial Triple Zero (000)

- If the person is not breathing
- If the person's asthma suddenly becomes worse or is not improving
- If the person is having an asthma attack and a reliever is not available
- If you are not sure if it's asthma
- If the person is known to have Anaphylaxis - follow their Anaphylaxis Action Plan, then give Asthma First Aid

Blue/grey reliever medication is unlikely to harm, even if the person does not have asthma



Contact your local Asthma Foundation

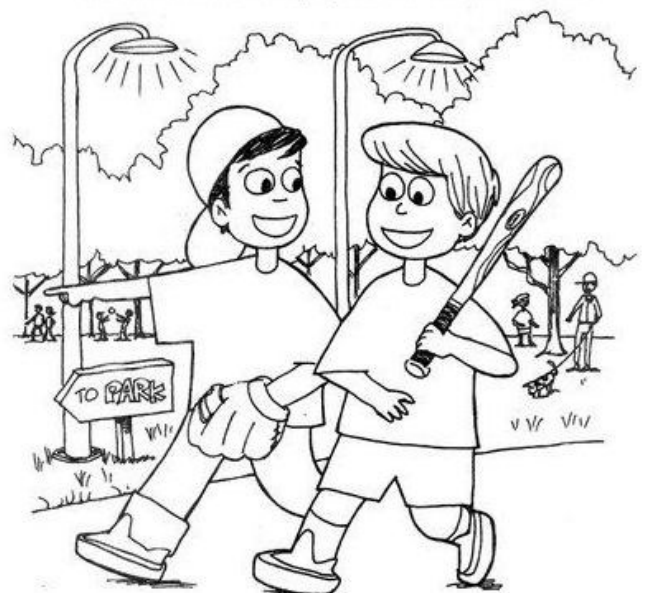
**1800 ASTHMA Helpline** (1800 278 462) [asthmaaustralia.org.au](http://asthmaaustralia.org.au)

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Translating and  
Interpreting Service  
131 450

ASTHMA1800 First Aid Helpline - 131 450 November 2015

Don't take shortcuts or play in dark or deserted areas.



**BE SMART**

It's always safer to do things with a friend and to stay in well-lit places where there are people.

6.