



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 36

Bulletin

Wednesday, 20th November 2019

Diary Dates

Thursday, 21st November

- Dance Fever Multisport.

Friday, 22nd November

Sunday, 24th November

- Feast of Christ the King

Monday, 25th November

- Whole School Assembly and Prayer.
- Yr 1 Bicentennial Park Excursion
- 2020 School Leadership Speeches

Tuesday, 26th November

- Infants Liturgy 1:30pm – 2pm in the Hall. Parents are invited to attend. Open Classroom for Infants 2pm – 3pm.

Wednesday, 27th November

- Dance Fever Multisport.
- P&F Annual General Meeting 6:30pm in the Staffroom. All parents are invited to attend this meeting.

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

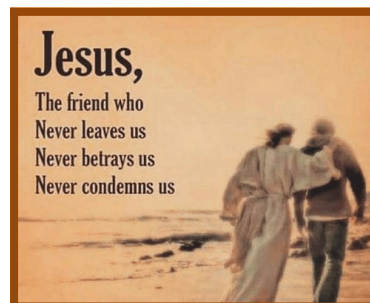
Dear Parents, Boys & Girls,

I don't have Facebook and have never been a big fan of the platform, however the following list from the social media giant was shared with me last week. I thought it was a list that could be of value to our community.

"What True Friends Are..."

- True friends are always there, even in silence.
- True friends are kind and listen to each other.
- True friends are not scared to tell each other the truth.
- True friends guide each other in times of need with honest opinions.
- True friends try their best to cheer you up when you are upset.
- True friends try and improve their life though their friendship.
- True friends remain friends despite a person's choices in life.
- True friends always support each other.
- True friends know how and when to say the firm, "No."
- True friends can honestly say they have helped define you as individual.
- True friends celebrate the wins and be there to support the losses.
- True friends walk in to a friend's aid when others are walking out.
- True friends don't hold grudges over petty disagreements.

Jesus is a true friend to everyone who follows in his footsteps. A person who changed the world simply by being a true friend to everyone he met. Finally giving his life for us.....no greater gift a man could give.



Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Student Leaders 2020

On Monday, 25th November, twenty Year 5 students will be presenting leadership speeches in the hall at 11:30am. Parents are welcome to attend.

Infants Liturgy

Infants will be holding a liturgy at 1:30pm - 2:00pm in the hall. After the liturgy infants parents will be invited to visit their child's learning space where they will be invited to join in activities with the students until 3:00pm.

Attendance

CEDP has asked the school to reinforce the importance of attending school during the school term. Please be aware of your child's attendance at school and to take into consideration when booking holidays, this is to be done during the school holidays.

Semester 2 Reports

Teachers are in the process of writing reports for semester 2. Reports will go home at the end of term.

Year 6 Graduation

The Year 6 Graduation Mass will be held on Thursday, 12th December at 6pm in the church. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Graduation Dinner will be held on Friday, 13th December at 6pm. Year 6 Families who have not yet paid for the dinner are reminded that payments are overdue and needed for final numbers.

Iphones and Ipads

Students who bring personal devices e.g iPhones, Ipads, and Ipods to school need to bring them to the office at the beginning of the school day, where they will be locked away and returned at the end of the day. Please do not allow your child to bring these devices to school.

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2020, 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.

School Hours

Parents are reminded that lessons begin at 8:40am and finish at 3:00pm. Children should be at school by 8:30am.

There is no supervision in the mornings before 8:15am. From 8:15am until 8:30am, it is a walk and talk time only. Students are reminded that there is to be NO running or ball games in the playground in the mornings.

Parents are also reminded that they need to collect their child/ren from school at 3:00pm. If you are running late please contact the school office.

School Uniforms

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles appropriate to their age and school expectations. Long hair must be tied back. Our Sun Safe programs require students to wear our school cap or hat when outside. No Hat No Play. These hats and caps are available at the school office. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Simple signet rings may also be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at school.

Library Stocktake

Our school library is now closed for borrowing, for 2019, due to stocktake procedures.

Please ensure all library books are returned to the library by Friday this week, 22nd November, at the latest.

Students are encouraged to keep reading by going to their local library or by borrowing online student eBooks (SORA).

Students are now able to access SORA (eBooks) by going through the St Margaret Mary's website: stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Once at the website... Click on Learning (on the top bar)

Go down to Library & click

Scroll down & click on Access our eLibrary

Click on Student eBooks

Click on SORA (Overdrive)

Select your school - Choose ACEN Member Collection

Click Sign in using ACEN Member Collection

(If a password is required it is your child's school user name & password)

Explore & borrow books.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Happy Reading!

Mrs Balogh-Caristo

Monday Morning Assembly

Firefighters have died and several people are in hospital with injuries, due to the bushfires currently occurring in NSW! Year 6, have been learning about the bushfires and they have decided to help by organising a fundraising day on Friday, 29th November. Students can dress up in red, orange or yellow or they

could even dress up as a firefighter! They have been asked to bring a gold coin donation which will go to the bushfire appeal. On the day, Year 6 will be selling jelly cups, popcorn, lolly bags and many more delicious treats to help raise money.

Mrs Balogh-Caristo proudly announced that over 300 students have completed the Premiers Reading Challenge. Congratulations to those students who have received an award! The Library is now

closed for borrowing as Mrs Balogh-Caristo is doing a complete stocktake so that we can purchase more books next year.

Lastly, this Wednesday morning is the final Kindergarten Orientation morning and parent session will focus on Religious Education.

By: Rhos Shi Wang & Yasmine Abraham Media Team

Updating our Information

Having accurate, up-to-date information on our students is an important part of maintaining their safety and wellbeing, and supporting their learning. It also assists schools to make good decisions about how best to support and care for all students.

If any of your contact details have changed, including Emergency contacts, please contact the school office to update these changes.



Teaching & Learning

Kindy Orientation Numeracy Parent Session

On Wednesday 13th November, Kindy 2020 parents engaged in hands on activities to support their child in Mathematics at home. I would like to thank all the parents that attended, for their enthusiasm and openness to learn new mathematical activities. Below is some parent feedback and an addition story created by one of our parents.

"Excellent approach to guiding the child to learn more easily."

"There were 6 pigs on the farm and 2 little pigs came to join. There were 8 pigs altogether."

Many Thanks,
Miss Fardella



Year 3 Incursion

Kaleidoscope Science: The Great Big Science Show

On Friday 8th November, Year Three had the great big science show. We were introduced by our guide Mitchell. He did lots of experiments with us and amazing ones too! One of the experiments was called

'elephant toothpaste'. Elephant toothpaste was so cool. He mixed up ingredients like colourless gas, soap, food colouring and small drop things. Mitchell made us laugh a lot because he made a balloon of this boy named Sharia! He made a balloon of Sharia's head because he answered so many questions that were so detailed. Mitchell tricked us by putting Sharia's head in the freezer and saying "it will turn into a puppy!" We all got excited.

I wonder why Mitchell became a scientist? I wonder what would have happened if Mitchell forgot to put earmuffs on at the finale because the balloon was so big? I wonder if the electricity would have broken the glass ball. Mitchell did a great job because he did lots of experiments, made us all laugh and entertained us. Next time Mitchell comes he can just add a little bit of more experiments because Year 3 enjoyed them so much.

By Joyce Sangi

Year 3 Solar Ovens

Year 3 built amazing solar ovens that could heat up or melt food. They made the solar ovens out of a pizza box or shoe boxes, foil, clear plastic wrap, scissors, tape or glue.

We tested them by putting them in the sun and melting M&Ms or marshmallows. The marshmallows melted and were

sticky and the M&Ms were cracking and the oil and colour was coming off.

Thank you, Miss Swanson, Mrs Golack &

Mr Tenido for organising this event for Year 3, we really appreciate it.

By Michaela S and Yashi P



Faith Community

Sacrament of Confirmation

Last Wednesday night, the choir was invited to sing at the Sacrament of Confirmation to support and celebrate the students involved. The church was a very proud place that night, especially for the sponsors who

placed their right arm on their candidates shoulder to promise to support them through their faith journey. The choir was happy to sing with joy to congratulate the candidates being Confirmed and their families. At the end of the Mass, the candidates re-

ceived a lovely cross and a certificate. To thank the students who gave up their time to sing in the choir, Mrs Toma gave them 2 mufti cards which they can use before the end of the year.

By: George Nakhoul and Joseph Doueiri



Personal Growth

Principal's Morning Tea

Last Thursday, 14th November was the third Principal's Morning Tea for the year. We had lots of snacks, drinks and a cup of sweets, while we got to chat with loads of friends. The Principal's Morning Tea is a celebration that students get to enjoy when they receive all four of the Pillar Awards which equals one Principal's Award! Our Pillar Awards are Teaching and Learning, Faith Community, Partnership and Personal Growth. There will be one more Principal's Morning Tea held before the end of the year so keep working hard and following the Pointers so you can be there!

By Bella Injerkouchian and Akuol Mayom

Mr Mills will be holding the last Principals morning tea at the end of the term. So keep working hard to earn your awards in the 4 pillars to receive your principals awards.

2019 School Boys and Girls Junior Tennis Tournament

We wish Leeroy and Xavier Tautu (Year 3) all the best as they represent St Margaret Mary's at the 2019 School Boys and Girls Junior Tennis Tournament at Pennant Hills Tennis Centre on Friday. Good luck boys!



BIRTHDAYS



Ezinne Ezenwa-Ndukaku

Shadi Danil

Selena Pauls

Katrina Yu

Nickolas Kemourtzis

Daniella Gerges

Joseph Rahme

Lucinda Tran

Pei Wang

Michaela Robledo

Amol Akoy

Gabriela Stanic

Jemima Afful

Hunter Pineda

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

Partnership

P&F News

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?

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

Then come and join the P & F Committee. We need to have our P&F, as it is a way parents can have a voice in the school. This is an excellent forum to be involved in.

Nominations for the following positions will be taken at the meeting: President, Secretary, Treasurer and Fundraising Committee.

Please join us for our 2019 AGM (Annual General Meeting).

Time: Wednesday, 27th November, 6:30pm.

Place: The School Staff Room.

We look forward to seeing you at this meeting.



Kindergarten 2020

Today we held our final orientation morning for Kindergarten.

We would like to say thank you to all the parents who participated in our parent information sessions each week. Thank you to all the teachers involved in organising the Orientation mornings for the students and their parents.

We hope these sessions have helped you to understand how you can better help your child in future years of education.



National Prayer Campaign

for the gift of rain , for people affected by drought, for support services

Eternal God,

In wisdom and love
you created our earth
to sustain us and give us life.

We turn to you now
in faith, hope and love,
asking you to look with favour
on our drought-stricken land,
on our starving animals,
on our failing crops.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart
to our farmers
and to all who are affected by
drought;
be with those who support them.

In your loving providence,
send abundant rain
and restore our parched earth.

Father of all compassion,
hear our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son,
in whom the promise of new life
has dawned, and
through the power
of the Holy Spirit,
the Lord the giver of life:
Renew your faithful people;
Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross,
Mary, help of Christians –
Pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop –
Pray for us.

for more resources, visit: catholic.org.au/drought

