



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Newsletter No 7

Bulletin

Wednesday, 20th March, 2019

Diary Dates

Thursday, 21st March

- Bookclub orders close today at 9am.

Friday, 22nd March

- Harmony Day Celebrations begin at 9am and conclude at 10:50am. Parents are invited to attend.

Monday, 25th March

- Feast of the Annunciation
- Whole School Assembly and Prayer.

Tuesday, 26th March

Wednesday, 27th March

Enrolment

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2020 are now taking place. If your child was born between 1st August, 2014 and 31st July, 2015, please collect an enrolment form from the school office.

Enrolment interviews will take place during the month of May.

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,

The Christchurch tragedy confronts us in many ways. Not at least, do I, do enough? I listened to Waleed Aly over the weekend and was touched and challenged by his words as he has a unique point of view about the incident. I would recommend you search out his transcript and read his reflection. I was also pleased to have the opportunity to hear Bishop Vincent on Sunday at St Patrick's Blacktown. He spoke about his visit to a mosque where he offered his support and prayers for New Zealand and the families affected by the heartbreak.

As a school, we paused for a moment at Monday's assembly with our flag at half mast as a mark of support and respect. We shared some of Bishop Vincent's wisdom with our Year 5 and Year 6 students and spoke about the need to sow seeds of love, hope and care within our school community. Seeds, that will grow and be nurtured by a community based on the life and work of Jesus. We also explored the Parable of the Sower:

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. (Matthew 13)

Jesus was sowing the good seed during his time on earth by telling stories to his followers so that they would understand his message of hope. These individuals went on to become the cornerstone of our Church and faithful servants of God. At this point in time and in our lives as Catholics, we are called to make a positive difference in the world around us. In closing I share with you the words of our Executive Director, Mr Greg Whitby:

We are a community of believers whose lives are shaped and formed by Jesus' messages of love, tolerance and compassion. These values make us who we are. The worldwide outpouring of support from people of all faiths (and no faith) for the victims and their families reminds us that we are not alone and that at the heart of everything is an overwhelming desire to belong and care for each other.

To those who have lost people they loved and who loved them, we offer our prayers. May the God of everlasting love walk alongside them and stay with them always. To the victims, eternal rest grant them O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.
Amen.

Take care of each other and be kind to everyone.

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Harmony Ribbon

Each student (Adults if they wish) are asked to bring in a 60cm (1 metre if you wish) coloured ribbon for Harmony Day (Friday). It can be your favourite colour or just extra you have at home. They will not be returned.....**so no expensive diamond encrusted ribbon is allowed.**

Important Notice

Parents/Carers, under CEDP Guidelines & Child Protection Laws, please be advised of the following:

If you have any concerns regarding your child's learning, safety or wellbeing at school, please discuss these with your child's teacher. You are not permitted to approach other students or their parents in relation to your concerns.
Thank you for your continued support.

Storm Damage

From the last three storms, we have had a significant amount of damage to the Primary building. This is now being looked after by the insurance company. There will be areas of the primary building closed to staff and students as we try to dry and clean the area.

Student Attendance

Congratulations on your attendance so far this term. We are currently in the top 15 in the diocese 92.1%. Congratulations to Kindy who are currently at 96.5% attendance, followed by Year 3 on 95.1%, Yr 5 92.4%, Yrs 2 92.0%, Yr 4 91.6%, Yr 1 89.4% and then Yr 6 87.8%. Please remember attendance at school is very important in your child's learning.

School Fees

Term 1 fees are due 29th March unless you have opted for an arrangement with the school for the year. Families who have not yet received their statements please contact the school office as soon as possible. If you have any queries regarding your statements please contact Maria in the school office.

School Uniforms

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly, including the correct **socks**. It is expected that children have suitable hairstyles appropriate for their age and school expectations. Long hair must be tied back. Our Sun Safe program—No Hat No Play requires students to wear our school cap or school hat when outside. These hats and caps are available to purchase at the school office. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Please be aware that these can be dangerous during sports time. Simple signet rings may also be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at school.

Crunch and Sip

Just a reminder that Crunch and Sip is a break during class when students can refuel on fruit or vegetables and rehydrate on water. The break assists students with physical and mental performance, and concentration in the classroom

School Student National Data Collection

WHAT IS THE NCCD?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students receiving an adjustment due to the need and level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

The national data collection ensures that, for the first time, information about students with disability is transparent, consistent and reliable at a national level.

IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?

Yes. All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and submit information annually on the number of students receiving adjustments due to disability in their care, and the level of adjustment they receive.

HOW WILL THIS DATA BE USED? In addition to informing funding, the data will inform work at a school and system/sectoral level. It will help to ensure that better support for students who are receiving adjustments because of disability becomes routine in the day-to-day practice of schools through:

- strengthening understanding of schools' legislative obligations and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 in relation to students who are receiving adjustments because of disability
- focusing attention on the individual adjustments required to support students with disability to participate in learning on the same basis as other students, and enabling schools to better reflect on the needs of these students and to support them more effectively
- facilitating a more collaborative and coordinated approach to supporting students who are receiving adjustments because of disability, including through encouraging improvements in documentation at the school level
- strengthening communication between schools, parents/carers and the broader community about the needs of students who are receiving adjustments because of disability.

Faith Community

Harmony Day

We will be celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 22nd March. We will begin the celebration with a whole school liturgy at 9:00am, followed by activities in the classroom. We would like each child to bring a plate of traditional food from their culture to share with their class. Please do not bring in any items that contain nuts and label all ingredients. Students may wear orange mufti or traditional clothing.

- 9:00am Whole School Liturgy on the bottom playground
- 9:50am Infants Morning Tea in the classrooms. Primary will complete an activity in the classroom.
- 10:20am Primary Morning Tea in the classrooms. Infants will complete an activity in the classroom.
- 10:50am Harmony Day activities conclude.



Teaching & Learning

NAPLAN 2019

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online. Our Year Three students will sit the paper writing test. We will have a 'live' online practise across schools later this term. No results are recorded – this is to make sure all internet usage works as well as picking up if there are any issues. Our Year Three and Year Five students will sit NAPLAN 2019 in a two-week block from 14th – 24th May. We will issue a timetable for your information next term. Below are some information sites for you to visit.

Online fact sheets for parents:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/docs/default-source/default-document-library/naplan-online-information-brochure-for-parents-and-carers.pdf>

Public demonstration for students to practise the skills of NAPLAN:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site/>

Youtube: Understanding NAPLAN online

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to see me.

Thank you

Jennifer Veness

Assistant Principal



KINDY 2019

In Kindergarten we have been having so much fun learning and getting to know our buddies and classmates.



Year 2 Excursion

A recount by Alexander Khoury 2Red

The Best Adventure with 2 Red at The Riverside Theatre.

On Wednesday, 13th of March 2019, Year 2 went on a wonderful excursion to the Riverside Theatre. Year 2 Red had the best and most amazing, wonderful time there!!!

When it started all the lights went off like a blackout. Only above the orchestra, the conductor and a funny man spotlights turned on.



Suddenly this funny man popped up. He had a blue shirt, and orange pants. He was doing funny mimes to the music, like a poor man and a rich man.

He has been doing thing with his hands to make a train. He even pretended to lose his cat. It was in an underground tunnel called cat a comb. Other wise about the conductor and the orchestra, the conductor was waving his baton to make the orchestra make music with the instruments. It sounded very good! Everyone loved it. When we had to clap we didn't clap out loud with our hands we had to wave our hands up and with our fingers we waved them and say "ha" whispering. It was one of the best excursion.



Personal Growth

Morning Assembly

At Monday morning assembly, we had a moment of prayer for the victims of the tragedy in New Zealand and as it is Harmony Week it is a perfect opportunity to reflect and grow from this event. On Friday, everyone can wear orange mufti or traditional clothing from their country. We will also be having a whole school prayer on



Friday and everyone in the school is asked to bring traditional food from their country to share with the people in their grade. Please remember the food cannot have any nuts because some children have allergies to nuts. On Tuesday, we held an Open Morning for potential 2020 Kindy parents. Our guides from Year 5 and 6 showed them around the school. Mr Mills also

thanked the students in Year 5 and 6 that helped at the Working Bee last Friday, it was a great success!

By: Media Team

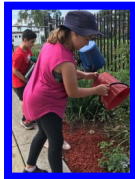
WORKING BEE

Beep, beep, beep! The truck started reversing before it dumped all the red bark down onto the concrete where we will be building our new COLA. Everyone who was part of the Working Bee team was very excited to end the



school day so we could start our Working Bee. We spent the whole day talking about it. Finally, the day ended. We waited for about ten minutes on the silver seats until Mr Mills finished car pick up. We started and Year 6 kids

gave out buckets to help us transfer the red bark to other places around the school. It took us about 40 mins to transfer all the red bark to the garden beds. We were all dirty and tired after all the trips we had to do back and forth but the final result was worth it! After we washed our hands, the year 5 catering group started giving us sandwiches and a popper of juice. We got to have fun for the rest of the afternoon



with our friends. Finally, Mr Mills gave out ice blocks. Parents started coming and the children left around 4:30. We all had an awesome day and Year 5 & 6 would like to say a very big thank you to all the teachers that helped to make this day possible and even bigger thank you to Mr Mills for ordering the bark and being there after school to help us during the Working Bee!



By: Media Team



Partnership

Open Morning

On Tuesday the 19th of March, there was an Open Morning for all parents and families that wish to have their child come to our school in 2020. Many parents and young children came to our school and were taken on a tour to see what



it looks like to be a student of St Margaret Mary's. Mr Mills chose some Year 5 and 6 students to help give the tours around the school for the parents. They needed to take



the guests to see the classrooms, the playgrounds, the LARC, the office, the church and the hall. They also needed to share their favourite thing about St Margaret Mary's and what their favourite subject was.

By: Media Team



BIRTHDAYS



Alex Hatter	Bianca Poumale	John Farah
Nikolas Dounia	Breana Boustani	Therese Bougoide
Jabari Uno	Angil Barshin	Iris Zhang
Felicity Roach	Bernard Elmagri	Simon Zaouk
Christopher Elmagri	Rachel Habib	Grace Geaitani
Eva Shrestha	Angel Offeh	

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

P&F News

Easter Basket/Tray Donations

We are in need of Baskets/Trays for our Easter Raffle. All donations need to be sent to the school office.



Easter Raffle Books

Parents could you please ensure your child's name and class is on every ticket sold by your family as it makes distributing prizes easier for the fundraising committee. All sold and unsold raffle tickets need to be returned to the school office by Friday, 5th April.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

The Second Hand Uniform Shop will be opened on Monday 1st April after the Morning Assembly from 9:00am—9:30am. If you have any uniforms you wish to donate to the Uniform Shop, they can be left at the school office.

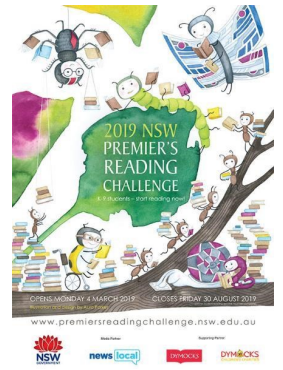


Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) 2019

"The Premier's Reading Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature." (PRC)

It is a challenge for students to read more and read widely, not a competition. Any child, K-6, wishing to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) this year, may begin to do so online, by going to eLibrary or the PRC website:

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>



Any new students, students who have not previously participated in the PRC or students who have forgotten their Username and/or Password, please see your class teacher or Mrs Balogh-Caristo in the LARC.

The students at St Margaret Mary's have until Friday, 30th August, to complete the PRC online. You must read the required number of books from the Challenge to complete the PRC.

All students in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two will read the required number of books to complete the PRC at school, but are welcome to complete the Challenge at home as well.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: Children who complete the PRC will receive a certificate for their efforts towards the end of the year and their name and school only may appear in the PRC Honour Roll.

If you DO NOT WISH your child in Kindergarten, Year One or Year Two to receive a certificate and have their name appear in the PRC Honour Roll please let your child's class teacher know by Friday, 15th March.

If you have any queries or problems, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Balogh-Caristo (Teacher/Librarian)

P&F News

P&F Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended our first meeting for 2019. We would like to welcome Mrs Natalie Georges as President of the P&F Committee for 2019.

Fundraisers for Term 1 and Term 2

Easter

- Monday 11th March: Students will receive Easter raffle books.
- Thursday 11th April: Student to bring in and Easter Egg for the raffle.
- Thursday 11th April: Easter Basket Wrapping and Raffle will be drawn on this day.



Mother's Day

- Thursday 9th May: Mothers Day Gift wrapping.
- Friday 10th May: Mother's Day Stall.
- Monday 13th May: Mother's Day morning



Reminder

Parents are reminded not to park across or stop in driveways in Henson Street, Chetwynd Road, and Davies Street. Our neighbours, and the school, can and will notify police of parents parking across and in driveways.

