



Diary Date

Thursday, 27th August

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Friday, 28th August

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Monday, 31st August

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Tuesday, 1st September

Wednesday, 2nd September

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

I have a close attachment to St Francis of Assisi after reading a number of books about his life, both inside and outside of the Church. He was certainly a hard-working saint who walked the path of Jesus. The quote I loved most is; Preach the Gospel at all times, and if necessary use words. After a number of years reading about St Francis, I am starting to doubt if he really did say these words, BUT I can tell you this; St Francis was a man of practical action. Examples of this are littered throughout his biography, history books and the Franciscan Order's archive. He not only lived on the outskirts of the town, but also on the outer edges of society during his life. I was able to make a connection with Sr. Veronica Lawson RSM reflections for Sunday's gospel.

We all know people in leadership who take themselves a bit too seriously. Some confuse their role or title with their significance in the scheme of things. Some look for privilege and an easy life, forgetting that leadership of anything worthwhile involves hard work, misunderstanding, and invariably brings opposition. The first part of today's gospel story presents Peter, who has just been declared the foundation rock of the church and given the "keys" of the kingdom or empire of the heavens, refusing to accept that Jesus' mission will involve suffering, even death.


Peter forgets this for a while and has to be reminded to be true to what he has previously professed. He is not very different from the rest of us. We too need to rethink our choices and to reorder our priorities from time to time if we want to find life. September 1 is the World Day of Prayer for Creation and our church, along with many churches, is celebrating September 1 to October 4 (Feast of St Francis of Assisi) as a Season of Creation. At a time when life on our planet is seriously endangered, we might attend more closely to the urgent gospel challenge of living in ways that help to sustain the life of the whole Earth community. We bring into our celebration those most affected by Covid-19 and we pray for the insight to live in right relationship with all that is.

Please take the time to read and reflect on this Sunday's Gospel and the need for us to make a difference with our lives to ensure the future for our children and the time beyond.

Take care & keep safe.

Kevin Mills
Principal

**IF GOD CAN WORK
THROUGH ME, HE CAN
WORK THROUGH
ANYONE."**



~ St. Francis

Drink Bottles

We have made adjustments to our bubblers, so children are able to refill their bottles when needed. It is wonderful to see so many children using their new drink bottles with their names clearly marked.

Lunch Orders & Canteen

The school canteen is open to students during the day. All lunch orders MUST be ordered through the Flexischools online ordering and must be ordered by 9am.

Skoolbag App



Our School Name for Skoolbag App is SMMPM. The Skoolbag App is our main source of communication to our families. If you do not have this App on your phone you are missing out on a lot of information.

Tell Them From Me Survey

Tell Them From Me Survey will close on **Friday, 28th August**. We are asking all parents in our community to take part in the survey as the online tool will become an important part of St Margaret Mary's whole school evaluation and planning process.

<http://tellthemfromme.com/stmms2020>

Administration

Staff Professional Learning Day

Friday 11th September

*This is a student free day
(No students attend school on this day)*

Principal Awards

Mr Mills will be hold a Principals Morning Tea for the students who have received an award in each of the Four Pillars. Morning tea will be held on Thursday 3rd September 2020.

Winter Uniform

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly **including neck ties** for boys and girls. All hairstyles should be appropriate to the students age and the schools expectations. Long hair must be tied back. Our Sun Safe program requires students to wear our school cap or hat when outside: **No Hat No Play**. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Simple signet rings may also be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at school.

COVID-19 Information

Sick Leave & Documentation

We ask all our families to follow the guidelines below as we value the well-being and health of the St Margaret Mary's Community.

- Currently, no student should attend school if they are unwell (Doctor's Certificate).
- Each student who is absent from school or who has been sent home because they have flu-like symptoms, need to see a doctor or must have a COVID-19 test.
- A negative COVID-19 test result must be provided to the school before a student can come back to school. The notification can be a NSW Health or COVID-19 Testing Centre letter, SMS or email and / or a medical certificate.
- Students are not able to return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free.



Faith Community

Year 3 Prayers

In Religious Education this term, Year 3 have been learning about different types of prayers. We have written some of our own prayers. Here are some we would like to share with you.

Dear God,
Heal the sick people as you healed the blind man.
Feed the hungry people as you have fed the 5000.
Love the poor people as you loved every one of us.
Amen
By: Isabella H.

Dear God,
Thank you for the nature that you have created for us,
The trees so we can breathe and the moon to let us know it's a good time to sleep.
Thank you for the sun so we know when to wake.
Thank you for the light that will guide our way.
Amen
By: Aldrei V.

Personal Growth

StMM's Pyjama Day

On Friday, 25th September, Year Six will be holding a Pyjama Day. We would like everyone to participate including staff, by wearing their pyjamas! We would also like you to bring your favourite cuddly toy. Examples: Teddy bears, dolls and other cuddly toys. There will be plenty of fun activities on the day such as;

- Who brings the best cuddly toy?
- Who is wearing the most original pyjamas?
- A TRIVIA CONTEST!!!

So don't forget:

- What: Pyjama Day
- Date: Friday 25th September
- Wear: Comfy Pyjamas & Shoes or Slippers

Bring: Cuddly toy (Dressed-up)

We can't wait to see everybody in their comfy pyjamas!
By: Marissa Rahme, Akuol Mayom, Amol Akoy

Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

Closes this Friday, 28th August!

There are still a few days left to complete the PRC.

Books read on SORA can also be included in the PRC, as a Free Choice book (limit of 5), a Bonus Choice 2020 book (limit of 5), or if they are on the approved PRC Booklist.

