



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Newsletter No 25

Bulletin

Wednesday, 16th September, 2020

Diary Date

Thursday, 17th September

Friday, 18th September

Monday, 21st September

Tuesday, 22nd September

Wednesday, 23rd September

Thursday 24th September

Friday, 25th September

- Pyjama Day
- School Closes at 3pm for Term 3

Monday, 12th October

- School Resumes for Term 4

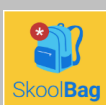
Drink Bottles

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.

Principal's Message

Parents and Carers

This passage follows on from our bulletin two weeks ago. It is adapted from the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) which was established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference through the Bishops Commission for Catholic Education (Chairperson Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP).



What StMM's does?

- StMM's challenges students to discover God and to make value of their lives, while encouraging them to appreciate the intrinsic worth of who they are now and where they are now.
- We use our students' experiences as the basis for developing a synthesis of faith and culture, and of faith and life, while seeking to provide a high-quality academic and vocational education for all our students, giving due emphasis to the fundamental literacy and numeracy skills required for both learning and life.
- At StMM's, we actively and systematically promote the faith development of students in a conducive environment providing a religious education program which make students knowledgeable about their faith.
- A key component of StMM's is prayer and the celebration of Eucharist in our community, while giving priority to activities involving active community service and issues of social justice.
- StMM's is always striving to be a welcoming and effective community and provide a genuine experience of community for students, teachers, parents and priests.



What contribution does StMM's make?

- StMM's educates young Australians to be skilled, informed, tolerant, open and just, while enhancing the common good, the development of Australia and the building and improvement of a socially just Australian society that is multicultural and multi-faith.
- We offer a voice which challenges current and future generations to reflect on their world in the light of Christ's message, encouraging and providing a basis for students to seek to develop their relationship with their God and to continue their faith journey throughout their lives.
- StMM's provides the potential to combine the spirituality of our Indigenous people and the different spiritual traditions of the various migrant communities since 1788, as a basis for valuing our diversity and promoting social justice.
- StMM's continues to respond to, and to serve, the needs of the parents in Merrylands, who seek a Catholic education for their children. In the building up of Christ's Kingdom and Australian society, we play a deliberate and vital role. As explicitly acknowledged in The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium (1997).



"... now, as in the past, the Catholic school must be able to speak for itself effectively and convincingly. It is not merely a question of adaptation, but of missionary thrust, the fundamental duty to evangelise, to go toward men and women wherever they are, so that they may receive the gift of salvation"

I am blessed to work in a wonderful Catholic community at St Margaret Mary's with the support of staff, parents, carers, students and Fr Janusz. Our ability to **Listen, Share and Act** on The Word of God makes our parish stronger and enables us to follow and walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Take care & keep safe.

Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Chromebooks

An additional 50 chromebooks have been issued to learning spaces. It is expected that all StMM's students follow correct IT protocols.

End of Year for Year 6

In a changing COVID world we continue to look at what events we will be able to hold for our Year 6 Graduation. We will review the guidelines at the beginning of Term 4 and inform our community.

We thank you for your understanding and patience.

Parent/Teacher Interviews.

Teachers will continue to contact parents over the remainder of the week for phone interviews regarding their child. Teachers will be calling either before school, after school or during their breaks. Please note, if you miss the phone call, the teachers will try to contact you again.

School Uniforms

Children can choose to wear either their full summer uniform or full winter uniform until the end of term. Children will still wear their sports uniforms on their respective sports days.

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly, including the correct **socks**. 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.

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.

Doctor's Medical Certificates

We ask that when submitting a skoolbag absentee online for a child that is absent, and a medical certificate **has** been obtained from the doctor, please forward this certificate to the school email stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au

Faith Community

NEW Online Platform!

The Diocese of Parramatta recently launched [The Well](#) – a new online platform that provides free, 'on-demand' inspiration for families, children, young people and faith communities. With over 80 (and growing) videos, podcasts and other online resources, at any time of day or night, you can watch and listen to:

- High-energy children's shows
- Information and reflections on the sacraments
- Recordings of young musicians around the Diocese leading praise and worship
- Thought-provoking discussions from local and international speakers
- Inspirational sharing from young people and young women.

First Holy Communion

We wish our children who are receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist this weekend, God's Blessing. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Year 4 Religious Education

In Religious Education, we have been studying the unit 'Living like the Saints'. We have focused our learning on Australia's first saint, Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. To show our understanding, we recorded short movies about the life



of Mary MacKillop and how she became a Saint. We did this by getting into groups of 4-5 and had to work together to finish our video. The roles we played included Mary MacKillop, Mary's dad and mum, Father Woods, students at a school and the Bishop. After we filmed, we had to edit our videos by using either WeVideo or DoInk.

It was quite challenging at first, but we achieved it. We wore costumes and scarves to make us look like the characters we were playing. We were really creative and at the same time we had so much fun. The teachers always plan such fun and amazing activities for Year 4! Thank you year 4 teachers!

By: Annalise Draiby, Caroline El Bayeh and Laura Fakhr



Personal Growth

Pyjama Day

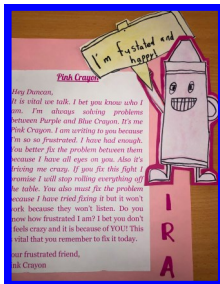
Pyjama Day will be held on Friday, 25th September. Please make sure to wear your pyjamas and bring a cuddly toy, such as a teddy bear or any other cuddly toy. Activities will be held on this day, such as trivia, who has the best pyjamas and who has the best cuddly toy.

Teaching & Learning

Year One Persuasive Letters

Year One have been learning how to write persuasive letters, with a focus on emotive language to capture the reader's attention. In response to reading *'The Day the Crayons Quit'* we planned, wrote and published our own persuasive letters to Duncan. Here are some of our letters, we hope you enjoy reading them!

Hey Duncan,
It is vital we talk. I bet you know who I am. I'm always solving problems between Purple and Blue Crayon. It's me Pink Crayon. I am writing to you because I'm so so frustrated. I have had enough. You better fix the problem between them because I have all eyes on you. Also it's driving me crazy. If you fix this fight I promise I will stop rolling everything off the table. You also must fix the problem because I have tried fixing it but it won't work because they won't listen. Do you know how frustrated I am? I bet you don't it feels crazy and it is because of YOU! This is vital that you remember to fix it today.
Your frustrated friend,
Pink Crayon



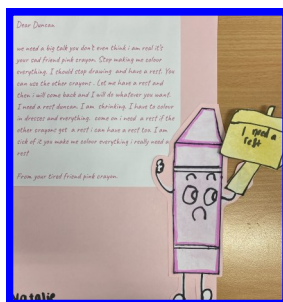
By: Ira Shrestha

Dear Duncan,
Do you have time to talk because this is important? You have to take care of me. You have to stop breaking my tips. The other crayons laugh at me and I feel upset. If you keep breaking my tips I will find a new crayon owner and I bet they are going to take better care of me. Duncan you have to tell the other crayons to stop teasing me because they are making me cry. Your upset crayon,
Violet



By: Gisele Mandavy

Dear Duncan,
We need a big talk. You don't even think I am real, it's your sad friend pink crayon. Stop making me colour everything. I should stop drawing and have a rest! You can use the other crayons. Let me have a rest and then I will come back and I will do whatever you want. I need a rest Duncan. I am shrinking. I have to colour in dresses and everything. Come on i need a rest if the other crayons get a rest i can have a rest too. I am sick of it you make me colour everything I really need a rest



Year 4 Drama Literacy

This term, we were lucky to continue our learning about the First Fleet. We combined our learning from History, English and Drama Literacy to create videos about the life of a convict, beginning with their life in London, their journey on the First Fleet and their



experiences in the early colony. First, we wrote a script on Google Docs containing all of our lines that we would like to read. We then printed the scripts and then we practised and memorised all of our lines. Then we brought our costumes, and we



started to film ourselves with the green screens. Filming with the green screens was such a blast! I know everybody wants to do it all again! We started editing the video



to make it look AMAZING! We finally had a perfect video which is fun, interesting, and full of facts on the early colony. When we were finished, we were sad to stop, it was fun



pretending to be somebody from 2000 years in the past.

Written by Patrick Guidone and Natalie Cinello



Swapping Work

Students in Year 1 and Mrs Ryan's Year 5 Writing group swapped their work, and shared their ideas.



Partnership

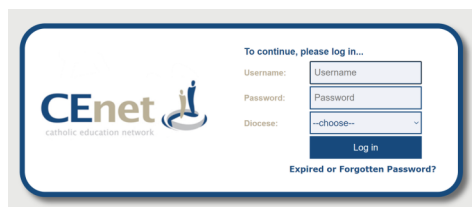
Clickview

Access to G-Rated Movies from Home

Students can **log into ClickView at home to watch some great G-rated movies** without worrying about ads or inappropriate video suggestions popping up.

How do students sign into ClickView?

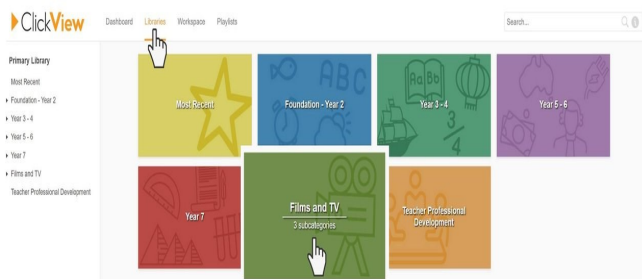
1. Go to <https://online.clickview.com.au/SignIn>
2. Enter student's CEDP email address. The page should redirect to the CEnet log in page.



3. Enter student log in details.
4. Where it says Diocese Choose "Parramatta Education" from the dropdown menu.

Where to find the films in ClickView?

1. Once you are signed into ClickView choose Libraries
2. Click Primary Library
3. Click Films and TV



St Margaret Mary's Parish

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020 CONFIRMATION

Enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation open until **Friday, 09 October 2020**.
Sacrament of Reconciliation program is divided into two groups to be taught by Fr. Joseph Maria Buckley and assisted by Monique Kairouz.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:

All preparation sessions held on **MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS** at 6:00pm.

Session 1: 12 OCTOBER 2020 & 14 OCTOBER 2020
Session 2: 19 OCTOBER 2020 & 21 OCTOBER 2020
Session 3: 26 OCTOBER 2020 & 28 OCTOBER 2020
Session 4: 02 NOVEMBER 2020 & 04 NOVEMBER 2020

Venue: Church Hall at St. Margaret Mary's School.

Dates for Sacrament of Confirmation to follow soon.

Please contact the Parish Office during office hours for submission of the enrolment forms.

How do I Know if I am an Indulgent Parent!

Over indulgence prevents children from learning important skills. Here are the Top 10 Tips to **Avoid** indulgence:

1. Realize that over-indulging harms children's ability to function in life.
2. Point out when they have had enough of something.
3. Teach the difference between what they **need** and what they **want**.
4. At times have children wait for things they want. Coping with frustration will help them.
5. Set and hold firm limits and rules.
6. Follow through with consequences.
7. Don't do things for your children that they can do for themselves.
8. Think about the value you put on material things and how you view responsibilities.
9. Show gratitude for all you have.
10. Encourage your children to think of others and make the world a better place.

It can be hard to avoid over indulgence in our culture that **values material things**. Also, it can seem easier to do things for your children than having them do it.

Children **need skills to deal with everyday life**.

Over-indulgence can happen when parents **do not make children face the consequences of their misbehaviour**.

This robs kids of chances to learn and grow from mistakes and can lead to poor coping skills.

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.
If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6 th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.		
(Hagy and Herman, 1987)		
WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.		

Cumberland City Council Book Week Competition

Students are invited to enter the Cumberland City Council Book Week competition for their chance to win one of twelve Book Week Pack prizes (Categories: K-2, 3-4 & 5-6), and have their work displayed. An entry form has been sent home with each student, if they would like to participate. Entries close on **Friday, 16th October, 2020** and may be handed in at any of the Cumberland City Council libraries.