



#### Diary Date

**Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> October**

**Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October**

- **Feast of St Margaret Mary**
- **Mufti Day** — Students are asked to wear **Red**

**Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October**

**Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October**

**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October**

#### 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

#### StMM's Feast Day (Franciscan Media)

Dear Parents, Carers & Children,

Welcome back to our last term of what has been a very challenging 2020. It is in these challenging times we are asked to go beyond the normal in our daily lives. This was very much the case with Margaret Mary who was chosen by Christ to awaken the Church to a realisation of the love of God symbolised by the heart of Jesus.

Her early years were marked by sickness and a painful home situation. "The heaviest of my crosses was that I could do nothing to lighten the cross my mother was suffering." After considering marriage for some time, Margaret Mary entered the Order of the Visitation nuns at the age of 24. A fellow novice said of Margaret Mary she was humble, simple, and frank, but above all, kind and patient under sharp criticism and correction.

On December 21, 1674, three years a nun, she received the first of her revelations. She felt "invested" with the presence of God, though always afraid of misleading herself in such matters. The request of Christ was that his love for humankind be made evident through her.

During the next 13 months, Christ appeared to her at intervals. His human heart was to be the symbol of his divine-human love. By her own love Margaret Mary was to make up for the coldness and ingratitude of the world—by frequently and lovingly receiving Holy Communion, especially on the first Friday of each month, and by an hour's vigil of prayer every Thursday night in memory of his agony and isolation in Gethsemane.

Like all saints, Margaret Mary had to pay for her gift of holiness. Theologians who were called in declared her visions delusions and suggested that she eat more heartily. Later, parents of children she taught called her an impostor, an unorthodox innovator.

A new confessor, the Jesuit Claude de la Colombière, recognized her genuineness and supported her. Against her great resistance, Christ called her to be a sacrificial victim for the shortcomings of her own sisters, and to make this known. After serving as novice mistress and assistant superior, Margaret Mary died at the age of 43, while being anointed. She said: "I need nothing but God, and to lose myself in the heart of Jesus."

In our world of scientific and materialistic needs, we cannot "prove" private revelations and theologians, if pressed, admit that we do not *have to believe in them*. *But it is impossible to deny the message Margaret Mary heralded: "that God loves us with a passionate love". This is the message that our patron saint calls us to share within our StMM's community and beyond as we are called to be people of love and action.*

God Bless, take care and keep safe,

Kevin Mills  
Principal



## Administration

### Student Data Validation

Student Data Validation forms will be sent to primary household contacts via email or SMS next week by CEDP. Given the current challenges with COVID-19, we encourage parents/carers to complete these forms to ensure StMM's has accurate and reliable information.

### School Fee Credits - Term 4 Statements

Dear Parents,  
As a result of 2020 Covid 19 restrictions and due to the NSW Health Guidelines, the following charges have been reversed for 2020 and will appear on Term 4 statements sent out by CEDP next week.

- Cancelled overnight Excursions for Year 5 and Year 6.
- Cancelled events that have been charged as part of the Annual \$60 Activity Fee for all grades.

A charge may appear for any incursions or activities that may have occurred or will be occurring in Term 4. (Only certain grades)

Any remaining credit balances on the school fee statements at the end of the year, will carry forward into 2021.

If you have any further enquiries, please contact Maria Paganò in our school office on 8633 8400.

Thank you for your continuing support.

### Evacuation Practice

StMM's held an evacuation practise yesterday. It took 3mins for the whole school to evacuate from all learning areas. This was an excellent result for a primary evacuation. These drills are held regularly as part of our ongoing commitment to the Work Health and Safety of our community at StMM's.

### School Uniforms

Students should be in Full Summer Uniform.

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.

### Jersey Day

On Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> October Year 6 will be holding a Jersey Day where students and staff can wear their favourite jersey to school. During the day there will be some fun activities; a Soccer game (staff vs students), an oz tag match and a drawing contest where one person from each grade will be nominated as the winner of a fantastic prize!

This will be **no gold coin** donation event.

By: Nana Saahene, Joseph Georges, Marcus Haddad and Stone Toamotu



## 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](mailto:stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au)

## Faith Community

### Feast Day of St Margaret Mary

To celebrate the Feast Day of St Margaret Mary (Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October), a series of activities and experiences have been planned for students to engage in throughout the day. Each grade will have an allocated time to engage in each experience, that includes prayer and contemplation, games and sports, art and craft and team trivia.

Friday will be a mufti day with students being encouraged to wear red to represent the sacred heart of Jesus. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 guidelines.

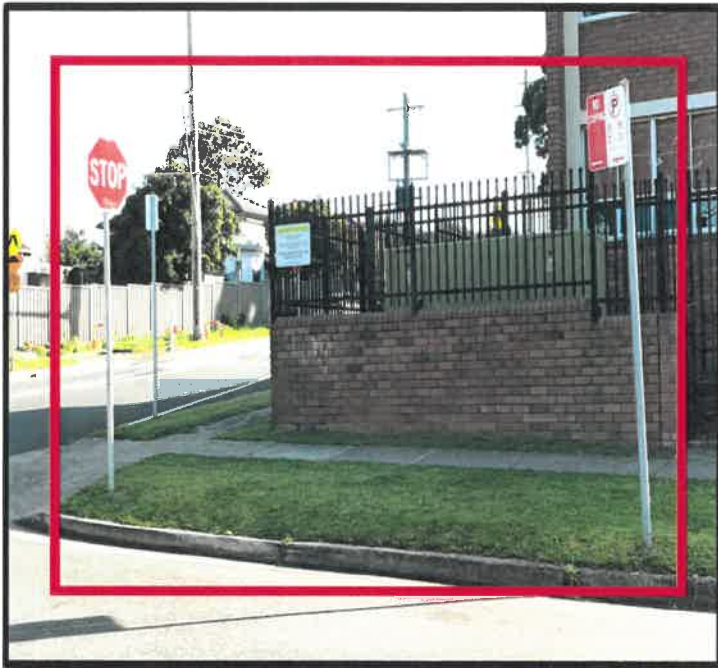
Friday is a student only day. Photos and student reflections from the day will be shared with our parent and family community.



## Car Drop Off & Pick Up

### Traffic Around StMM's

Just a reminder about the corner of Henson St & Davies Street. The following picture indicates an issue around the safety of our community. This sign means that in the area indicated with the direction of the arrow back to the STOP sign you must not stop your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb. Not obeying this road rule will result in a penalty and fine.



### Steps to a successful School Drop Off @ StMM's

- In review, the perfect drop off scenario should be as follows:
- Children are dressed, backpacks are ready on the seat.
- Remain calm and patient at all times.
- Approach the drop off zone fully alert.
- Follow all road rules and signage with hands on steering wheel.
- Eyes forward when it's your turn for car unloading.
- You initiate the "Goodbye, have a great day" sequence.
- Children unload swiftly and with all of their belongings.
- Ease away from the curb & drive away from the school.
- Drive away slowly taking the safety of our children into consideration.



### Practices for Afternoon Car Pick-Up @ StMM's

We have been informed by the local Police Area Commander in charge of local traffic that we only have control of StMM's school block on Henson Street. This means the following:

- We will aim to start Car Pick-Up at 3.00pm
- The only dedicated Car Pick-Up queue is the length of the school block in Henson Street
- Joining this queue must be done following all road and traffic rules including signage
- Parents/Carers are now able to join the Car Pick-Up queue via Davies Street & Henson St
- Ensure you give way correctly taking into account all signage & road rules
- Cars that are lined up across from the school block in Henson Street will be booked. The police view this as double parking.

### Aspects to follow for Car Pick -Up

- Stagger your arrival between 3.00pm and 3.30pm
- Have your number visible for the teacher to call
- Remain calm and patient at all times
- Adults to remain in cars
- Follow all road rules and signage

## Partnership

### Book Week 2020 (17<sup>th</sup> Oct - 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct.)

To celebrate Book Week this year, students are invited to create and wear a "Creepy, Curious Creature Cap" on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October with their normal school uniform. (For example, you could make a picture of a beetle or a spider, which is pinned to a cap.)



During this week students will have the opportunity to read and experience some of the Children's Book Council of Australia Shortlisted Book Week books with their class and view pre recorded performances by the Cumberland City Council Children's Librarians, as well as view ClickView videos based on the theme: Curious Creatures, Wild Minds. The ClickView videos are rated G and PG. If you have any concerns about your child viewing these videos please contact your child's/children's class teacher.

Students will also have the opportunity to design and make their own curious creature, related to the Book Week theme,



during recess and lunch times throughout the week.

We are also encouraging you all to spend time reading, with your child during Book Week.



# Teaching and Learning

## Year Six Electricity Projects

At the end of term Three, Year 6 had the opportunity to show off their Electricity projects that were completed as a home-work task. After discussions about forms of energy and different types of circuits, students had to come up with their own creations. The variety of projects and skill level produced through the projects was amazing to see.



## Year 5's Literacy Fun Day!

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020, Year 5 participated in an entertaining day at school organised by a group of Year 5 students, led by Ms Veness and the Year 5 teachers. Year 5 students were able to participate in fun activities throughout the day such as painting, drawing, chalk drawing, mask making and more. All these amazing activities were based on our literacy books that we had been studying in Term 3 such as 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' by C.S Lewis and the well-known classic, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl. The group of Year 5 students worked very hard to create an inter-



active Kahoot game based on the two novels. To wrap up the eventful day, Year 5 were treated with watching the entire Charlie and the Chocolate Factory movie!

By: Auel Hawach and Benedict Blas Media Team



# Personal Growth

## Pyjama Day

On Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020 we had Pyjama Day! The theme for this day was a reflection on being homeless. Being homeless is not having a permanent roof over your head. You can be homeless by not being able to afford to pay rent or afford your own home.



During this day we had many activities to take part in - dressup parades, bringing our favourite cuddly toys, colouring activities, writing prayers based on homelessness, fun activities on the playground during recess and lunch and trivia

quiz questions. Our day finished with a guided meditation session to reflect and remember just how lucky we are in our own lives.

