St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 30 **Update** **Wednesday, 4th November, 2020**

Diary Date

Thursday, 4th November

Friday, 6th November
- Year 3 Science Incursion

Monday, 9th November
-

Tuesday, 10th November
- Principals Morning Tea

Wednesday, 11th November

Drink Bottles

Students are reminded they must have a drink bottle at school everyday.
Replacement drink bottles are available from the school office for $5.00. This is a cash sale only. No EFT can be used for this purchase. A limited colour selection is available.

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

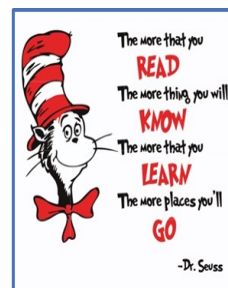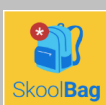Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

StMM's Learning Community places a great deal of importance of the skill of reading. We have spent a great deal of money on reading material for our students across the range of Learning Spaces in the school. We are delighted with the support of our parents and carers and the time they are spending reading with, listening to and sharing the love of books with their children.
Reading is making meaning from print. It requires that we:

- Identify the words in print – a process called **word recognition**
- Construct an understanding from them – a process called **comprehension**
- Coordinate identifying words and **making meaning** so that reading is automatic and accurate – an achievement called **fluency**

5 Key tips for encouraging young readers

- Make time for **reading**. Set aside a regular read-aloud time with your child each day.
- Choose **reading** material at the right level for your child's abilities.
- Look for a variety of **reading** material.
- Exhibit your own love for **reading**.
- Provide access to books and don't rely on technology.

Top 6 tips to help children enjoy reading

- **Make books a part of family life** – Always have books around at home. That way you and your children are ready to get reading, even if it's only for ten minutes.
- **Read about something they're interested in** – Help your child find the right book for them. It doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
- **All reading is good** – Don't rule out non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines or leaflets. Reading is reading and it's all worthwhile.
- **Ask questions** – To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read. Start with 'Where did we get to last time?', 'Can you remember what's happened so far?' and 'What do you think will happen next?'.
- **Read favourites again and again** – Encourage your child to re-read the books and poems they love. Re-reading helps to build fluency and confidence.
- **Enjoy bedtime stories** – Read with your kids at bedtime as often as you can. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with them.
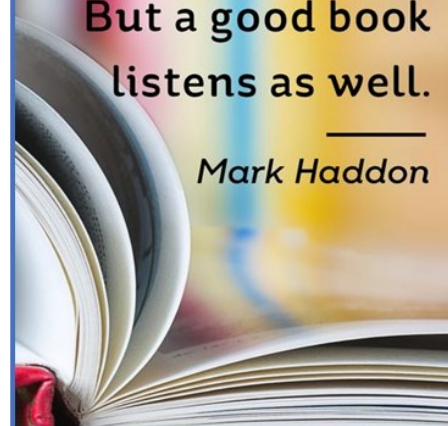
The following is a simple saying in education: **We learn to read, and then, we read to learn.** *Please keep this at the forefront of your mind when you spend time with your child reading and thank you all for your support.*

God Bless and take care,

_____
Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

School Photos

School Photographs will be taken on
Thursday 12th November

All students should have received their photo envelopes by now, if you haven't received yours, please collect an envelope from the school office.
Parents should order online (preferred method) through the Don Wood website using a PC or Laptop:
www.donwoodphotography.com.au using our unique school code **751R17**

When ordering online no envelope is required to be brought back to school.
If ordering with cash, children must bring the envelope to school with the correct money on Photo Day. No change will be given.
All students are to wear their full summer uniform on this day (NO SPORTS UNIFORMS).

Family photos are available and envelopes must be collected from the school office, before photo day (Thursday 12th November) and orders placed as per above.

The School office will be closed before school for staff photos.

Jersey Day and School Soccer Game

On 30th October 2020, St Margaret Mary's enjoyed Jersey Day. A day where you were given the opportunity to wear the jersey or the colours of your favourite sport team. At recess, we started off with some great activities held by Year 6 to show skill including basketball shots, tossing bean bags into a hoop and rolling hula hoops. In the middle session, Year 6 held a jersey competition where you had to design your own jersey from your imagination. A winner was chosen from each class and they received a prize. After lunch, Mr Maunick organised a whole school soccer game between teachers and some students from Kindy to Year 6. Thank you to Year 6 for organising the day, we had a great Friday!

Benedict Blas and Thomas Yu
Media Team

Teaching and Learning

Book Week Competition Winner

Congratulations to Chadi Haouchab, in 5 Yellow, who won the Cumberland City Council Libraries' Book Week Competition for students in Years 5 and 6. Chadi imagined and wrote about an 'ugly animal' then illustrated it. His fabulous work, as well as other entries, went on display in various Cumberland City Council Libraries to celebrate Book Week 2020. Chadi was awarded two books for his efforts; *The Glimme by Emily Rodda and Young Dark Emu by Bruce Pascoe.*

Kindergarten 2021

Orientation Program 2020

Infants K-2 Open Classrooms (students and parents)
Saturday 14th November
9:00 - 11:00am

Session 1 (students only)
Thursday 19th November
10:00 - 11:30am

Session 2 (students only)
Thursday 26th November
10:00 - 11:30am

Session 3 (students only)
Thursday 3rd December
10:00 - 11:30am

School Website

The **Parent Information** video is now available on the school website.

Click on '**Prepare for Kindy 2021**' on the home page.

Please visit the link below:
https://www.stmmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au/

Faith Community

Prayers for Others

During this year a number of our Community have passed away. COVID has had a significant impact upon our ability to celebrate these individual's lives. Please take a moment to ask our God to grant them peace and keep them close.

All Souls' Day Prayer

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD, AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM. MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

AMEN