



# St Margaret Mary's School

*Listen Share Act*

7 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands 2160 Tel (02) 8633 8400 Fax (02) 8633 8499  
Email: stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Newsletter No 12

## Bulletin

Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2021

### Diary Dates

#### Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> May

- Kindergarten 2022 Interviews continue for Sibling Families.
- P&F Mother's Day Wrapping

#### Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> May

- Mother's Day Breakfast 7:30 - 8:30am for families who have RSVP.
- 8:30am Mother's Day Prayer Service.
- P&F Mother's Day Stall for Students
- Kindergarten 2022 Interviews continue for Sibling Families.

#### Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> May

#### Mother's Day

#### Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May

- 8:40am Whole School Assembly  
Parents are welcome to attend.

#### Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May

- 9:00am - 10:30am NAPLAN Writing Test for Students in Yr 3
- 11:30am - 1:00pm NAPLAN Writing Test for Students in Yr 5

#### Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May

- 9:00am - 10:30am NAPLAN Reading Test for Students in Yr 5
- 11:30am - 1:00pm NAPLAN Reading Test for Students in Yr 3

### 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 is the main preference for communication to all parents. Our School Name for Skoolbag App is SMMPM.



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents / Carers, Girls & Boys,

Parenting is arguably the hardest job there is and the one for which we get no training. Here are ten principles of parenting that can guide us in the demanding work of raising children of character. I feel the following "adjusted article from "Raising Children of Character: 10 Principles by Thomas Lickona may be of help.

**Don't forget you are always the parent! No matter how old your child is!**

#### 1. Make Character Development a High Priority

We need to view our children as adults-in-the-making. What kind of character do we want them to possess as grown men and women? Will they be generous and responsible adults?

#### 2. Be a Confident Parent

Parents must have a strong sense of their moral authority — their right to be respected and obeyed. Confident parents are high on authority, reasoning, fairness, and love.

#### 3. Love Children

When kids feel loved, this love makes them receptive to our guidance. We need emotionally intimate time to keep any relationship strong and growing. Good communication doesn't happen automatically.

#### 4. Teach by Example

Teaching by example goes beyond treating our children with love and respect. It has to do with how we treat each other as spouses and how we treat and talk about others outside the family — relatives, friends, neighbours, and teachers.

#### 5. Manage the Moral Environment

How should we regulate kids' use of media — TV, movies, music, video games, and the Internet? The basic rule: The use of media in the home is a privilege, not a right. Exercise of that privilege requires parental permission and presence.

#### 6. Use Teaching to Form Habits and Conscience

We need to practice what we preach, but we also need to preach what we practice. Teaching helps to develop a child's habits and conscience. "Pick up your toys." "Say please and thank you." "Don't interrupt." "Look at a person who's speaking to you." "This is how we behave," "This is how we live." Teaching includes explaining why some things are right and others wrong.

#### 7. Discipline Wisely

Disciplining wisely means setting expectations, holding kids accountable to them, and responding to their lapses in a way that both teaches what's right and motivates the child to do what's right. This means discipline should be clear and firm but not harsh.

#### 8. Solve Conflicts Fairly

Conflicts provide important opportunities to foster character development. A fairness approach can be used to solve a wide range of family conflicts. It has three parts: (1) achieving mutual understanding; (2) arriving at a fair, agreed upon solution to the problem; and (3) holding a follow-up meeting to evaluate how the solution is working.

#### 9. Provide Opportunities to Practice the Virtues

Virtues develop through practice. We don't develop character in child simply by talking about it; they need real responsibilities in family life. Child will make mistakes growing up, just as we did.

#### 10. Foster Spiritual Development

Religion gives life a higher meaning and an ultimate reason for leading an ethical life. It helps our children to develop a spiritual vision that address life's largest questions: What is the meaning of life? What is the purpose of my life? What leads to authentic happiness? How do I develop my relationship with God?

God Bless

Mr Kevin Mills  
Principal

# Administration

## Enrolments

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2022 are now taking place. If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2017, please collect an enrolment form from the school office. Interviews have commenced and will continue until the middle of May. If you have collected an enrolment form and not returned it to the school office please do so as soon as possible, along with the relevant documentation then you will receive an interview time for you and your child. We have over 110 applications.

## Medical Information

Parents are reminded of the importance of ensuring all medical information regarding their child is up to date at all times. This includes updating asthma plans, anaphylaxis plans and any medication that your child requires during school time. This updated information allows the school to best treat your child should an emergency arise.

## Updating our Information

Having accurate, up-to-date information on our students is an important part of maintaining their safety and wellbeing, and supporting their learning. It also assists schools to make good decisions about how best to support and care for all students.

If any of your contact details have changed including emergency contacts, please contact the school office to update these changes.

## Morning Drop Off

Parents are reminded, they are not to exit their cars when dropping off their children in the mornings in the Kiss & Drop Zone. Students should be ready to get out of the car as soon as you arrive in the Zone.

## Winter Uniform

Students are required to be dressed in winter uniform for Term 2. There will be a 4 week grace period for students. All students must be in full school winter uniform by Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> May.

**Lowes is the only supplier of StMM's school uniforms. Uniforms brought from any other supplier is in breach of contract and may not be correct.**

Parents and students are reminded that they must wear the correct school and sports shoes.



## Monitoring Attendance

We monitor students attendance and lateness on a regular basis, throughout the year. School attendance plays a very important role in your child's learning, this includes being late on a regular basis.

## Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to this school in 2021, please let the office know as soon as possible, in writing. It is a CEDP Policy that 10 school weeks notice is given to the principal before the removal of your child from the school, otherwise a full term fees will be required to be paid.

## Teaching & Learning

### Kindergarten

On Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021, Kindergarten launched into their new Science & Technology unit "How Objects Move?" They had an exciting incursion by Supreme Incursions in the school hall.



Kindy learnt lots about billy carts and participated in three fun activities. There was a building station with different materials and tools, billy carts driving station and learnt how to build a scooter.

Kindy had an amazing time and learnt so much about the different forces such as push, pull, friction and gravity!



## NAPLAN Timetable

Dear Parents

Below is the NAPLAN timetable for the next two weeks.

If your child is unable to attend one of the tests, then they will have time to complete a make-up test. (Year 3 Writing close off date is 17/5).

Tuesday	11/5/2021	9:00am	Year 3 Writing (paper) test
Tuesday	11/5/2021	11:30 am	Year 5 Writing
Wednesday	12/5/2021	9:00am	Year 5 Reading
Wednesday	12/5/2021	11:30 am	Year 3 Reading
Thursday	13/5/2021	9:00am	Year 3 Conventions of Language
Thursday	13/5/2021	11.30 am	Year 5 Conventions of Language
Friday	14/5/2021	9:00am	Year 3 Numeracy
Friday	14/5/2021	11:30 am	Year 5 Numeracy

Students who are absent on the above dates will sit the tests from Monday 17/5/2021 to Friday 21/5/2021. In the event of technological issues, we also have these dates as back-up for the whole grade/s. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jennifer Veness  
Assistant Principal

# Personal Growth

## Primary Athletics Carnival

Go McGovern! Go Tosi! Go Maur! Go Kostka!

Last Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of April students in Years 3-6 jumped on buses and headed to Holroyd Sports Ground for the Primary Athletics Carnival. The first event was the 800 metre race that many children chose to do. The rest of the students cheered them on! After the 800 metre race, the teams split up into their age groups and they went off to do activities to earn points for their team. Some of the activities were long jump, shot put, novelties, ball games, tug of war, relays and sprinting. To finish off the day we did the 100 metre finals race and the cheering competition. Kostka came first in the cheering competition. We look forward to seeing which colour house was the overall champion of the day and we wish everyone the best of luck. Lastly, a special thank you to Mrs Foley for organising the fantastic sports carnival!

*By Eva Shrestha, John Farah, and Elena Lin Media Team*

## Infants Sports Carnival

We have been very impressed with how the Primary Sports carnival was run. We are now looking at how we can organise a similar carnival for the Infant students over the next month. Information will be sent out to families at a later date.



## Partnership

### P&F News

#### Mother's Day Stall Reminder

The StMM's P&F Mother's Day Stall will be held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May. **For Students Only in the school hall**

With their class teacher, students will visit the stall and have an opportunity to purchase a lovely gift for their mum, grandmother or caregiver!

Students will be able to purchase gifts for \$1, \$2, \$3, \$5, \$7 and \$10.

We thank you for your continued support.

#### Second Hand Uniform Shop

The Second Hand Uniform Shop will only open on the first Monday of each month from 8:50am - 9:30am after the morning assembly.

#### Volunteer Requirements

All parents/carers that wish to assist the P&F in any activities, must complete the CEDP Building Child Safe Communities online undertaking form and training module for volunteers.

This can be accessed via

1. [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)
2. Click on About Us
3. Click on Building Child Safe Communities
4. Read the questions and follow the instructions carefully

CEDP have made changes to the requirements for Building Child Safe Communities training. Therefore If you have completed the BCSC training prior to 2020, you will need to complete the new training as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support.



**LOWES**

**2 DAY VIP EVENT – 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> MAY**  
**ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS**

**20% OFF**  
**SCHOOLWEAR**  
**& EVERYTHING ELSE!**

**LOWES ZERO**  
GREAT BENEFITS • ZERO INTEREST

**LOWES**  
REWARDS CLUB

**DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS**

\*Offer available In-store & Online ends midnight (AEST) 7th May 2021. Must use Zero or Rewards card to receive discount. Excludes Gift Cards and Schoolwear buy-bys. Savings of original prices. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, no refunds.

### Mother's Day Breakfast

St Margaret Mary's Mother's Day Breakfast will be held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 7:30am - 8:30am for all the Mother's who returned their RSVP slip due to catering purposes.

