



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 19

Update

Wednesday, 24th June, 2021

Diary Dates

Thursday, 24th June

- Principal Morning Tea

Friday, 25th June

- School Closes at 3pm for Term 2.

Monday, 12th July

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

Tuesday, 13th July

Wednesday, 14th July

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.

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, Boys & Girls,

The following short tips on raising caring kids is based on research in human development from Harvard School of Education which clearly shows that the seeds of empathy, caring, and compassion are present from early in life, but that to become caring, ethical people, children need adults to help them at every stage of childhood to nurture these seeds into full development. Below are a set of guideposts to raising caring, respectful, and ethical children, along with tips for putting them into action.

1. **Work to develop caring, loving relationships with your kids:** Children learn caring and respect when they are treated that way. When our children feel loved, they also become attached to us. **TRY THIS:** Regular time together; Meaningful conversation
2. **Be a strong moral role model and mentor:** Children learn ethical values and behaviours by watching our actions and the actions of other adults they respect. Children will listen to our teaching when we walk the talk. **TRY THIS:** Be of Service; Honesty and humility; take care of yourself.
3. **Make caring for others a priority and set high ethical expectations:** It's very important that children hear from their parents and caretakers that caring about others is a top priority and that it is just as important as their own happiness. **TRY THIS:** A clear message; Prioritize caring; Encourage kids to "work it out."
4. **Provide opportunities for children to practice caring and gratitude:** Children need practice caring for others and being grateful—it's important for them to express appreciation for the many people who contribute to their lives. **TRY THIS:** Real responsibilities; Make caring & justice a focus; Express thanks.
5. **Expand your child's circle of concern:** Our challenge is help children learn to have empathy and care about someone outside the family they care for. **TRY THIS:** Children facing challenges; Listening.
6. **Promote Children to be ethical thinkers and positive change-makers:** are naturally interested in ethical questions and are often interested in taking leadership roles to improve their communities. They want to be forces for good. **TRY THIS:** Taking action; Doing "with."; Thinking out loud with your child.
7. **Help children develop self-control and manage feelings effectively:** Often the ability to care for others is overwhelmed by anger, shame, envy, or other negative feelings. **TRY THIS:** Identifying feelings; 3 steps to self-control; Resolving conflicts. Clear limits. Use authority wisely to set clear boundaries. Explain how your limits are based on a reasonable and loving concern for your child's welfare.

Raising a caring, respectful, ethical child is hard work, but it is the work God wants us to get better at. If we all followed the 7 simple tips, we will end up with a better future for our children.

God Bless and take care

Kevin Mills
Mr Kevin Mills
Principal



Administration

School Payments Update

St Margaret Mary's Merrylands school is exploring alternate ways for parents/carers to make school payments. Moving forward we are looking into options that will be more convenient for parents. Cash/efpos and credit card will still be acceptable methods of payment. We will keep you informed in term three.

Important Dates for Term 3

Monday, 12 th July	School Resumes for Term 3
Wednesday, 21 st July	Stage 2 Boys and Girls Soccer Gala Day
Friday, 23 rd July	Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day
Monday, 26 th July	Kindergarten Excursion to Camsley Hill Farm
Wednesday, 28 th July	Year 3 Excursion to Sydney Zoo
Wednesday, 4 th August	Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival
Sunday, 8 th August	St Mary of the Cross Feast Day
Friday, 13 th August	Staff Professional Learning Day (Pupil Free Day)
Monday, 16 th August	Staff Professional Learning Day (Pupil Free Day)
Wednesday, 25 th August	Stage 3 Netball Gala Day
Friday, 27 th August	Stage 2 Touch Football Gala Day
Sunday, 29 th August	StMM's Parish First Holy Communion Group 1
Thursday, 2 nd September	P&F Father's Day Wrapping
Friday, 3 rd September	P&F Father's Day Stall
Sunday, 5 th September	StMM's Parish First Holy Communion Group 2
Wednesday, 8 th September	Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday, 17 th September	School Closes for Term 3
Tuesday, 5 th October	School Resumes for Term 4

Year 6 Canberra

Pacer Information

Students from our school recently undertook an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Traffic and Parking

Just a reminder to all parents with regards to driving and parking around the school. Cumberland Council Rangers and Merrylands Police have been booking families for not obeying the road rules around the school. Please ensure you are obeying the road and parking rules at all times.

Parent/Teacher/Student Meetings

Thank you to all the Kindergarten and Year 1 parents who have already attended their child's interview and abided by the COVID-19 rules.

Parents of students in Years 2-6 will attend the student led interviews today in your child's learning space. If you are attending an interview please be aware that CEDP strongly recommends that all external visitors wear a mask where they are not able to maintain a physical distance of 1.5 metres. Please take this recommendation into account as you visit your child's learning space this week.

P&F Second hand Uniform Shop

Today was the last day for the P&F Second hand Uniform sale. Thank you to all the parents who took advantage of the sale and also abided by the COVID-19 rules.

The Uniform shop will be open again on the first Monday of each month next term after the morning assembly.

Why do We have Holidays?

There are many reasons why we have holidays at different times of the year. Several studies have been done to prove the positive effects that holidays have both on physical and mental health of individuals. Holidays;

- bring us happiness and a cheerful disposition
- tend to bring out the positiveness in our world
- encourages us to eat with family and friends more often
- allows us to branch out from our everyday eating and indulge ourselves
- triggers our memory of past family and friends
- shines a light on aspects of our lives we need to be thankful for.

Happy
Holidays

Teaching and Learning

Term 3 Staff Professional Learning Days

We did not allocate a Staff Professional Learning Day in Term 2. This has allowed the school's Leadership Team to plan an intensive two-day session to link with people from Catholic Education Office Parramatta. We also anticipate engaging Michael McDowell (USA expert in Learning) to Zoom with the whole staff for an in-depth session on transfer of learning. We are letting our community know of our plans so that families may make arrangements.

Term 3 Professional Learning Dates:
Friday 13th August & Monday 16th August.

The Process of 3D Printing in 6 Blue!

3D Printing, WOW does that sound interesting to you? Well in 6Blue we had the opportunity to create 3D keyrings



using a program called Tinkercad. We created layers, and used different digital shapes and objects to create our key-ring designs. It was such a fun experience and it was so cool to

see the process of 3D printing and learning how to use online platforms to create something that is completely different to what we usually do in class.

By: Zahara Ibrahim and Yousef Toufan.



Year 3 Dance Lessons

This term, Year 3 has been learning about different cultural dances with Mrs Beatty (ACU Prac Student). The dances we have learnt are from the far North Queensland Indigenous people and Torres Strait Islanders.



Some of the songs are called Sa Sa and Tuba Nuba.

Also we learnt some Zumba with Mrs Beatty. Some of the Zumba dances are Salsa and Colombia.

These danc-

es are from places in South America such as Cuba, Colombia and the Dominican Republic. Some children got their faces painted for the dances.

By Matt Yu and Luis-Frederic Abi Khalil



Partnership

Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

Congratulations to the students who have already completed the PRC this year. There is still time to complete this reading challenge.

Books read on SORA (online library) can also be included if they are on the approved PRC Booklist or can be added as a Free Choice book (limit of 5).



PRC Closes: Friday 20th August, 2021



*** *We are encouraging all students to continue reading daily during the holidays.*

Mrs Balogh-Caristo

Faith Community

First Holy Communion

Sacrament of First Holy Communion Enrolments commence from **Tuesday, 15 June 2021** until **Friday, 16 July 2021**. (Enrolment Fee \$50 per child).

Parents Night : Monday, 19 July or Wednesday, 21 July at 6pm. Venue: Church Hall at St. Margaret Mary's School.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion program is divided into two groups taught by Fr. Joseph Maria Buckley & assisted by Monique Kairouz.

HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM:
All preparation sessions held on **MONDAYS** or **WEDNESDAYS** at 6:00pm.

	Monday	Wednesday
Session 1	26 JULY 2021	28 JULY 2021
Session 2	02 AUGUST 2021	04 AUGUST 2021
Session 3	09 AUGUST 2021	11 AUGUST 2021
Session 4	16 AUGUST 2021	18 AUGUST 2021

Rehearsal for the Holy Communion Ceremony is Monday 23 August 2021 OR Wednesday 25 August in the Parish Church.

Dates for First Holy Communion are either: Sunday 29th of August at 10:30am or Sunday 5th September at 10:30am (as chosen by families when filling in the enrolment form).

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the parish website or available at the Parish Office.

Personal Growth

Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to the following students who will represent St Margaret Mary's at the Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival on Wednesday, 4th August at Blacktown International Sportspark, Athletics Track, Eastern Road Rooty Hill. Permission notes will go out the beginning of Term 3.

Sean Ejim	Christopher Ndaira
Claire Leke	Chanelle Haouchab
Joab Hada	John Barakat
Alat Juk	Serena Georges
Jesse Pickering	Joe Azzi
Grace Geaitani	Lisa Shrestha
Luis-Frederic AbiKhalil	Jack Hewitt
Ella Khairallah	Claire Fetrie
Jacob Leke	Isaac Banks
Rose Tahan	Monica Lamin
Royce Amankwatia	Roycelin Amankwatia
Tia Khouri	Edwin Khairallah
Clara Fetrie	Grace Fakhr
Sai Medakker	Mabel Sulley
Kristine Sarmiento	Jayda Saahene
Christopher Faddoul	Lucas Vien
Helaina Gadd	Laura Fakhr
Leeroy Tautu	Leyla Mazzocco
Joshua Khoury	Patrick Lamin
April Zhang	Aluel Hawach
Mikaele Apikotoa	Patrick Guidone
Charbel Younan	Sayasa Rai
Tausinga Langi	Jacob Horish

Well Being Week

The Students and Staff at StMM's celebrated wellbeing week last week with lots of activities for the students and staff.

To see more photo's from our week go to the school website: <https://www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au> under the 'Community' heading and in the 'Gallery' section.



Personal Growth

Yr 6 Canberra Trip

On the 26th to 28th May, Year 6 went on their Canberra excursion.



DAY 1

We arrived at school by 6:30am and were on our way by 7am. Our first stop for the day was Parliament House. At Parliament House we got to sit above The House Of Representatives and The Senate. We did a role play of how passing a bill works in the Senate. Later in the day we visited the



Electrical Educational Centre and Old Parliament House. Old Parliament House was our last stop for Day 1, we then went to Canberra Park which was where we stayed for the 3 Days.



DAY 2

Canberra Park provided a fantastic breakfast for us. We went to the National Museum of Australia. We saw many different things and completed group activities related to the history of Australia. We got back on the bus for the



tours of different embassies. We visited the CSIRO Discovery Centre and Cockington Green during the day. That night we went to the top of Telstra Tower to look over the lights of Canberra. It was freezing!!!!



We visited the CSIRO Discovery Centre and Cockington Green during the day. That night we went to the top of Telstra Tower to look over the lights of Canberra. It was freezing!!!!



DAY 3

On our final day in Canberra we went to the National Capital Exhibition Centre and Questacon. We stopped at McDonald's on our journey back to school. We arrived back about 7pm and were greeted by our very excited parents. And that was our 2021 Year 6 trip to Canberra!

By: Gabriella Mifsud and Sienna Tamer



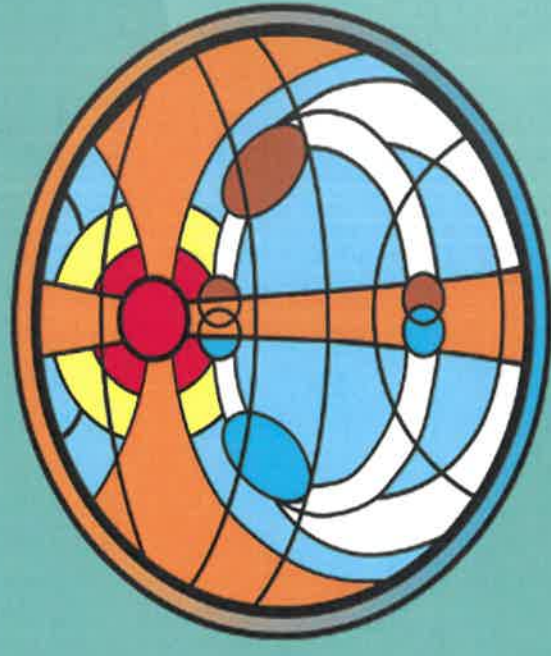
Infants



Don't forget to log onto
PM eCollection, reading eggs and
maths seeds these school holidays!

www.pmeollection.com.au

www.readingeggs.com.au



Primary



Sora Reading



Don't forget to log onto Sora and
Lexia these school holidays!

www.soraapp.com

www.lexialearning.com