



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 18

Bulletin

Wednesday, 16th June, 2021

Diary Dates

WELLBEING WEEK

Thursday, 17th June

- Free Choice Uniform (Winter or Sport.)

Friday, 18th June

- MUFTI Day
'Let's get Active' Theme
Children to wear casual clothing.

Monday, 21st June

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

Tuesday, 22nd June

- Enterrmission Sydney Excursion (selected students)

Wednesday, 23rd June

- Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
Jamison Park Football Field.

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,

Life is a journey and becoming better every day is the goal.

"Make the most of yourself...for that is all there is of you." --Ralph Waldo Emerson

The following list is compiled from an article focussing on being a better person. The article listed 15 tips on how to become a better person, however I have selected my **Top 10 (adjusted)!**

1. **Compliment Yourself:** Every morning before you go on with your daily routine, take a couple of minutes to give yourself a compliment.
2. **Don't Make Excuses:** Blaming others is fruitless and won't get you very far. Instead of pointing fingers and making excuses about why you aren't happy or successful in your personal or professional life, own your mistakes and learn from them.
3. **Let Go of Anger:** When you let anger fester, you may make unwise decisions, and more important, it may affect your health.
4. **Practice Forgiveness:** Forgive and let go of resentment, if for no other reason than for yourself, forgive is to unchain yourself from the negative experiences of the past.
5. **Be Helpful:** Being helpful is one of the easiest and most effective ways to practice becoming a better person. The more I help others, the better I feel about myself and everyone around me.
6. **Listen to Others:** Being a good listener can change your life in a positive manner.
7. **Always Be Polite:** How much effort does it take to say, "Thank you," or to hold the elevator door open for someone? Not much at all. However, these acts of kindness can make someone's day. The way someone else behaves is not going to determine *my behaviour*.
8. **Be Yourself:** Align yourself with your values and beliefs, establish your identity, build courage, create boundaries, and find focus and direction.
9. **Be Open to Change:** This allows you to grow because you experience something new. It helps you be high functioning and self-confident if you are not wary of change.
10. **Be Respectful:** Be respectful of others' time, thoughts, ideas, lifestyles, feelings, work, and everything else. You don't have to agree with any of it, but people have a right to their opinions and yours is not necessarily correct.



Becoming a better person doesn't happen overnight, but it is possible. Believe in yourself and know that it is possible! Jesus had all and many more wonderful qualities that enable him to be a better person and live out God's mission.

God Bless and take care

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Purchasing Hats & Library Bags

Due to the end of term, the final day for purchasing hats and library bags at the office will be end of day Tuesday 22nd June.



School Fees - End of Term Two

Term Two fees are now overdue, unless you have opted for an arrangement with the school for the year. Final day for payment of school fees at the office will be Tuesday 22nd June. If you have any queries regarding your statement please contact Maria in the office.

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.

Teaching and Learning

Police Visit

On Friday 4th June, senior constable Elie came to speak to the whole school about stranger danger and cyber safety. He spoke to Stage 2 and Stage 3 about how it is very easy to share too much information online and that we need to take care about what we post. He also spoke about how the legal age to be on social media is 13 years old and what to do if someone is asking for your personal information. Finally, he taught us to not talk to strangers online and to also always have our account on private. When he spoke to Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 he spoke about stranger danger and how to keep themselves safe. At the end of the talk he even showed them his police car and turned on the siren for them to hear!



By Eva Shrestha, Paea Mataele and John Farah Media Team

Personal Growth

Tuesday Morning Assembly

On 15th June, we had another morning assembly. However, it was not Monday because of the Queen's Birthday public holiday. First, Mrs Foley announced the awards for all the students who participated in the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival and they all received a certificate. Next, two students from Year 5 got up to tell us about Wellbeing Week. Some things they told us were that we had a free choice uniform week and a mufti day on Friday - the theme is 'Be Active!' There will be no homework and students will have fun activities throughout the school week. After that we said our school prayer and sang the National Anthem. Finally, Mr Mills told the students that they will receive their report this Friday or the following Monday.



By John Farah, Eva Shrestha and Elena Lin Media Team



Acrostic Poem - School

Super amazing teaching.
Critical thinkers in this school.
Helping others is what we do.
Otstanding work at this school.
On Mondays we have assemblies.
Look, Listen, Learn is one of our pointers.

By Rebecca Saba 3Y

Administration

Semester One Interviews

These meetings are planned for next week (Week 10). The Kinder & Yr 1 format follows the traditional Parent / Teacher Interview. Years 2 to 6 will have Student led meetings in their learning spaces. The class teachers will be there to support the students unpack their Learning with their parents. Please note arrangements can be made if you wish to meet with the teacher on a personal level early in Term 3.

Notes were sent home last week advising you of the Semester One interviews.

Kinder and Year 1

Schoolinterviews.com.au (Code: gnsab)

Please note: Miss Sarah Abraham's Year 1 Yellow interviews will occur the first week back of Term Three. The same code applies and you may book in now for this class.

Years 2 - 6

Student Led Interviews

Please return your response to your class teacher by tomorrow, 17th June.

New StMM's Semester One Reports

These reports will be sent home on Friday 18th June. They will be in your child's bag and will be the focus of your discussion with regard to their learning. There has been a number of changes to the format due to the CEDP's new software. If you have any questions please seek clarification with your child's teacher.



Skoolbag App

We understand the importance of making sure that you're always kept informed about what's happening at StMM's. We encourage you to keep your SkoolBag app updated to the latest version in the Apple or Google app stores to take advantage of updates.

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.

Partnership

TTFM Survey

We are inviting students, staff and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey called *Tell Them From Me*.



The survey will close this Friday, the 18th of June.

We are asking all parents in our community to take part in the survey as the online tool will become an important part of St Margaret Mary's whole school evaluation and planning process.

The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Margaret Mary's.

The survey is **anonymous** and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer by using the URL below:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/stmms2021>

Notice to Parents from ACARA

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) collects data from schools to determine the Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA). CEDP is currently working to provide relevant details to the Catholic Education Commission of NSW. Data collected is de-identified of personal information.

Parents and caregivers must advise our school by **Wednesday 14th July, 2021** if they do not want their child's data included in this report.

Please find the link to the Standard Collection Notice from CEDP.

<https://oscarshare.parra.catholic.edu.au/My%20Work/SystemPoliciesandProcedures/Standard%20Collection%20Notice.pdf>

Sustainability Week

In Week 10 we will be celebrating sustainability week. A note will be sent home with further information.



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.

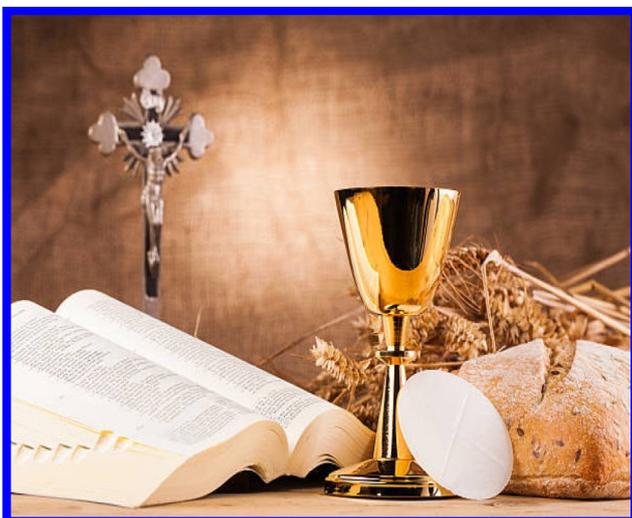
The Sacrament of Holy Communion program is divided into two groups taught by Fr. Joseph Maria

	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.



Faith Community

Year Two Church Visit

The Year Two students and teachers visited St Margaret Mary's Church and met with Father Janusz as part of our Religious Education Learning 'Belonging to God's Family'. Father Janusz explained to the students about the key symbols and rituals of Baptism in the Church. Some students reenacted the Sacrament of Baptism and Father Janusz explained in detail the different parts of the Mass. The students had the opportunity to ask questions and



when they returned to class, they created a Google slide to show their learning.

Partnership

**St Margaret Mary's
Parents & Friends
Second Hand Uniform Sale
3 Days Only**

**50% OFF Everything
CASH ONLY**

Week 10

**Monday 21st June
Tuesday 22nd June
Wednesday 23rd June**

**8am - 10am
School Hall**

**Nothing Over \$10
CASH ONLY**