



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 9

Bulletin

Wednesday, 30th March, 2022

Diary Dates

Thursday, 31st March

Friday, 1st April

- **Mufti Day** - Easter Egg Donation
- 1pm Parents welcome on site for open learning space visits.
- Students and Parents Picnic on the playground.
- 2pm P&F Raffle draw.
- Students will be dismissed after the draw has finished

Friday, 8th April

- School Closes for Term 1 at 3pm

Friday, 15th April

- GOOD FRIDAY

Sunday, 17th April

- EASTER SUNDAY

Tuesday, 26th April

- School Returns for Term 2
- Students return in full Winter Uniform

Principal's Message

Dear Parent, Carers & Students,

There is no such thing as a perfect parent. God creates these unique individuals we call our children, and then proceeds to give them each a free will and the ability to use it. The result of that combined chaos is what we call "our family." Family is one of God's greatest gifts!

But what do you need to do????

- ◇ **Help your child live a life that God can bless.** The most important thing your child needs in this world is love and the blessings that come with it. If you raise your children to know and love God, and live like God wants them to, your child will be blessed.
- ◇ **Spend time with others. Invest in a few.** Friendships are important and our children should "spend" time with friends. Family is forever and that is where time is invested. Plan family times that are "friend-free" and invest in the relationships that are forever.
- ◇ **Trust is power.** Children want independence and respect. Children should know that your love is unconditional, but respect and privilege are earned. Teach them that if you can trust them, everyone will have happier lives.
- ◇ **Wisdom is taking the right advice.** The most influential person in your child's life will be the person that impacts their choices in the early years. The greatest influence you can have on your child is to help them know what good advice looks like.
- ◇ **Kindness is crucial.** Kids need to value kindness as a crucial quality in themselves and in those they call friends. A kind person is rarely lonely. A kind person is usually happy. A kind person becomes a good friend and a good parent. Kindness is crucial to anyone's character.
- ◇ **Success = fulfilling God's plan.** You made your own choices and your children will too. Success is fulfilling God's plan . . . and God will reveal that to your children. "I know the plans I have for you," *Jeremiah 29:11*.
- ◇ **Finally, raise your child to be the forty-year-old you want them to be.** Parent with the adult in mind. This one perspective will help you make a lot of decisions in the years to come.

The **Best Feeling** in the World, is to know that **your Parents** are Smiling because of You

Skoolbag App

All parents are encouraged to have the Skoolbag App, as this will be the main preference for communication to all parents. Our **School Name** for Skoolbag App is **SMMPM**.



Nobody on earth can ever love you more than your parents.

Dear young parents,
Give yourself some credit!
You are working to raise your kids to know and love God.

Relax. Laugh more and worry less.
The best lessons come from our mistakes anyway!

Blessings to all of you as you raise up the next generation of God's family.

God's Love in Parent's Love

1 John 4:7-13

(The above extract is from a Christian website with adjustments made by Mr Mills)

God Bless, take care & keep safe

School Website

The school website is www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

Enrolments

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2023 are now taking place. If your child was born between 1st August, 2017 and 31st July, 2018, please collect an enrolment application from the school office. Applications need to be returned before the end of Term 1 Friday 8th April. Interviews will commence in May. Last year we had a waiting list with over 120 applications.

P&F Easter Raffle & Open Learning Spaces

StMM's Welcome Back Parents Celebration

Parents and Carers are warmly invited to visit StMM's on Friday 1st April. The school gates will be open, and the afternoon will begin at 1pm. The afternoon will provide an opportunity for our community to visit Learning Spaces and then celebrate with a picnic lunch. This will be followed by the drawing of the 2022 P&F Easter Raffle. Once you have visited your child/ren areas we ask that you go to the grass areas of the school and enjoy a picnic lunch.

- 1pm School gates open
- 1-1:45pm visiting Learning Spaces & Lunch
- 2pm Drawing of the P&F Easter Raffle
- **MUFTI Day for Students - Donate an Easter Egg for the P&F Raffle**

Our Canteen will supply lunch for those that have placed an order online via Flexi Schools by 9am.

Please note, if it is raining and due to lack of space and COVID safe procedures, the Open Learning Spaces will be cancelled. The raffle will still be drawn over the PA system and prizes sent to classrooms. A SkoolBag message will be sent at 11am on Friday to confirm the event.

School Photos

Please be advised that our School Photos have been postponed until Term 3.

We will share more details closer to the new date

StMM's Building Update

The builders have been working very hard in maintaining the timeline for the completion of our 2022 Building Program. The weather has not been helpful along with the need to adjust the final design and completion of the roof (still to be approved by CEDP). The students have been fantastic working very hard in their temporary spaces. A small number of staff have seen the upgrade and are amazed at how much room the refurbishment has provided.

School Fees

Term one school fees are now over due unless you have entered into an arrangement with the school or with CEDP. Details as per your school statement. Any queries with regards to your 2022 Statement or arrangements, please contact Maria Pagano in the school office.

COVID Cases at StMM's

The NSW Government, CEDP along with the media have flagged increasing cases of Covid across the community and we are seeing evidence of this increase on a daily basis at StMM's. As a school community we appreciate the way you are supporting our COVID-safe measures and we will continue to keep you updated. While we are extremely pleased with our student attendance rates of 90%, with families making every effort to follow the NSW Government directions, please ensure your family's wellbeing at all times.

Anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms should get tested immediately and stay in isolation until receiving a negative COVID-19 test result. You can find more information about COVID-19 symptoms [here](#).

Notice to Parents/Carers

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) collects data from schools to determine the Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA). The type of data collected includes student birth date, grade and gender, parent/carer and student main language, and parent/carer occupation group. Data collected is de-identified of personal information.

As part of its compliance requirements, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) is currently working to provide relevant details to the Catholic Education

Compass Parent Portal

We'd like to welcome you to our Compass Parent Portal, a new way to engage with our school community.

Compass will be our primary communication tool that will facilitate effective communication between home and school. A letter will soon be sent via email to all enrolled families with your login details for Compass. It is most important to keep your Username and Password secure, just like your bank account details, they should not be shared with anyone, including your children.

Using the Compass Parent Portal you will be able to:

- Be informed of important updates, events and reminders
- View your child's timetable
- Review your child's attendance
- Provide explanations for periods of absence
- Update your contact details
- Book Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences



For iPhone and iPad users
Go to the Apple App Store, Search for "Compass School Manager" and download the free Compass App. Search for "St Margaret Mary's School" and you're ready to go!



For Google Android Users
Go to the Google Play Store, search for "Compass School Manager" and download the free Compass app. Search for "St Margaret Mary's School" and you're ready to go!

Accessing Compass

Compass is a web based application that is accessible on any modern web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) or by downloading the App called 'Compass School Manager' available through Apple Store or Google Play store for Android users. Parents can also access the Parent Portal on your computer via the school website

Faith Community

Harmony Day @ St MM's



Last Monday the 21st of March our school community celebrated Harmony Day. This is a special day as we celebrate multiculturalism and the richness that diversity brings to our Australian society. Students were excited to arrive at school wearing many shades of orange mufti and some students dressed in traditional

clothing unique to their culture. We began the day with a whole school assembly and our Year Six leaders led us in reading some Harmony Day prayers.

Throughout the day, students learnt and participated in some engaging learning activities about Harmony Day and unpacking the theme that 'Everyone Belongs'. In the afternoon we gathered as

a whole school community and students from Kindergarten to Year Six participated in some fun mixed grades relay races. This was an exciting afternoon filled with cheering and laughter, which created a fun and positive ambience.



We have decided to send the gold coins to St Vincent De Paul in support of their

Flood Appeal. Thank you for supporting this very special day. To view photos from the day please visit our photo gallery on our school website.



Personal Growth

Monday Assembly

On Monday, 28th March Mr Mills gathered the whole school together for a morning assembly. Mr Mills announced that on Friday 1st April the whole school will be participating in the raffle draw, proudly held with the P&F Association. We will also be doing a school picnic with our parents and carers, there will also be an open day after the picnic. Don't forget this Friday is mufti day when all students can wear whatever they want to school, except for open toe footwear. We hope all students have a fun day on April 1st.



By Kayla Mifsud, Charbel Bougoide and Mikhaelo Santos-Lorenzo. (Media team).

Wellbeing Week

Wow, what a week! Last week, St Margaret Mary's celebrated Wellbeing Week and we had no homework! Our theme was creativity and collaboration. On Monday, it was Harmony Day and we got to wear our cultural dress or an orange outfit to show our support. In Year 2, we even used oil pastels to draw a picture of ourselves to show how we are all different and unique. On Tuesday, we worked with a partner to paint a pebble with a creative design. These pebbles will go into a rock garden for everyone in the school to enjoy. On Wednesday, we worked together to solve a scavenger hunt and Primary completed brainteasers in teams. On Thursday we worked on a collaborative artwork to display in our classroom and on Friday, we all enjoyed a movie afternoon with popcorn! It was an awesome week and we cannot wait for Wellbeing Week next term!



By 2Red



Curriculum Day at Delany College

On Wednesday, 23rd March, Year 6 students attended Delany College, Granville. The purpose of this excursion was to allow students to experience different aspects of



high school. Each class followed a timetable and moved around to different classes to experience 3 different subjects. Some students were able to participate in a Sport lesson, or learn about the Black Death in History. Other students had

an opportunity to learn about organic or inorganic lines to draw a two-handed portrait in Visual Arts. 6 Blue were lucky enough to test their skills at Woodwork in the Industrial Technology Labs to build a phone holder



that was laser engraved with our name on it. This experience provided us with a great insight into life as a high school student and we can't wait!



Sports News

Xavier and Leeroy Tautu competed at the Mackillop Tennis selections on Thursday, 17th March. There were 20 boys representing 5 Dioceses and the top 5 were selected into the Mackillop team. Both of the boys made it into the team and will now represent Mackillop and compete at the NSWPSA State Tennis Championships in May.

Partnership

P&F Easter Raffle

Thank you to all our families for your wonderful support of our P&F Easter Raffle. Ticket sales have now closed. The raffle will be drawn Friday 1st April.



If you have any spare baskets at home that can be donated, please send these to the school office by Friday morning.

Students are asked to donate an Easter Egg on Friday for the Easter Raffle in return, students may wear **MUFTL**.

Helpers are required to wrap the prizes.

If you can spare any time between **9am-1pm** it would be much appreciated. (toddlers/babies welcome)

If you are unable to help, but can provide food or drinks for the helpers, this too, would be appreciated.

If you are able to help in any way, please fill out the form below and return it to the school office.

✂.....

I am **able** to help with the wrapping of Easter Egg prizes on Friday 1st April 2022.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Time available: _____

✂.....

I am **unable** to help but I am able to provide morning tea e.g. Sandwiches, quiche, biscuits, etc.

Name: _____

Food to be provided: _____

I have completed the CEDP Building Child Safe Communities online undertaking form and training module

Yes No

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School Uniforms

Just a reminder Lowes Uniform shop in Merrylands is closing. The last day of trading will be Wednesday 6th April. Our school uniform will be available for sale at Lowes Parramatta from Saturday 9th April.

New store details:

Parramatta

Westfield Parramatta Shopping Centre:159-175 Church Street (02) 9687191

We apologise for the inconvenience this may cause some families, but it is out of the schools control.

ST MARGARET MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MERRYLANDS 2022

Girls Summer Uniform			
90897	DRESS:	BLUE CHECK WITH NAVY TRIM	\$61.95
60817	SLOPPY JOE	NAVY V-NECK WITH SCHOOL CREST	From \$40.95
97987	SOCKS:	TRAFALGAR SOCKS SKY	\$5.95
99990	HAT:	AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL	
Girls Winter Uniform			
93968	TUNIC:	INR NAVY ROYAL/RED CHECK	\$66.95
97223	BLOUSE:	SKY BLUE L/S P/PAN BLOUSE	From \$34.95
94352	TIE:	SKY BLUE /MRN CHECK	\$11.95
60817	SLOPPY JOE:	NAVY V-NECK WITH SCHOOL CREST	From \$40.95
99315	JACKET:	NAVY MICROFIBRE WITH EMB.	\$65.95
86256	TIGHTS:	NAVY BECKY	\$12.95
97987	SOCKS:	TRAFALGAR SOCK SKY	\$5.95
99990	HAT:	AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL	
99097	SHOES:	BLACK LACE UP	
Boys Summer Uniform			
75079	SHIRT:	L/BACK S/S SHIRT SKY WITH EMB.	From \$36.95
95031	SHORTS:	GREY BLOCKER SHORTS	From \$25.95
60817	SLOPPY JOE:	NAVY V-NECK WITH SCHOOL CREST	From \$40.95
97973	SOCKS:	GREY ANKLE	\$5.95
99990	HAT:	AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL	
99097	SHOES:	BLACK LACE UP	
Boys Winter Uniform			
97021	TROUSERS:	GREY 1/2 ELASTIC BACK CLASSIC	From \$39.95
95926	SHIRT:	SKY DELUXE L/S	From \$37.95
60817	SLOPPY JOE:	NAVY V-NECK WITH SCHOOL CREST	From \$40.95
99315	JACKET:	NAVY MICROFIBRE WITH EMB.	\$65.95
97807	TIE:	NAVY STRIPE TIE	From \$22.95
97973	SOCKS:	GREY ANKLE	\$5.95
99990	HAT:	AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL	
99097	SHOES:	BLACK LACE UP	
Sports Uniform			
85031	POLO:	SKY/NAVY/WHITE PANEL WITH EMB.	From \$49.95
92976	SHORTS:	NAVY MICROFIBRE WITH EMB.	From \$34.95
99315	JACKET:	NAVY MICROFIBRE WITH EMB.	\$62.95
85232	TRACKPANTS:	NAVY MICROFIBRE	From \$30.95
97906	SOCKS:	WHITE ANKLE STYLE (SPORTS)	\$5.95
99097	SHOES:	WHITE JOGGERS	

Parramatta
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