



St Margaret Mary's School

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Newsletter No 15

Bulletin

Wednesday, 25th May 2022

Diary Dates

Thursday, 26th May

Whole School Athletics Carnival
POSTPONED

Friday, 27th May

Stop Work Action for Staff

Monday, 30th May

8:40am Whole School Morning
Assembly
Year 6 Leave for Canberra

Tuesday, 31st May

Year 6 in Canberra

Wednesday, 1st May

Year 6 return from Canberra

Staff Professional
Learning Day,
Friday 10th June
2022
This is a Pupil Free
Day

Principal's Morning Tea

Wednesday 8th June.

For students who have
received 4 Pillar Awards

School Website

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

Principal's Message

Dear Parent, Carers and children,

(A reflection on last week's Gospel from Fr Michael Tate)

Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like along range rocket, hoping it will find its target. This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I will make our home with that person.'

It is not in outer space, but in inner space that Divine Love will make a home. What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around at able sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink. We could pause for a moment to reflection the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly.

Jesus answered him, If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and live with him.
John 14

Take care and keep talking to God,
He really does dwell inside you.

Mr Kevin Mills
Principal

Whole School Athletics Carnival

POSTPONED

Administration

Stop Work Action

Last week the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) informed our community that on Friday, 27 May 2022, a number of our staff may take part in protected industrial action (stop work action) to progress their claims for a new enterprise agreement. It is not known at this time how many staff members will participate. The staff are within their rights to take protected industrial action. At the same time, we appreciate families' concerns about further potential disruption to students and the school community, especially given the current situation with COVID-19 and recent flooding.

Please be assured that supervision will be provided at school on this day, however, no classes will be held. Due to this, we strongly encourage families not to send their children to school on this day given the potential reduction in staff and this will not impact their attendance rate. Please note the following statement from CEDP: Absences on this day are not recorded or counted as absences for statistical purposes.

Compass

Emails have been sent out to all families with login details to the Compass Portal. The Skoolbag App will cease to operate today and all information from the school will be sent by the Compass Portal.

Parents who have not activated the Compass Portal will receive an email with log in details, also a hard copy will be sent home with your eldest child.

Parents are asked to Complete the Absentee note for students who are absent from school via the Compass Portal. If you have any questions regarding the Portal, please email the school office and we will endeavour to help you.

Building Update

We are hopeful that the Years 3, 4 & 5 will be in their new spaces by the end of June. This will allow the Year 6 students to move out of their space so the builders can refurbish this aspect of the lower floor.



We have certainly appreciated the efforts of staff, students and our parent community in dealing with this complex process. This has been supported by Rogers (our builder) and their ability to operate within StMM's

guidelines of work, health and safety. Please see some updated photos.



Term Two School Fees

Term two school fees Invoice/Statements have been sent out by CEDP. If you have not received your statement, please contact Maria in the school office. Term Two School fees are due by 2nd June 2022 unless you have entered into an arrangement with the school or with CEDP. If you have any queries with regards to your 2022 statement or arrangement, please contact Maria.

School Uniform

All uniforms must be worn neatly and correctly. All hairstyles should be appropriate to the students age and the schools' expectations. Long hair must be tied back. Students are required to wear our school cap or hat when outside No Hat No Play. Hats and Caps are available at the school office for purchase by EFT only, no cash. Sleeper earrings and studs earrings may be worn. Simple signet rings may also be worn, but no expensive jewellery should be worn at school.

Enrolments K2023

By the end of this week we will have completed all K2023 interviews and letters of offers are being sent out. If you have a child born between 1st August, 2017 and 31st July 2018, please contact the school office for an enrolment form.

Federal Assessment for NCCD

StMM's was randomly selected to participate in the 2021 Non-government Schools Census Post Enumeration Exercise for the Federal Department of Education, Skills and Employment. This involved a consultant visiting school on Monday & Tuesday to review our processes, procedures, and paperwork with regard to elements of our teaching & learning. It is very pleasing to note how complimentary the consultant was and that she was impressed by all aspects of our school. Visas and enrolment forms were also checked to ensure compliance and once again the positive feedback added to a very successful exercise.

ARM: Attitude Respect Manners

As principal of StMM's, I have always received positive feedback from individuals who interacted with our students outside school. The children have a great reputation in the wider community. We have begun to use the word **ARM** with the students at Monday Morning Assembly as a way of maintaining this wonderful aspect of StMM's.

Attitude: We are always asking students to bring a positive Attitude to StMM's.

Respect: We ask all students show respect to the staff and students at StMM's.

Manners: We insist that all students always use their manners at StMM's.

We would appreciate parents and carers reinforcing these elements at home as a way to continue to support the efforts of all in StMM's community.

Administration

Afternoon Dismissal

A reminder to parents & carers about afternoon dismissal:

- ★ Students are dismissed at 3pm daily
- ★ Henson St gate is for Car pick
- ★ Top Parish gate is for Parents/Carers pick up

Aspects to follow in the Car Park

If you are unable to follow the points listed below, please park elsewhere;

- Drive slowly at all times & watch for children & adults
- Park straight and between the lines (Don't take up two spaces)
- If it isn't a spot, don't park there (No double parking)
- If you don't have a car you can't save a spot

Aspects to follow for Car Pick -Up

- Remain calm and patient at all times & follow all road rules.
- The dedicated Car Pick-Up queue is the length of the school block in Henson Street.
- Joining this queue must be done following all road and traffic rules including signage.
- Cars that are lined up across from the school block in Henson Street will be booked. (The police view this as double parking)
- Have your number visible for the teacher to call.
- Adults to remain in cars.

Personal Growth

Canberra Excursion

Our Year 6 students will be leaving for their trip to our National Capital, Canberra, early on Monday morning and returning on Wednesday evening. We have been impressed with their enthusiasm around the school and their positive attitude to the sports carnival. For the safety of all the travellers, we have decided that all staff and students will be wearing masks while travelling on the bus. **Please note the CEDP has made the decision that children who are close contacts are unable to attend this trip to Canberra.**

Principal's Morning Tea

The Principal's Morning Tea with Mr Mills will be held on Wednesday 8th June. The staff are completing the master list of all the students who have received a Pillar Award in each of the following: Faith Community; Teaching & Learning; Personal Growth & Partnership. Thus, reaching their Principal's Award and Morning Tea. Mr Mills is looking forward to the celebration.



Personal Growth

Sports News

Whole School Athletics Carnival

POSTPONED.

The decision to postpone our K-6 Athletics Carnival was made on a number of aspects.



- The Council has closed the ground for the past week.
- There is no grandstand or protected area for the children to sit.
- The weather forecast is still indicating rain in the near future.
- Cancellation of the buses to ensure a \$4,400 refund.

We are searching for an alternative date or venue. Parents and families will be advised of a new date for the carnival soon via the COMPASS App. Please ensure all permission notes are returned to your child's class teacher. This is a compulsory activity for all students and is part of the school curriculum.

Teaching and Learning

How do we use the 4Cs in LEGO Club?

Creativity

- The presentation of our Lego creations
- Creating something different every week relating to the generated theme
- Making it stand out from the other teams (how unique can our creations be?)



Collaboration

- Working together as a team
- Committing to starting and finishing as a team
- Incorporating everyone's ideas into our weekly creations

Communication

- Discussing with each other how to put our ideas together to create one Lego creation
- Assigning roles to everyone so everyone is participating



Critical Thinking

- To think how we can get the entire creation done in 30 minutes!!
- Colours and shapes needed to efficiently and effectively create our main idea



By Michelle Wang, Christos Gavrilos and Joyce Sangi, Year 6

Faith Community

Fundraising News Term 2 BLUE DAY!

On Friday 20th May, we celebrated St Margaret Mary's first ever colour day! Our school was a sea of blue!

The McGovern captains, Mikayla Maree and Dia Maria had the tough job of judging hundreds of colouring competitions to select just one winner in each grade. Congratulations to our winners who received a colouring pack:

- K - Zoya Kamara
- 1 - Skye Serdan
- 2 - Pierre Sassine
- 3 - Jad Hraiqes
- 4 - Bianca Mekdessi
- 5 - Alexander Khoury
- 6 - Stephanie Hewitt

We were fortunate that the rain held out long enough for the Infant students to participate in a variety of novelty games and races organised by all of the colour captains. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we raised a total of \$526.40 for St Vincent de Paul's Winter Appeal. We look forward to our next colour day, **Red Day, on Friday 24/06/22**



Year Two Church Visit

Last Thursday, the 19th May, the Year Two students and teachers visited St Margaret Mary's Church and met with Father Janusz. We are learning about the Sacraments and Father Janusz took the time to talk to the students about the first and most important Sacrament, Baptism.

We had a close view of the altar and Father Janusz explained that Baptism welcomes us into God's family and the Church community. Father Janusz invited some students to reenact a Baptism so that students could further understand important parts and symbols of the Sacrament of Baptism. The students had the opportunity to ask many questions and enjoyed this valuable learning experience.



Partnership



ST MARGARET MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

UNIFORM SALE (OLD LOGO)

BOYS S/S LAYBACK SHIRTS	\$36.95	\$20
UNISEX SPORTS POLOS	\$49.95	\$35
UNISEX SLOPPY JOE	\$42.95	\$35
UNISEX JACKET	\$65.95	\$50

INSTORE ONLY AT LOWES PARRAMATTA
While stocks last. Not in conjunction with any other offer.

