



# St Margaret Mary's School

## Listen Share Act

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Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 **Bulletin** 2022 Term 4, Week 9

### Diary Dates

Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr 6 Graduation Mass 6pm in the Church
Friday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December	School Reports to go home with students
	Yr 6 Graduation Dinner
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Yr 6 Fun Day
Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Official Function Whole School Christmas Mufti Thanksgiving Liturgy 11:00am
	Christmas Song Performance by students
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of School for students.
<b>2023</b>	
Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff Return for 2023
Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff Professional Learning Day
Tuesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Students in Yrs 1-6 Return for 2023
	Kindergarten 2023 Testing as per booking time
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Kindergarten 2023 Testing as per booking time
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Kindergarten 2023 Testing as per booking time
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Kindergarten 2023 Commence



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

### ADVENT: Words of Wisdom from Fr Richard





*In the first 1200 years of Christianity, the greatest feast was Holy Week leading up to the celebration of Easter and the resurrection of Christ. But in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, a new person entered the scene: Francis of Assisi felt we didn't need to wait for God to love us through the cross and resurrection. Francis understood that the whole thing started with love, and he popularised what we now take for granted as Christmas.*

*It makes sense that Christmas became the great celebratory feast of Christians because it basically says that it's good to be human, it's good to be on this earth. Remember, when we speak of Advent or preparing for Christmas, we are not just talking about waiting for the little baby Jesus to be born. That already happened 2,000 years ago. In fact, we are welcoming the Universal Christ; the Christ that is forever being born in the human soul and into history.*

*We're always waiting to see spirit revealing itself through matter. We're always waiting for matter to become a new form in which spirit is revealed. Whenever that happens, we're celebrating Christmas. The gifts of life just keep coming. Perhaps this is enlightenment.*

As we travel the journey of Advent, we need to be respectful of our time to prepare! Take time to think, read and discuss the need for your family to get ready for the birth of Jesus.... A very powerful moment in history and our lives. The following themes give us direction at this time of faith.

The four themes for the four advent Sundays are:

-  God's people - The Candle of Hope.
-  The Old Testament prophets - The Candle of Peace.
-  John the Baptist - The Candle of Love.
-  Mary the mother of Jesus - The Candle of Joy.



Take Care and stay safe,

  
Kevin Mills  
Principal

# Administration

## Change of Details

If you have moved house or changed your contact details, please contact the school office as soon as possible to update your details.

## Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 4 or at the end of 2022, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible, as we have several families on our waiting list. It is a CEDP Policy that 10 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.

## Welcome

We would like to welcome Rochelle Borg as the new Assistant Principal. Rochelle is currently the Assistant Principal at St Joseph's Primary School, Kingswood. Rochelle will take up her position here at StMM's at the beginning of 2023. We look forward to her working with the staff, students, parents, and the community of StMM's.

## STMM's School Office

### Term 4 Last Day for Payment

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022 will be the last day that the office will accept payment for school fees, hats or library bags.

Please ensure that all necessary payments are made prior to this date. If there are any questions, please contact the school office.

## Next Week's Newsletter

We will be sending home a newsletter next week with Mr Mills' Christmas message, Staffing for 2023 and St Margaret Mary's Parish Mass Times for Christmas. The newsletter will be a paper copy as well as being available online through Compass. This newsletter will be sent home on Tuesday.

## Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd

From the beginning of 2023, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will have a new name, Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd. The organisation will also have a new governance framework. It is not expected that these changes will have an impact on the day-to-day operation of schools, or upon students, parents and carers, and parishes. Further information is available [here](#).



## Important Dates for Term 4

Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year Six Graduation Mass 6pm.
Friday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Reports go home with students.
Friday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year Six Graduation Dinner.
Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year Six Fun Day
Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Thanksgiving Mass & Christmas Carols. Christmas Mufti Last official function at StMM's for 2022.
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of School for students for 2022.
Sunday, 18 <sup>th</sup> December	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Professional Learning Day.
Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Professional Learning Day.
Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	School Closes for 2022.

## Important Dates 2023

Tuesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Yrs 1-6 Return for 2023
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Kindergarten 2023 Testing
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Kindergarten 2023 Testing
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Kindergarten Commence
Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> February	StMM's Opening School Mass & Commissioning of Student Leaders for 2023
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Ash Wednesday
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	School Photos
Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Catholic Schools Week Commences
Tuesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival
Tuesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> March – Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	- NAPLAN
Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Day
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Holy Thursday School Closes for Term 1

# Faith Community

## Advent/Thanksgiving Liturgy - Christmas Performance

To celebrate the season of Advent and the closing of the 2022 school year, a liturgy will be held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, on the grassed COLA at 11:00am. This will be an opportunity to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings we have been graced with, as well as our tradition of the 2022 Captains passing the school candle to the soon to be elected 2023 Captains.



Following the liturgy, each grade and the student choir will perform a Christmas song. Students are able to wear Christmas mufti on this day.

The liturgy and Christmas performance will be the last official school event for 2022, with parents/carers able to take their child/ren home following the event.

## Student Prayer

On Wednesday mornings, this term, students from K-6 have had the opportunity to gather and pray together at Student Prayer. Each week, Mini Vinnies students in Year 6 volunteered to prepare and present the weekly prayer and reflection. Most weeks, we



have had over 50 students attend! Thank you to all the students who shared this time with us. We look forward to having this special prayer time again in the new year.

*Mini Vinnies Students*



## Community Outreach

To help spread Christmas cheer, some Mini Vinnies students decorated tea light holder decorations for residents at Cardinal Gilroy Village, Merrylands. Thank you to Mrs



Michael for taking these gifts to the residents on our behalf.



## Christmas Appeal 2022

"Thank you" to our school community for supporting our final Colour Day of the year. We raised over \$600! This money will be donated to St Vincent de Paul to go towards helping families this Christmas season.

*Mrs Del Monte and the Mini Vinnies Team*



## Green and Gold for Maur and Tosi's Colour Day!

On Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Maur and Tosi teamed up to have a combined Colour Day. On this day, students had the choice to wear green and yellow mufti. We had a range of activities for students to participate in: Infants had musical statues, tennis, soccer and Simon Says and Primary had touch footy, tennis, soccer and basketball.



All students even had an opportunity to complete a colouring competition. One winner from each grade will be announced on

Thursday.

We had helpers for the entire day to make sure everyone had fun. Thank you to everyone for bringing in a gold coin to raise money for St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal.

*By: Christopher N, Xavier T, Paea M and Elissa*



## Teaching & Learning

### Planetarium

On Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, Year Five had an incursion about space. We all went into a blow up dome that had things projected about space in it. We looked at the planets people would see at night and we also looked at the constellations in the night sky. We saw the Southern Cross and the Milky Way and we learnt the difference between stars and planets.

We then watched a mini movie about NASA's prediction on how one day we would land on Mars. We had a great time!

*By Sean E and Zara Y*





# Teaching & Learning

## Requirements List for 2023

Primary, Yrs 3-6	
<b>Stationery</b>	<b>Other</b>
Pens (Blue & Red) (Yrs 4, 5 & 6 only)	Headphones
Pencils x 4 (HB)	Small Whiteboard
Packet of Colouring Pencils or Packet of Twistable Crayons	Library Bag
Sharpener	Box of Tissues x 2
Eraser	Pump Soap x 1
Ruler	Packet of Baby Wipes x 1
Scissors	
Glue Stick	
Packet of Whiteboard Markers	
Highlighters	
<b>Infants, Kinder – Year 2</b>	
	<b>Other</b>
	Headphones
	Boxes of Tissues x 2
	Packet of Baby Wipes x 2
	Library Bag
Items may need to be restocked through the year.	

# Personal Growth

## Student Leaders for 2023

Congratulations to the following students on achieving their new positions and we look forward to their enhanced participation and representation in our school community in 2023.

<b>School Captains</b>	Bridget Langi Charlie Bedrossian
<b>Vice Captains</b>	Catherine Saouma Ethan Muscat
<b>Faith Community Pillar Leaders</b>	Cristina Tran Anthony El Ghoussain
<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Pillar Leaders</b>	Jason Lou Sarah Chang
<b>Personal Growth Pillar Leaders</b>	Acheel Majock Daniel Kassiss
<b>Partnership Pillar Leaders</b>	Rose Tahan Jacob Nguyen
<b>JigSaw Leaders</b>	Ysobelle Jara Raymond Hayek

House Captains will be elected in the next few days.

## Monday Assembly

On Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, Mr Mills had a short Assembly and talked about the Year Six Basketball Gala Day. Mrs Downing and Miss Fardella presented those students with a



Participation Award. Mr Mills also spoke about the Good Books. He said it would be a good time to put work into our Good Books for our parents to see what we have been learning in class. There are only 2 weeks left of hard work and the new Assistant Principal is visiting on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December.



By: Jessica H



## Year Six Fun Day Incursion

### Challenge2beFit

On Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, Year Six will be celebrating their final days at StMM with a Fun Day celebration incursion. The day will be held at school, hosted by Challenge2beFit which includes water activities.

# Partnership

## St Margaret Mary's Parish

### Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve	Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December 6:00pm – Family Mass  11:30pm – Christmas Carols 12:00am – Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am

There will be NO EVENING MASS

### LOWES WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE NSW BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM



### STAY TUNED!

ONCE THE NSW SERVICES APP  
RELEASES THE PROGRAM, RFDFFM  
YOUR VOUCHERS INSTORE OR ONLINE