



# St Margaret Mary's School

**Listen Share Act**

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Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Bulletin**

Term 2, Week 10

## Important Dates for Term 3

Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June – Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</b>
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Student Free Day Staff Professional Learning Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>• Students return for Term 3 - Winter Uniform</b>
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	• Kindergarten Excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> August	• St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day • Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 9 August	• Year One Excursion Rouse Hill Estate – Then & Now
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	• Feast of the Assumption
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	• Year Two Excursion to Sydney Zoo
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	• Book Week Commences
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	• Diocesan Athletics Carnival
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	• Literacy & Numeracy Week
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	• Stage 3 Netball Gala Day
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	• P&F Father's Day Wrapping
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	• Father's Day Breakfast • Father's Day Blessing • P&F Father's Day Stall
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	• Father's Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	• Birthday of Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	• Stage 2 Boys & Girls Touch Footy Gala Day
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	• Stage 3 Touch Footy Gala Day • <b>School Closes for Term 3</b>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Student Free Day Staff Professional Learning Day</b>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Student Free Day Staff Professional Learning Day</b>
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Students return for Term 4 - Winter Uniform</b>

## Principal's Message

**Dear Parent, Boys & Girls,**

I have listed the top five reasons why children need a holiday from school:

1. Rest and relaxation: Children, just like adults, need time to unwind and recharge. A holiday from school provides them with a break from the daily routine, allowing them to rest and rejuvenate their minds and bodies.
2. Creative exploration: During a school holiday, children have more free time to explore their creative interests and hobbies. Whether it's painting, writing, playing music, or engaging in imaginative play, a break from school allows them to tap into their creativity and foster personal growth.
3. Family bonding: School holidays provide valuable time for children to spend with their families. It allows for deeper connections, shared experiences, and the opportunity to create lasting memories together. Strong family bonds contribute to a child's emotional development and overall happiness.
4. Physical activity: School holidays offer children the chance to engage in physical activities outside the structured environment of the school. Whether it's playing sports, going for hikes, or participating in recreational activities, physical exercise is vital for their physical health and development.
5. Socialisation outside school: While school is an important place for socialising, a holiday allows children to interact with friends and peers in a different context. They can explore new friendships, strengthen existing ones, and develop social skills outside the confines of a classroom.

In our first bulletin back, I will list the top ten reasons why parents want their children back in school!

God Bless & Take care,

*K Mills*

Kevin Mills  
Principal



# Administration

## Additional Staff Development Days

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July (Day 1 Term 3)**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October (Day 1 Term 4)**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October (Day 2 Term 4)**

The staff will be engaged in completing the NESA Literacy and Numeracy Modules. We will then look at the implications for StMMs and plan our next steps in the implementation of the new curriculums.

## Semester 1 Reports & Conferences

All Semester 1 Reports were issued via Compass on Friday of Week 8. This was done to ensure parents had access for Week 9 Parent Teacher Interviews. A hard copy was sent home with all students last week. We thank all those parents and carers who made an appointment to meet with their child's teacher.

Having our students accompany their parents to report interviews, where parents meet with teachers to discuss the student's academic progress can serve several purposes. This style of interview allows for increased parental involvement in a child's learning. At StMM's we encourage open communication and having students present during report interviews promotes this between teachers, parents, and students. When students attend report interviews, they are made aware of the importance of their academic progress and the expectations set by their teachers and parents which can motivate students to take ownership of their learning, reflect on their achievements and challenges, and actively engage in discussions about their academic goals.

It's important to note that while involving students in report interviews can be beneficial, there may be instances where it is more appropriate for parents and teachers to have private discussions. If you feel this is the case please ring the StMM's Office next term and make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

## Staff Changes and Adjustments

At the moment as many people are aware there is great difficulty in staffing schools across NSW and Australia. At StMM's we have been able to cover all positions and cope with the staff accessing leave during the first six months of 2023. This leave includes sick, long service, professional learning, and carer's entitlements. During the last week of Term 2 and the first three weeks of Term 3 there will be several staff accessing their leave. We have locked in a number of excellent teachers in filling these positions as we move forward. In coming to the end of Term 2 we wish to inform StMM's Community of changes in our staffing for the remainder of 2023.

**Mrs Cara Daoud:** We wish Cara all the best for the upcoming birth of her baby and will keep her in our prayers and thoughts. We are very pleased to announce that Miss Carol-Ann Essy has agreed to fill the position for the remainder of 2023. Carol-Ann is well known to our students & community.

**Miss Melissa Fardella:** Melissa has accepted a position on the staff at the Children's Hospital School, Westmead. While we are very sad to see Melissa accept this position, we are very happy that she will experience a new opportunity in a different learning environment. We are delighted that Miss Niamh Shipley has accepted the position of the Yr 1 teacher for the remainder of 2023.

**Mr Kenan Albramawi:** We welcome Kenan as our new IT Support Trainee. His role is to ensure our students maintain their access to the digital world at StMM's. He will work across all learning spaces and with the staff to plan, implement and deliver a consistent program of IT Support.

Please be aware that it is extremely difficult to secure staff for schools due to a wide-spread shortage. We have been blessed to have great teachers and teacher assistants supporting and looking after our students in their learning journey.

## Monday Assembly

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June our school had a short and simple assembly. First Mr Mills talked about the Year 4 excursion to The Rocks which is in the city, and he said that people who are late won't go on the excursion because the bus driver would not be able to



wait. Then he talked about the disco on Friday. Mr Mills told us to bow our heads and think about the parents who volunteered who helped organise the disco. Mr Mills gave a few reminders on how to talk nicely to each other and to also show respect to the teachers.

*By: Claire L and Benhui C*



## Stranger Danger

As the school holidays are upon us, parents are reminded to talk with their children about the importance of 'Stranger Danger' and how it can affect them and people around them.





## Teaching & Learning

### Year 3 Learning

As we end the term and enter the school holiday period, Year 3 students have written prayers to our Lord for StMM's families, friends and community. Scan the QR code to read some of their beautiful prayers.



### Library Update

We are all looking forward to opening the library on the first day back next term.

The library will be open for students to borrow books every morning before school and during their lunch times. K-2 students will also be visiting the library each week with their class to borrow books.

Kindergarten                      Thursdays  
Year 1                                  Mondays  
Year 2                                  Wednesdays

The library will also be open before school and at lunch times, for quiet reading and games.



Congratulations to the students that have already completed the PRC this year.

Students have until Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> August, to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) online. Students must read the required number of books from the Challenge to complete the PRC.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

### Holiday Reading

All students at St Margaret Mary's are encouraged to read daily during the holidays and have access to SORA eBooks from home. Students need to use their Google Login and Password to access the eBooks and then click on ACEN Collection - where school name is required. Students can borrow up to 3 eBooks at a time for usually 3 weeks. The books can be read on an iPad if you download the SORA app. or on a computer if you use the direct link to SORA:

<https://soraapp.com/library/cenetau>



## Personal Growth

### Sports News

Congratulations to the following students who will represent St Margaret Mary's at the Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival at Blacktown International Sports Park on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Charbel A	Joseph T	Ava M
Jozian A	Jabari U	Johnny S
Magdalene S	Eva El R	Thomas F
Jack H	Claire L	Ella K
Jacob L	Jeremias E	Dianna N
Chanelle H	Sean E	Yak Y
Jayda S	Jemima A	Elias K
George A	Claire F	Chom J
Eliza E	Jacob T	Rose T
Monica L	Helaina G	Jaxson K
Iris S	Jacinta P	Kayla M
Jiarong L	Anthony C	Mikaele A
Garang D	Zara L	Joseph R
Levi S	Aarya S	Gabriella D
George H		

Any student who would like to nominate to participate in discus at the Zone Carnival, or 1500m run or high jump at the Diocesan Carnival, could you please send through your Little Athletics Results HQ to the school office for Mrs Foley. The Little Athletics Results HQ page will show your PB's in these events and we will be able to nominate you if you meet the qualifying time/distances. The last day we will be able to accept these nominations is on **Friday 30th June**.

### Selection to Represent StMM's

Following our guideline of **ARM** is a key to be selected to represent StMM's at an event outside the school. We have in the past declined students the privilege of representing StMM's due to their inability to live out these guidelines.

**Attitude:** you must choose and bring a positive attitude to the event.

**Respect:** you must show respect to all individuals: staff referees, competitors, teammates.

**Manners:** you must use your manners at all times: at school, travelling, during the competition.





# Partnership

## P&F News

### Disco

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Infants and Primary had a school disco. Infants and Primary had separate sessions with suitable music for each age group. Infants disco was from 3:30pm to 5:00pm and the Primary session was from 5:15pm to 7:00pm. Students were allowed to buy lollies, sausage sizzles, water, glow sticks and other treats. Thanks to the wonderful P&F for setting up a fun night for us. We all had fun listening to different types of music and sang along, making it a night to remember.

By Deng D & Esther B

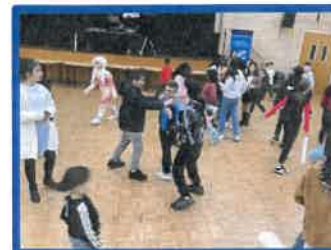


We would like to thank all the parents who helped out at the discos, from cooking on the BBQ, selling the chips, drinks, glowsticks or just supervising the students in the hall.

A great night was had by all the students.

We hope you all have a relaxing break and stay warm.

Mrs Wendy Ndaira  
President  
P&F



**LOWES**

2 DAY VIP EVENT

**20% OFF EVERYTHING\***

JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup> & 30<sup>TH</sup> INSTORE & ONLINE

Back to School Vouchers

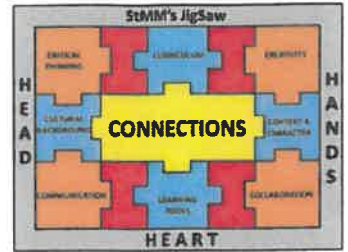
DON'T HAVE A ZERO ON REWARDS CARD? APPLY INSTORE OR ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS

**LAST CHANCE TO REDEEM BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHERS!**

\*Offer applies to merchandise, excludes off-price goods.

# JigSaw Corner

## StMM's JigSaw Pedagogy



### Using the 4Cs in Year 3

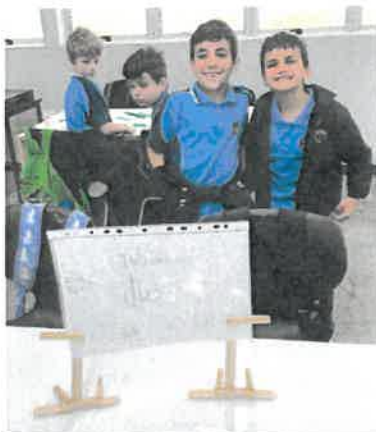


In Year 3 we used the 4Cs to create a stand to hold up our team sign. We could only use pegs and paddle pop sticks to make our stand. We had to use **communication** to come up with a team name. Our team had to be named after an insect. We used **collaboration** to work together to build the stand. Some of our stands didn't work, so we had to use **critical thinking** to come up with a new solution. Year 3 definitely used **creativity** because different groups came up with different solutions. We enjoyed working as a team and we were all really excited when we could make our team sign stand up.



*I used collaboration to work with my team to make the stand. I had to use critical thinking. We had to change the design lots of times. We kept trying and trying until we could make the paper stand up. We were really proud of ourselves. Samuel*

*I had to use communication when I was making the stand. I had to share my ideas with my team. Our team used creativity because we came up with more than one way to make the stand. Joleen*







Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque - © TheCatholicKid.com