



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

7 Chetwynd Road, Merrylands 2160 Tel (02) 8633 8400
Email: stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au www.stmmerrylands.catholic.edu.au

Wednesday, 3rd April

Bulletin

2023 Term 2, Week 2

Diary Dates

Thursday 4th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole School Athletics Carnival at Holroyd Athletics Ground
Monday 8th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are to be in full winter uniform
Tuesday 9th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinder 2024 Interviews continue
Wednesday 10th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diocesan Cross Country • Selected students from School Choir visit Cardinal Gilroy Villiage • Kinder 2024 Interviews continue
Thursday 11th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinder 2024 Interviews continue. • P&F Mother's Day Wrapping
Friday 12th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&F Mother's Day Stall.



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

Last week's Gospel focused on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. *For the first Christians, the Good Shepherd was a favourite image to associate with Christ. In fact, the earliest Christian art depicts Christ as the Good Shepherd, not the crucified Saviour. Surprisingly, the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd is still popular. In fact, early childhood education experts tell us that young children find the concept of a shepherd and his love for his sheep enchanting.*

In the Old Testament God was called a shepherd, and God's people the flock. For instance, in Psalm 23 the psalmist sings that the shepherd leads him to green pastures near refreshing waters.

According to the Gospels, Jesus referred to himself as a shepherd. He said, "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). A shepherd knows his sheep well. There is a personal relationship between Jesus and his followers. Jesus knows each of us by name. On the other hand, we respond to his voice and do not follow the voice of strangers who may lead us to harm.

The parable Jesus told about the lost sheep is a story about Jesus' concern and care for us sinners. He is the loving shepherd who goes to great lengths to search for his lost sheep and when he finds it, carries it back on his shoulders rejoicing.

Knowing about shepherds sheds light on the image of Jesus as shepherd. The shepherd uses a staff with a hook on the end to guide the sheep and pull back the stray. Today Jesus guides his flock through bishops, who are known as pastors, the Latin for shepherds. Bishops carry staffs called crosiers.

Jesus restores our souls. Shepherds feed their flocks. Jesus feeds us with the excellent bread of the Eucharist and brings us to living waters: baptism and the Holy Spirit.

The image of shepherds is that they are kind, loving, patient, strong, and self-sacrificing. They are a good image for Jesus.

† The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want! †

Kevin Mills
Principal

(Text taken from Loyola Press: For over 100 years, their mission has been to lead people to Jesus and to facilitate transformative experiences of God so that people of all ages can lead holy and purposeful lives with and for others.)

Administration

Term 2 Uniforms

Students are required to be dressed in full winter uniform for Term Two. All students must be in full winter uniform by Monday, 8th May.

Please email the school office if you have any issues with Lowes Fairfield in securing the winter uniform.

Please note: StMM's does not have a long sleeve sports polo as part of the school sports 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. Our Sun Safe program requires students to wear our school cap or hat when outside: No Hat No Play. Hats and caps are available at the school office. Sleeper earrings and stud earrings may be worn. Simple signet rings may also be worn. No expensive jewellery is to be worn at school.

Kindergarten 2024

Enrolments are now taking place. *If your child was born between 1st August, 2018 and 31st July, 2019, please collect an enrolment form from the school office.*

We still have a number of families who have outstanding enrolment forms, please return to the school office immediately.

Lost Property

Please note that **we do not** have a lost property collection point.

Parents and students are asked to ensure all students belongings are labelled with child's name and class. All lost items handed into the school office with a name will be returned to the child. All lunch boxes and drink bottles with no names that are left on the playground will be placed in the rubbish.

Water Bottles

Students are reminded to have a drink bottle at school every day. It is very important that students stay hydrated at school. Our drinking fountains (bubblers) are available at school for students to drink from or refill their water bottles.

Reading Diary

Every student at StMM's is expected to read each night and record their efforts in the Reading Diary. Set aside a time to read each night at home is an excellent routine to establish before students enter high school. If parents feel their child is responsible (Yr5 & Yr6) the student may do the recording and sign off.

Faith Community

Mother's Day Prayer

This year we will be celebrating Mother's Day with an assembly and prayer on Monday morning 15th May. All mother's grandmother's and significant women in the lives of our children are most welcome.

Partnership

P&F News

Thank you to all the families who supported our annual Easter Raffle. We congratulate the following students who won major prizes. The



draw took place at the end of Term 1.

1st Prize Catalina Fava
2nd Prize Heliana Gadd
3rd Prize Madden James

Congratulations to all the students and families who won a prize. There were over 100 prizes given out on

the day.

Thank you to all the mums who helped make the baskets and fold all the raffle tickets.



P&F Mother's Day Stall & Morning Tea

StMM's P&F committee will be holding a Mother's Day Stall on Friday 12th May and hosting a morning tea, to celebrate the gift of Mother figures in our lives on Monday 15th May. Notes with more information will be sent home with students this Friday 5th May.



Personal Growth

Primary Athletics Carnival

Our whole school sports carnival will be held at **Holroyd Sports Ground, Peel Street Merrylands**, this Thursday 4th May. Parents, carers, and friends are invited to attend our carnival. This is a compulsory activity for all students and is part of the school curriculum.

What to wear

- Full school sports uniform including school hat.
- Students may wear a shirt in the colour of their sporting house.
- Please remember to apply sunscreen in the morning.
- Children are advised to bring something to sit on, e.g., towel or blanket.

What to Bring

- Small backpack with recess, lunch and water (no plastic bag)
- There will be **NO CANTEEN** facilities.

Athletics Carnival

- All children must come to school.
- Buses begin leaving the school at 8.45am sharp.
- Children sit on the oval in their colour groups.
- The activities will start at 10am.
- An announcement for advising of safety measures.
- Children stay with teachers for the whole session.
- Children are encouraged to walk to the next activity.
- After lunch we will be holding the finals for the sprints.
- Please encourage children to cheer on their friends.
- At 2:00pm the buses will arrive to take infants back to school first and then primary.
- Parents are permitted to take their children home.
- These children **must** see their child's teacher first, and get their names marked off.

Running of the Day

(Please note this order may change)

<i>Rotation</i>	<i>Station</i>	<i>Order of participating classes</i>
1	<u>Parachute</u> Including soft balls	1R & 2R → KY & 2Y → KB & 1B KR → 1Y & 2B
2	<u>Ball Games</u> Under & Over Tunnel Ball Captain Ball	1Y & 2B → 1R & 2R → KY & 2Y KB & 1B → KR
3	<u>Novelty Games</u> Egg & Spoon Sack races Egg & Plate relay	KR → 1Y & 2B → 1R & 2R KY & 2Y → KB & 1B
4	<u>Races</u> Relays with beanbags (if time permits)	KY & 2Y → KB & 1B → KR 1Y & 2B → 1R & 2R
5	<u>Mini Soccer Game</u>	KB & 1B → KR → 1Y & 2B 1R & 2R → KY & 2Y

- There are a total of 5 stations.
- Each activity will have at least 2 teachers per station.
- Each class will be allocated a station to begin.
- Groups are collected from the lines and walk to their station.
- Activities on the day will rotate clockwise.
- Children will remain at each station for approximately 25 minutes.

We are aiming to follow this timetable (please note this may change at any time)



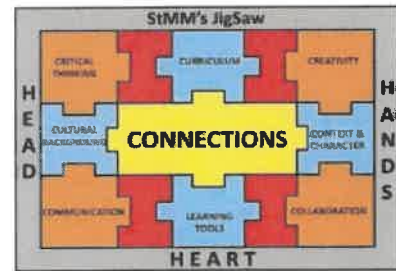
Running of the day - Primary Carnival

8.45am	Years 4B & 4R, 5, 6 board buses						
9.15am	Year 5 & 6 arrive at Holroyd Sports Ground, Year 3 & 4Y board buses, 800m heats and finals begin						
9.30am	Years 2, 1, Kindergarten board buses						
	SPRINTS (100m/200m)	BALL GAMES	TUG A WAR	NOVELTIES	RELAYS	SHOT PUT	LONG JUMP
10.00am	U 12/13	U 11	U 10	U 9	U 8	Juniors (U8, 9, 10)	11 years
10.25am	U 8	U12/13	U 11	U 10	U 9		
10.50am	U 9	U 8	U 12/13	U 11	U 10	11 years	Seniors (U12, 13)
11.15am	MORNING TEA						
11.45am	U 10	U 9	U8	U 12/13	U11	Seniors (U12, 13)	Juniors (U8, 9, 10)
12.15pm	U 11	U 10	U 9	U 8	U 12/13		
12.45pm	LUNCH						
1.15pm	Finals (Under 8, Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 13)						
1.40pm	Cheers						
1.45pm	Clean Up and Parent Dismissal						
2.00pm	Buses back to school (Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 first)						

Teaching & Learning

JigSaw Corner

Critical Thinking and Creativity



Critical thinking is the process of questioning and evaluating information and ideas. It is about breaking apart a concept to explore it from different perspectives, then building it back with a deeper understanding. It involves making connections with prior knowledge and experiences and applying these concepts to real life situations. It is about making choices between right and wrong, fact and opinion, and what is relevant and what is not.

Critical thinking at St Margaret Mary's is visible in our well-formed opinions and thoughtful actions of our Faith Community.



Creativity is the process of merging existing ideas with new and original concepts. It is an opportunity to identify a challenge and solve it in an innovative way. Creativity requires learners to draw on their lived experiences, expertise and strengths.

Creativity at St Margaret Mary's is visible in our Faith Community's personal growth as we persist to overcome challenges, while collaborating with others.



Using Critical Thinking and Creativity in Year 5

We used **critical thinking** when we needed to work out the best way to build a tower using only 20 spaghetti sticks and 6 marshmallows. We needed to work out how to make our tower the tallest and how it will stand for at least 30 seconds. **Claire**

We used **creativity** when the tower fell. We needed to solve the problem of how we were going to support the tower using the marshmallows. **Iris**

We used **creativity** when we solved the problem of not having enough marshmallows. Our group decided to cut them in half. We were then able to add more spaghetti and make our tower bigger. **Hunter**

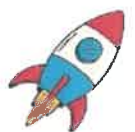


StMM's 4Cs Family Challenge



Infants Challenge

Can you build a foil boat that will hold at least 1/2 cup of rice using only aluminium foil and tape?



Primary Challenge

Can you build a rocket that will travel at least 70 cm along the ground using only straws and one A4 piece of paper?

- This challenge will be completed at home and brought to school in Week 5.
- We will be testing your boat / rocket in Discovery Learning Lessons in Week 5.
- There will be prizes.
- Check your child's Home Learning for more information

Have fun and good luck!

