



St Margaret Mary's School

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Wednesday, 15th February **Update** 2023 Term 1, Week 4

Diary Dates

Friday, 17 th February	Whole School Opening Mass & Commissioning of Student Leaders
Monday, 20 th February	Whole School Morning Assembly & Prayer
Wednesday 22 nd February	Ash Wednesday P&F AGM 6pm
Thursday, 23 rd February	Cerdon visiting Year Six Girls St Pauls visiting Year Six & Year Five Boys

Opening School Mass and Commissioning of 2023

Parents, Grandparents, and Friends of St Margaret Mary's are invited to join us at our Opening School Mass and Commissioning of our 2023 Student Leaders, on Friday, 17th February, at 9:00am in the Church.

StMM's School Office

StMM's is a cashless school, as per instructions by CSPD. All payments at the school office must be made by credit card. This includes hats, caps and library bags.

School Canteen

Parents are reminded to ensure that they have updated their **child's class for 2023** in the FLEXI school's canteen ordering system.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

On Friday this week we will celebrate our Opening School Mass for 2023. We are inviting our parent community to be present for the first time in three years and look forward to the installation of our Leaders for the upcoming year. I often talk to the Year 5 and 6 students about leadership and their responsibilities as they move into the last two years of their time at StMM's.

Leadership at StMM's, during my time, has never been about titles and the sense a leader is more important than anyone else. I speak often about the person of Jesus and his style of leadership: servant leadership. Servant Leadership is not about position or skill, it's about attitude. Leaders seek ways they can add value to others, and the primary way they do it is by serving them. The following are my notes from a recent article I was reading during my pilgrimage and time in Assisi.

Jesus explained to his followers that their practice of leadership was to be distinctly different than the self-seeking, self-serving, and domineering style of leadership often found in the world: "Whoever would be first among you must be servant of all" (Mk 10:42-44; Mt 20: 25-28). The following features are key to living out our mission to make the world a better place by being servant leaders.

THEY ARE MOTIVATED BY LOVE to serve others (John 13:1-2). Jesus' love was undeserved, unending, unconditional, and unselfish. He wasn't expressing gratitude, but grace. Love made him serve his disciples.

THEY POSSESS A SECURITY that allows them to serve others (John 13:3). Jesus knew who he was, and he was secure enough to get down on the floor and wash his disciples' feet. He didn't have to prove anything. In fact, he had nothing to prove, nothing to lose and nothing to hide.

THEY INITIATE SERVANT LEADERSHIP to others (John 13:4-5). Jesus didn't wait for someone to clarify protocol. He saw a need and met it. He started something that he hoped would be passed down from those twelve disciples to others (John 13:12-15). It will be done by leaders who are willing to pioneer an act of humility and sacrifice.

THEY TEACH SERVANTHOOD by their example (John 13:12, 15). The Lord had washed the feet of his followers, so no position should prevent them from doing it for someone else. Jesus let them know that if the Master washed their feet, they ought to imitate him.

THEY LIVE A BLESSED LIFE (John 13:16-17). Jesus reminded them they were blessed if they obeyed him in this choice. The greatest blessing follows those who step out by faith and do the opposite of what the world is doing. God blesses those who "go countercultural" and serve people with no thought of getting something in return from them. The return comes in the form of God's blessing.

When leaders serve, they add value to the people who they work with. This value might be as simple as feeling worthwhile or special. A good habit for a leader is try to add value to everyone he or she meets; try to add something to their lives rather than take away. Seek to replenish and resource them to live the higher life God has called them to. This is what Jesus did, day in and day out. Maybe that's why people think so highly of him. He served.

It is the task we ask of all our Year 5 & Year 6 Students, along with all our Staff at StMM's.

It is great to be back
KM.
God Bless
Kevin Mills
Principal

Administration

StMM's ICT Upgrade

We have been notified by CSPD that they will be doing an upgrade to our Network and Internet connection on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st February.

This will impact our communication with Parents:

- ★ Limited access via our phone to the school
- ★ There will be no Wired and Wireless internet connectivity
- ★ No payments at the school

During this upgrade the StMM's school will have limited phone access and no internet connection. Please limit all contact and calls to the school. We will keep our community updated on these changes.

School Fees

All Invoices/Statements have been sent out by CSPD. If you have not received your statement, please contact Maria in the school office. Term One School Fees are due by 17th March unless you have entered into an arrangement with the school or with CSPD details as per your statement. If you have any questions regarding your 2023 statement or arrangement, please contact Maria at the school office.

School Hours

Parents are reminded that lessons begin at 8:40am and finish at 3:00pm. Children should be at school by 8:30am. There is no supervision in the mornings before the 8:15am bell. Between 8:15am until 8:30am it is a walk and talk time only. Students are reminded that there is to be NO running or ball games in the playground in the mornings.

Parents are also reminded that they need to collect their child/ren from school at 3:00pm. If you are running late please contact the school office. The school office is open from 8:15am to 3:15pm every day.

Personal Growth

Monday Assembly

On Monday, Mr Mills ran his first assembly for the year. It was also Kindy's first line up this year. We



welcomed the Kindy parents and all the parents to our assembly. Mr Mills mentioned there would be a visiting principal coming to look at year 3, 4, 5, and 6 Learning Spaces. Mr Mills said

he would be visiting all of the learning spaces. Mr Mills mentioned on Friday there will be a Whole School Opening mass and commissioning of the 2023 School Leaders at 9am and everyone is invited to join us.

By Claire F and Ayeen T



Personal Growth

Sports News

Zone Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the following students who will represent St Margaret Mary's at the Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival on 7th March at Mt Druitt Pool.

Anastasia K
Jay S
Ruby S
Mikhaelo S
Gabriella D

Sebastian H
Ryan C
Alexander K
Isabella H

Well Done

Congratulations to Jacob (Yr 6) and Claire (Yr 5) for competing at the Regional Athletics Competition, at the Crest Bankstown, over the weekend in extremely hot weather. Both displayed outstanding sportsmanship and will now represent NSW in the State Athletics Trials on March 18th and 19th. We wish Jacob and Claire the best of luck!



Partnership

P&F Annual General Meeting

Would you like to be part of events such as our Annual Mother's & Father's Day Stalls and our huge Easter Raffle or our School Discos?

Do you have some fun ideas so we can try to help raise funds for the school?

The P&F, is a way parents can have a voice in the school, it is an excellent forum to be involved in.

Nominations for the following positions will be taken at the meeting:

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Second-Hand Uniform Shop, and Fundraising Committee.

Please join us for our 2023 AGM (*Annual General Meeting*)

When: Wednesday 22nd February

Time: 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Place: The School Staffroom. (Please enter the school via the front gate in the office)

We look forward to seeing you there.

LOWES School Uniforms

Mr Mills and Mrs Pagano will be meeting with representatives from Lowes Uniforms. If you have any concerns please email the school office by Friday 17th February and they will endeavour to raise them with the representatives.

We understand that there have been a number of issues regarding uniforms from Lowes.