



St Margaret Mary's School

Listen Share Act

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Wednesday, 22nd March **Bulletin** 2023 Term 1, Week 9

Diary Dates

Thursday 23 rd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAPLAN Make-Up Sessions
Friday, 24 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmony/Project Compassion Mufti Day- Students to wear Orange and a Gold Coin NAPLAN Make-Up Sessions Tuning in to Kids Parent meeting 8:30am – 10:30am in the library
Monday, 27 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole School Morning Assembly & Prayer P&F Meet & Greet after Assembly
Wednesday 29 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&F Easter Raffle Tickets due today

2024 Kindergarten Enrolments

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.*



Words taken from Fr Michael's reflection for the 4th Sunday of Lent

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Last week's Gospel was an interesting story connecting many aspects of our Catholic faith. Jesus stated very firmly that God is not in the business of visiting disabilities on anyone as a punishment. He proceeded to explain that God's love can be revealed to us and to our world through people who meet with misadventure and carry disability, and that love is also reflected in the kindness of those who care for them.

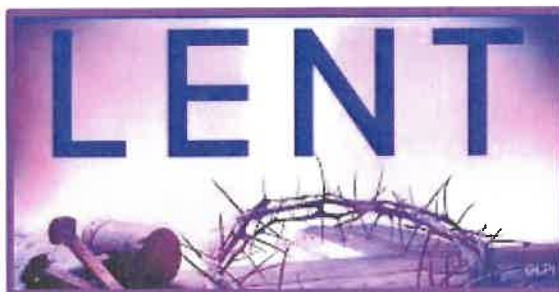
What follows is a declaration by Jesus identifying himself as "the light of the world" sent by God to enlighten a world whose people live in darkness because of ignorance, insensitivity to the prejudice that blinds them, or deliberate choice. When people allow themselves to see the truth, they sometimes have to let go of opinions that are hard-wired in their brains or allow long-held prejudices to evaporate. Such demands call for flexibility, open-heartedness and a willingness to grow and develop.

The message for us is that we, too, must be prepared to open our eyes to see what is sometimes below the surface and then to summon the courage to act on what we eventually come to see. We have to trust in the guidance of God's Spirit and let go of the fear that holds us captive from doing what we know is right. Furthermore, we are invited to look into the mirror of compassion held up to us by the way in which Jesus reached out to the man born blind, and then rescued him from being excluded from the community of synagogue worshippers.

As disciples of Jesus, we all have a responsibility to keep our hearts, minds and eyes open, so as to be sensitive to everyone whom we encounter, to be aware as to whom we include and whom we lock out when we allow our prejudice, narrow-mindedness or some other kind of blindness to keep them on the outer. We have a responsibility through the way in which we live our faith lives and practice compassion to be instruments of making visible the works of God.

Take care and God bless,

Kevin Mills
Principal



Faith Community

Compassion Day

Friday 24th March 2023

This Friday St Margaret Mary's will be holding Compassion Day to support Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. On this day, students are encouraged to wear orange or cultural dress and to make a gold coin donation to Project Compassion. Children will be participating in a range of activities to deepen their understanding of how future generations are impacted by our decisions today.

Here is an overview of our day:

8:40 am	Morning Prayer (Parents and Carers are welcome to attend)
8:50 am-12:20 pm	In-class activities based on Project Compassion Infants & Primary Buddy Session
12:30 - 1:20 pm	Water Bucket Relay (Parents and Carers are welcome to attend)
1:20-1:50 pm	Family Lunch Time (Parents and Carers are welcome to attend) Students and families sit and eat their lunch together
1:50 pm	Parents have the option to 'sign out' children by seeing their child's class teacher
2:00 pm	Remaining children complete activities in-class and will attend usual afternoon dismissal at 3:00 pm

Just a reminder that we will be accepting donations of \$5 through the QKR! app to 'buy' a water droplet for our Water Wall until Wednesday 22nd March, 2023. The grade that raises the most will get to 'dunk' a teacher!

Thank you
Mrs Del Monte

Holy Week

Students will participate in the Way of the Cross on Monday or Tuesday of Holy week. They will join in pray and reflection as part of the Easter Holy Week celebrations.

School Choir

It was great to see so many Primary students turn up for our first Choir rehearsal last week! We are busy learning new warm-ups and a special song that we hope to perform at the end of term. If you missed our first rehearsal and would like to join us, it's not too late!

Rehearsals are every Friday morning at 8:10 am in the Hall.

See you there!
Mrs Del Monte



St Patrick's Day

On St Patrick's day Mr Mills told us he was the Principal at St Patrick's school Blacktown. Whilst he was principal at Blacktown, he had the opportunity to go to Ireland and brought a St Patrick's statue and a Celtic cross which he displayed at our assembly. He was the principal at the school for eleven years and here at St Margaret



Mary's for ten years.

Year Six students placed green meerkats around the gardens to



celebrate St Patrick's day. On Wednesday, Six students went around the school to teach



us about St Patrick. Everyone in the school wore green and we had a whole school soccer match in the afternoon where students were randomly chosen to participate in the game.

By Luca S. & George H



Personal Growth

Monday Assembly

On Monday morning during the assembly Mr Mills mentioned that the grade that gets the most water droplets gets to dump a teacher with a bucket of water. Three teachers received their Ten and Twenty years of service certificates for working in Catholic Education.



The teachers were Mr Tenido, Mrs Debes and Mrs Attard. Nine incredible swimmers received their swimming award from Mrs Foley for participation at the swimming carnival that was held on the 7th March. Jay S from Year 5 made it to the MacKillop competition at Olympic Park. This week is wellbeing week, which means we can wear a free choice of uniform and no homework. Mr Mills also mentioned he will be checking primary reading diaries after Wednesday. He



gave us Monday and Tuesday to fill out or reading diaries neatly.

By: Katrina Y. & Ayen T.

Administration

Parent Connection Meetings



Click on the QR code to complete a brief survey about our Parent Connection Meetings.



Thank you to our parents who have already provided us with ideas on how we can continue to work in partnership with our parent community.

Kindergarten 2024

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2024 are now taking place. If your child was born between 1st August 2018 and 31st July 2019, please collect an enrolment application from the school office. Interviews will commence the first week of May. If you have collected an enrolment form and not yet returned it please do so as soon as possible. Last year we had a waiting list with over 100 applications. Calls are being made over the next week to book appointment times.

School Fees

Term One School Fees are now overdue, 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.

Mr Yearsley Farewell

Parents and the community of StMM's are invited to join us at an Assembly/Prayer service to officially farewell Mr Yearsley on Friday 31st March at 2:15pm.

Easter Hat Parade

On Wednesday 5th April students in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two will participate in an Easter Hat parade at a morning assembly. Students will make their hats at home and bring them to school on this day. Primary students may like to buddy with an infants student and help with the making of an Easter hat. If primary students wish to join the hat parade, they may.

Administration

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 2, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible, as we have several families on our waiting list. It is a CSPD 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.

LARC News

Due to the LARC being refurbished during the Easter break.

Friday the 24th March 2023 will be the last day for borrowing for all students.

Students are able to return their books in the first week of Term 2.

Important Dates for End of Term 1

Monday, 27 th March	P&F Meet & Greet Morning
Wednesday, 29 th March	Easter Raffle Tickets Due
Friday, 31 st March	Tuning in to Kids
Monday, 3 rd April	P&F Secondhand Uniform Sale
Wednesday, 5 th April	Easter Egg Donation Mufti Day P&F Easter Basket Wrapping Easter Hat Parade Infants Easter Raffle Draw
Thursday 6 th April	Holy Thursday School Closes for Term 1 at 3pm
Friday 7 th April	Good Friday
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday
Sunday 22 nd April	Fr Janusz Farewell

Important Dates for Term 2

Monday 24 th April	School Resumes for Term 2
Tuesday, 25 th April	ANZAC DAY
Monday, 1 st May	Kindergarten 2024 Interviews Commence
Thursday, 4 th May	Whole School Athletics Carnival
Monday, 8 th May	All Students to be in Full Winter Uniform
Wednesday, 10 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diocesan Cross Country StMM's Choir Visit Cardinal Gilroy Village
Friday, 12 th May	Mother's Day Liturgy
Sunday, 14 th May	Mother's Day
Thursday, 18 th May	Ascension
Sunday, 28 th May	Pentecost Sunday
Thursday, 1 st June	Year Five History Excursion
Friday, 2 nd June	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day
Sunday, 4 th June	Holy Trinity Sunday
Monday 5 th – 6 th June	Year Six Canberra Excursion
Tuesday, 13 th June	Whole School Photo Day
Friday, 16 th June	Feast of the Sacred Heart Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day
Monday, 26 th June	Year Four Excursion
Wednesday, 28 th June	Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day
Friday, 30 th June	School Closes for Term 2
Monday, 17 th July	School Resumes for Term 3

Personal Growth

Sports News

Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Anastasia K, Ryan C, Jay S, Ruby S and Alexander K who swam at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 14th March at Blacktown Swimming Centre. Everyone swam so well and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship.



A special mention goes to Jay, who will now compete for MacKillop at the NSWCPSS Swimming Carnival at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre on March 30th.



Cross Country

Congratulations to the following students who will represent St Margaret Mary's at the Diocesan Cross Country at Sydney Motorsport Park on Wednesday 10th May. We will start training next Monday at recess, so please make sure you bring your sports shoes.

George A	Jabari U	Jaden D
Charbel S	Bol D	Karam A
Joy K	Achai J	Susanna P
Mary C	Verena I	Eva El
Thomas F	William S	Elias K
Jaxson K	Luis A	Leo G
Claire L	Sophia A	Amelia K
Claire F	Iris S	Ella K
Chom J	Jacob L	Garang D
Jacob T	Jacob N	Benhui C
Jessica H	Chanelle H	Ameerah H
Valentina C	Jasmine M	Dianna N
Sean E	Alexander K	Yak Y
Mikhaelo S	Lucas V	Lucas F
Helaina G	Jacinta P	Grace El
Isabella H	Angela S	Kayla M

Partnership

P&F News

Meet & Greet

Monday 27th March after the Monday morning assembly in the LARC our P&F will be holding a meet & greet. Drinks & snacks will be provided. Come along & meet other parents & carers and find out what our P&F is all about.

Second Hand Uniforms Sale

Monday 3rd April, 8:15am - 9:30am
All Items \$5 each (Cash Only)

Easter Raffle

In preparation for the P&F Easter Raffle on Wednesday 5th April, if anyone has any empty baskets and would like to donate these, please send them to the school office.

Today the eldest child in every family has received a book of Raffle Tickets for our Easter Raffle and a note with all the information regarding our Raffle and asking for parent helpers to make up our Easter Baskets.

Wednesday 5th April will be a MUFTI Day and students are asked to donate an Easter Egg on this day.

BCSC (Building Child Safe Communities)

All parents/carers that wish to volunteer and assist the P&F with any activities, must complete the CSPD Building Child Safe Communities online undertaking form and training module for volunteers. This is a legal requirement for Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese.

This can be accessed via www.parra.catholic.edu.au

1. Hover your cursor over 'About'
2. Click on 'Student Safety'
3. Scroll down & Click on 'Start Training Now'
4. Scroll down & Click on 'Start Now'
5. Click on 'Begin Undertaking'
6. When you get to screen 5 - only click on/highlight
'I am a parent or close relative of a child at all of the selected location(s)'

Once your form has been "Submitted", the system will generate an automated email to confirm and approve the status of your submission within 24 hours. All Volunteers need a BCSC status that is **Approved** to provide services to our school.

Please forward this approval email to the school stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au

Important Points to Note:

- Training is valid for 2 years
- After the 2 years you must undertake the training again
- Contact Domenica (School Office) if you are unsure when your training expires
- BCSC module must be completed, even if you have a WWCC

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

Sacrament of Reconciliation Enrolments commence from **Tuesday, 14 March** until **Friday, 28 April 2023**.

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website or available at our Parish Office during working hours. (Enrolment Fee \$50 per child).

Parents Night: Wednesday, 26 April at 7pm.
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre

Sacrament of Reconciliation program is divided into two groups taught by Monique Kairouz & assisted by Fr. Jeremy Santoso.

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

All preparation sessions will be held on **WEDNESDAYS** with two time slots to choose from: **5:30 - 6:30pm** or **7:00 - 8:00pm**

Session 1: 03 MAY
Session 2: 10 MAY
Session 3: 17 MAY
Session 4: 24 MAY

Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre

Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Monday, 29 May 2023 at 6:00pm Inside the Church.