



# St Margaret Mary's School

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Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Update

2023 Term 2, Week 5

## Diary Dates

<b>Sunday</b> 28 <sup>th</sup> May	• Pentecost Sunday
<b>Thursday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> June	• Year Five Excursion to Sydney Museum
<b>Friday,</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	• Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day at Penrith

## COVID-19

COVID -19 remains an ongoing concern in the community with numbers again rising as we move into winter. Where possible we ask that you practice good hygiene, students are to stay at home while they are symptomatic and return when well. Test for COVID-19 using a rapid antigen test. If your child tests positive, please notify the school via email. Students may wear a mask if they wish.



**All of them were  
filled with  
the Holy Spirit!**

Acts 2.4

## Principal's Message

**Dear Parent, Boys & Girls,**

My top six points in nurturing the faith journey of a child at StMM's:



1. **Nurture a strong faith foundation:** As a parent, it's important to instil and foster a strong foundation of faith. Engage your child in regular prayer, attend Mass together as a family, and encourage their participation in religious education programs.
2. **Teach Catholic values:** Help your child understand and embrace the core values of Catholicism, such as compassion, forgiveness, humility, acceptance and service to others. Emphasize the importance of living these values in their daily lives.
3. **Provide religious education & encourage participation in sacraments:** Ensure that your child receives appropriate religious education. This will deepen their knowledge of the faith and help them grow spiritually. Guide your child in receiving the sacraments of the Catholic Church, such as baptism, reconciliation, Eucharist, and confirmation. These sacraments are essential milestones in their faith journey.
4. **Foster a prayerful life:** Teach your child the importance of regular prayer. Encourage them to develop a personal prayer routine, including prayers before meals, bedtime prayers, and spontaneous prayers throughout the day. Help them understand the different types of prayers and their significance.
5. **Lead by example:** Be a role model for your child by living out your Catholic faith authentically. Demonstrate love, forgiveness, and kindness in your interactions with others. Show them the joy and peace that come from living a life centered on God.
6. **Participate in the Catholic community and embrace a loving and supportive environment:** This will help them develop a sense of belonging and foster relationships with peers. Create a loving and supportive home environment where your child feels safe to express their thoughts and emotions about their God. faith. Assure them of your unwavering love and support throughout their spiritual journey.



**God Bless & Take care,**

Kevin Mills  
Principal

# Administration

## Tell Them from Me Survey

We are inviting students and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey called **Tell Them From Me**.



**Tell Them From Me**

The survey is now open and will close for parents on Friday, the 9th of June.

This survey provides Parents and Carers an opportunity to give feedback on their experiences at our school.

We are asking all parents in our community to take part in the survey as the online tool will become an important part of St Margaret Mary's whole school evaluation and planning process.

The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Margaret Mary's.

The survey is **anonymous** and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer by using the URL below: <http://tellthemfromme.com/stmms2023>

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be completing an anonymous student survey during this period. If parents do not wish their child to participate, please send a request to the school office in writing via the school email [stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmargaretmarys@parra.catholic.edu.au)

## Updating StMM's Photo Boards

We are in the process of removing and replacing the old external photo boards. Our Year Six students are planning, designing, and storyboarding a new series of photos for our community. They will present these to our Leadership Team at StMM's for a final decision. Once this has been finalised, we will contact the parents of each student selected for photos, seeking permission for their child's participation. A student's involvement in the final photo board will be at their parents' discretion.

## General Maintenance Work

We have had to employ a builder to repair some minor damage within our new learning spaces. He will be also dealing with a few issues around the school that need to be addressed, including hanging of whiteboards, pinboards and the removal of our picture boards. We are also having to repair some doors and windows around the school. In general, we are pleased with the way our children are looking after our beautiful school, especially the infants' students.

## WHS External Audit

Last week StMM's school was audited on our WHS around the school. The auditor was very impressed with StMM's school and the way our community all work together to provide a safe environment for all students, staff, parents and visitors to our school.

## School Photos 2023

StMM's School Photo Day this year is Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023, Term 2, Week 8.

Don Wood Photography will be taking our photos on the day. [www.donwoodphotography.com.au](http://www.donwoodphotography.com.au)  
The preferred method of payment is online.

Closer to the day we will provide families with more information regarding online payments.

## Principal's Morning Tea

The Principal's morning tea with Mr Mills will be held on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June. Students who have received a Pillar award in each of the following: Faith Community, Teaching & Learning, Personal Growth & Partnership, will receive a Principal's Award and attend the morning tea with Mr Mills.

Mr Mills is looking forward to the celebration with the students.

## Kindergarten 2024

Kindergarten 2024 interviews are now complete and acceptance letters have been posted. Please return your acceptance slip along with your deposit as soon as possible due to the number of families we have on our waiting list. We have had over 115 Applications for 90 places.

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2019 and have not yet completed an enrolment form please contact the school office.

If you know of anyone wishing to enrol at StMM's for 2024 in Yrs 1-6, please contact the school office as we have limited vacancies across all grades.

## School Fees

Term Two School Fees are due by 31<sup>st</sup> May, unless you have entered into an arrangement with the school or with CSPD. If you have any questions regarding your 2023 statement or arrangement, please contact Maria at the school office.

## Canteen

There are a large number of students that still have last year's class details in the Flexischools App (for canteen ordering).

We ask all families to check & make sure that your child/s name & class are **current for 2023**.

It is important that student details are correct in the Flexischools App to ensure lunch orders are in the right lunch basket.

## No Selling of Items or food at StMM's

Over the past two weeks a number of students have brought items to school and offered them for sale. This is not allowed for a variety of health and safety reasons. We are sometimes amazed at the amount of cash children have in their bags (up to \$100) and will notify parents if we felt this is excessive. We would ask parents to be aware of these issues and occasionally check their child's bag.

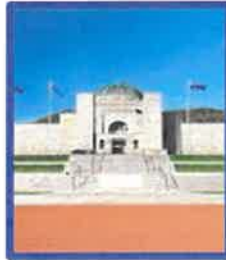


# Teaching & Learning

## Year Six Canberra

### Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (Pacer)

Year Six students from our school will be undertaking an education tour of the national capital on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June & Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.



The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

## Year 3 Monsters

This term in year 3, we have been focusing on writing character descriptions for our narratives. Our learning goal is to use interesting words, adjectives and even similes to make our descriptions fascinating. Read about Minty the friendly monster and scan the QR code to see some of our friendly monsters come to life!

### Minty

Minty is a happy Monster. He has two cute green, sparkly eyes that make him adorable. He also has a dark belly that looks like someone is smiling and has the fuzziest, funkiest coloured fur. Minty has two shiny teeth that are as bright as the sun! Minty is also very kind and helpful. Minty is magical and his trick is that he can make himself disappear. By  
Norah B, 3 Yellow



## STEM

This year St Margaret Mary's is taking part in a STEM Teacher Enrichment Academy Program, which is run by The University of Sydney. As part of this program, the Discovery Learning Team will be developing and implementing new Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering (STEM) units of work. As part of this program, a group of students will be completing a survey to find out how they think and feel about STEM. The survey will be completed online in class. Participation in the survey is voluntary. We are excited to share our STEM projects with you later this year.



A Partner School of  
**THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY**  
—  
**STEM Teacher Enrichment Academy**

## Personal Growth

### Selection to Represent StMM's

Using our **ARM** is the key to be selected to represent StMM's at an event outside the school. **Attitude:** you must choose and bring a positive attitude to the event; **Respect:** you must show respect to all individuals at the event, including referees, competitors, staff, and fellow teammates; **Manners:** you must use your manners at all times, at school, when travelling, at the ground and during the competition. We have in the past declined students the privilege of representing StMM's due to their inability to live out these guidelines.

### Monday Morning Assembly

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May we had an assembly but not as we normally have it outside, but in the hall. Mr Mills talked about the school pointers and the playground pointers. Mrs



Foley and the colour captains handed out awards to the students who broke STMM records at the whole school Athletics Carnival. Mr Mills told everyone on stage to line up at the bottom. Then Mrs Foley handed out awards to students who represented StMM's at the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country. Congratulations to Claire L who will be representing the Parramatta Diocese at the next stage in MacKillop at the Cross Country.



By: Claire F and Claire L



## Partnership



To the ST MARGARETS MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL community,

We are very pleased to announce  
that we will be opening our new store in  
Westfield Parramatta on the 5th of June.  
While we work on the shop fit-out from  
Wednesday 24th May to Sunday 4th June,  
uniforms will only be available online.

We are very excited to reopen in the  
Westfield Parramatta Centre,  
providing your community with our premium  
convenience and a pleasant experience  
in our bright new store.

Kind Regards,  
Lowes Beare & Ley School Uniforms

**NEW STORE OPEN**

**MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

**INSTORE AT PARRAMATTA**

Uniforms will be available in Fairfield Neeta City until Tuesday 24th May.  
The new store in Parramatta Westfield will open on Monday 5th June.

**LOWES**