



St Margaret Mary's School

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Wednesday, 30th November

Update

2022 Term 4, Week 8

Diary Dates

Friday, 2 nd December	Green "Maur" & Yellow "Tosi" Mufti Day
	Yr 5 Starr's Planetarium Incursion
Sunday, 4 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent
Tuesday, 6 th December	Principal's Morning Tea
Thursday, 8 th December	Yr 6 Graduation Mass 6pm in the Church
Friday, 9 th December	School Reports to go home with Students
	Yr 6 Graduation Dinner
Monday, 12 th December	Yr 6 Fun Day
Wednesday, 14 th December	Last Official Function Whole School Thanksgiving Mass
	Christmas Song Performance by Students
Friday, 16 th December	Last Day of School for Students.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

The following is part of my speech to our community on Ms Veness' farewell.

*To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under heaven.*

Our lives contain a mixture of joy and sorrow, pleasure and pain, harmony and struggle. Each season has its appropriate time in the cycle of life, thus nothing stays the same and as God's children, we must learn to accept and adjust to the ebb and flow of God's design. God gives us these seasons to build up and bless us. We have been blessed with Jennifer's presence in our community and now we must accept her retirement and celebrate her contribution to the community of StMM's and Catholic Education in the Diocese of Parramatta.

Jennifer's primary focus in her role as assistant principal was to ensure quality teaching and learning across all aspects of St Margaret Mary's and her actions in this focus are guided by what she sees as best for the children in our school. She has promoted the school as a centre for all the community and has been eager to improve the teaching and learning practices within our school by catering to a wide range of students in her care. She has shown great care and empathy for the marginalised and needy families in our school, continually fulfilling the role of a strong advocate for the students and families.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Jennifer for her unwavering support of my leadership since I arrived at StMM's. I have appreciated her wisdom and insights regarding all aspects of our school's journey. It is now time. Over the past 26 years Jennifer Veness' leadership has been the constant light for our St Margaret Mary's community. She has guided young teachers in the dawning of their careers and farewelled many colleagues at the sunset of their vocations. She has held the well-being of our children, parents, colleagues, and friends in her hands, all the time giving so much support to others. While we too have carried her in our arms as a community, giving purpose to her chosen career and supporting her life journey. It is now the season for farewell..... a parting of ways, a goodbye and a time to say thank you for her presence and work with our community.

Jennifer, a heartfelt thank you goes from us to you as you change direction and walk a new path. We wish you the best of luck and all the joy for your time ahead.

Take Care and stay safe,

Kevin Mills
Principal



WE WILL MISS YOU



Administration

Welcome

We would like to welcome Rochelle Borg as the new Assistant Principal. Rochelle is currently the Assistant Principal at St Joseph's Primary School Kingswood. Rochelle will take up her position here at StMM's at the beginning of 2023. We look forward to her working with the staff, students, parents, and the community of StMM's.

STMM's School Office

Term 4 Last Day for Payment

Friday, 9th December 2022 will be the last day that the office will accept payment for school fees, hats or library bags.

Please ensure that all necessary payments are made prior to this date. If there are any questions, please contact the school office.

End of Year Dates

- **Wednesday 14th December will be our last official function for 2022.** We will be celebrating our Thanksgiving Mass in the morning. Parents are then invited to stay and have morning tea with their child/ren.
- After morning tea, the children will perform a Christmas song for each grade. Children may leave with their parents at the conclusion of the event. We will notify you of times as the event gets closer.
- **Friday 16th December is the last day of school for students in 2022.**

Semester 2 Reports

StMM's 2022 Semester 2 reports are now being finalised. The reports will be sent home on Friday, 9th December with the students in an envelope addressed to the parents. This learning report is designed to provide information about your child's learning. This report evaluates your child's progress as an individual, who is developing spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially. It is very important to recognise your child's success and progress in all areas of development. We congratulate students on their hard work and to all parents on the support of their child.

Leaving

If you know your child/ren will not be returning to StMM's in Term 4 or at the end of 2022, please let the office know in writing as soon as possible, as we have several families on our waiting list. It is a CEDP 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.

Change of Details

If you have moved house or changed your contact details, please contact the school office as soon as possible to update your details.

Important Dates for Term 4

Friday, 2 nd December	Green "Maur" & Yellow "Tosi" Mufti Day.
Friday, 2 nd December	Year Five Starr's Planetarium Incursion.
Sunday, 4 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent.
Tuesday, 6 th December	Final Principal's Morning Tea for 2022.
Thursday, 8 th December	Year Six Graduation Mass 6pm.
Friday, 9 th December	Reports go home with Students.
Friday, 9 th December	Year Six Graduation Dinner.
Sunday, 11 th December	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Monday, 12 th December	Year Six Fun Day
Wednesday, 14 th December	Whole School Thanksgiving Mass & Christmas Carols. Last Official function at StMM's for 2022.
Friday, 16 th December	Last day of School for Students for 2022.
Sunday, 18 th December	4 th Sunday of Advent
Monday, 19 th December	Staff Professional Learning Day.
Tuesday, 20 th December	Staff Professional Learning Day.
Tuesday, 20 th December	School Closes for 2022.

Important Dates for Start of 2023

Tuesday, 31 st January	Yrs 1-6 Return for 2023
Friday, 3 rd February	Kindergarten Commence

The Student's Good Book

This year we will continue with the 'Good Book'. Students have used this book to showcase and record the work that they were proud of. Teachers and children are transferring work from other books into the 'Good Book'. This book will be sent home at the end of the year. If you wish to keep your child's other books, please contact your child's teacher via the school email.

Classes for 2023

It is a school policy that the make up of classes are revised at the end of Kindergarten (Early Stage One), Year Two (End of Stage One), Year Four (End of Stage Two) and as needed in other years. It must be remembered that the structure of our school facilitates a number of students working with a number of teachers. The decision of movement of students is at the discretion of the principal. Please be reminded that due to COVID this process has not been completed to it's fullest.

Administration

Positive COVID Case Students

We will continue to advise parent/carers to keep their child at home whilst they are unwell. Where there is a known positive case and they have been in the school whilst positive, we will communicate to the school community. This is to increase vigilance in checking for symptoms, testing and taking precautionary measures. If you require more RAT Kits, please contact the school office.

CEDP Covid Information

NSW Health recently advised that COVID-19 transmissions within the community are rising. Whilst NSW Health has not changed its requirements, CEDP is recommending COVID-safe measures are taken to minimise infections. Students should remain at home if they are unwell, and visitors should only attend school when they are symptom-free.

Faith Community

Wear your Green and Gold for Maur and Tosi's Colour Day!

For our final colour day this year, we have decided to have an Aussie Christmas colour theme to raise money for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.



On Friday 02/12/2022 (Week 8), wear **GREEN** or **YELLOW** clothes (or both), closed shoes and a hat. Bring a gold coin donation to help the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

Our Maur and Tosi Captains have some fun activities planned for students on this day.



Personal Growth

Principals Morning Tea

The last Principal's Morning Tea for 2022 will be on Tuesday, 6th December. Students need to have received all 4 Pillar awards to be eligible to attend the morning tea.

Monday Assembly

On Monday, 28th November Ms Veness held the Monday assembly. The Jellybean Competition winner was announced,



congratulations Tayla E from 5Yellow on winning the whole jar of Jellybeans. The competition raised over \$100 for the school.

Ms Veness congratulated Leeroy and

Xavier T from Yr 6 who competed in an all school tennis competition held over two days. They competed against each other in the finals and Xavier won the match.

The students were told that Advent began on Sunday.

Clip on the heading to see more photos from the assembly.

By Mikhaelo S & Cristina T



Teaching & Learning

Year Two Team Building Day

Last Friday, Year Two were lucky enough to have their own Team Building Day at school, run by Ranger

Jamie Tours!

During the day we were split up into teams and we even got to paint our faces or hands to show our team colour.



Our guides were Harry, Angus and Leyla and they were so much fun! They showed us how to make bottle rockets using baking soda and vinegar, play team building games using balls and build tall towers using tape and pipes. Each activity was completed in teams and we had to listen carefully to each other and collaborate.

The final activity of the day was to create our own air pressure rockets. We used paper and tape to make the rockets and then

Leyla and Angus shot them across the playground! Some of them travelled over 20 metres!

It was a great day and we used the 4 C's to help us do all the activities!



Clip on the heading to see more photos from our great day with Ranger Jamie.