



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term One, Week 5
February 27th, 2020

From Brian's Desk

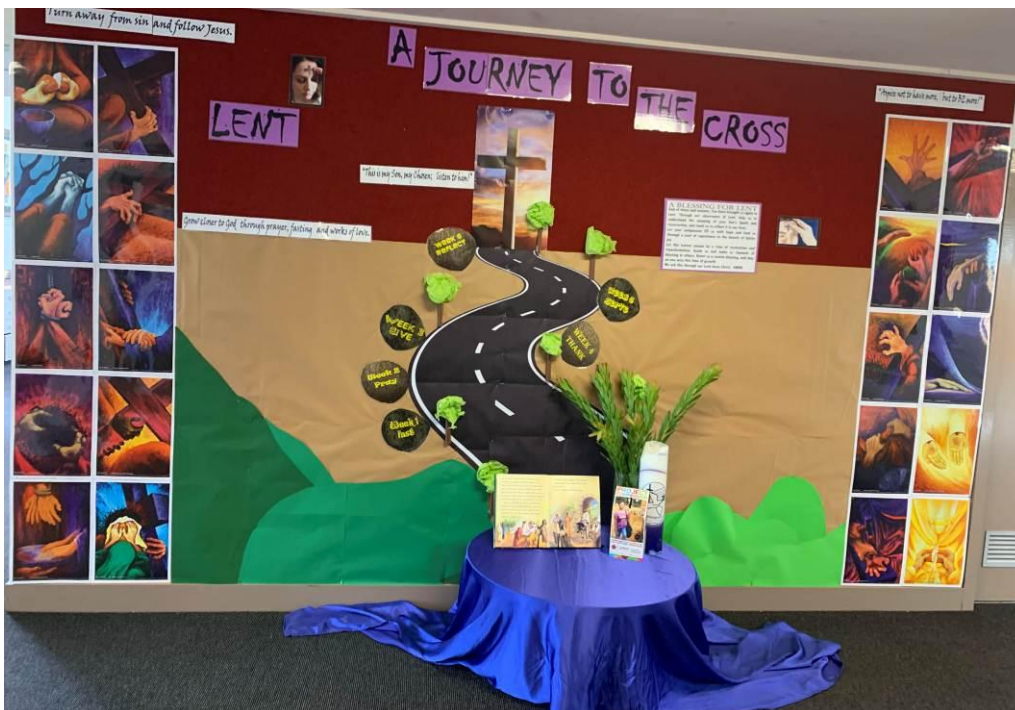
Dear Parents, Friends and Students,

Yesterday our students from Years 3-6 participated in an Ash Wednesday Eucharistic Celebration at St Mary's Basilica while our Years 1 – 2 students received the ashes at a special liturgy at St Margaret's School. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten Season. For forty days we become aware of the needs of people around us. During Lent the Church encourages us to pray more, to make sacrifices and give to the poor. The Lenten Season provides us with the opportunity to continue our prayers and generosity to those in need while also deepening our relationship with God and the Church.

This message has been reinforced by a Lenten display in our school corridor put together by our Religious Education Leader, Mr Kerlin. This display features the Stations of the Cross and calls us to 'Grow closer to God through prayer, fasting and works of love'. Its thought provoking images and language channels us into our Lenten journey and where it's going to end. It also challenges us to focus on a specific aspect of Lent on a weekly basis through: Fasting, Prayer, Giving, Thankfulness, Service and Reflection. These messages are designed to further stimulate our children's thinking about the Lenten Season and I invite families to visit the school, view the display and share your insights about Lent with your child.

The display also features the following prayer which you may like to share as a family:

Leadership and Management News



A BLESSING FOR LENT

God of times and seasons, You have brought us again to Lent. Through our observance of lent, help us to understand the meaning of your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect it in our lives.

Let your compassion fill us with hope and lead us through a Lent of repentance to the beauty of Easter joy.

Let this Lenten season be a time of restoration and transformation. Guide us and make us channels of blessings to others. Grant us a Lenten blessing, and may no one miss this time of growth.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

St Margaret's Easter Raffle and Fair Trade Chocolate

We are once again asking parents to donate chocolate and other relevant items to our Easter raffle. In regard to the donation of chocolate, St Margaret's School asks that parents support 'Fair Trade' chocolate when providing donations to the raffle. This initiative is aligned to our social justice teachings and our School Vision: ***Living Our Catholic Faith*** – *to actively reflect Jesus' values in our decisions, choices and actions.* As part of our religious education program during Lent, teachers will be raising our students' awareness about 'Fair Trade' and human rights.'

...continued over

Leadership and Management News



In brief: Presently children as young as twelve years old are picking cocoa in West Africa to make the chocolate we eat. Some of these children are trafficked. Most are forced to pick cocoa from an early age for minimal or no wages, for long hours, in dangerous working conditions, without any possibility of attending school. Most of these children have never tasted chocolate.

Six years ago Australian supermarkets did not have any Easter chocolate certified as slavery-free, but currently there are slavery free products available. In future newsletters we will be providing you with some websites you can visit, examples of 'fair trade' chocolates and what symbols to look for when purchasing these.

Pope Francis said that “every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act.”

It was also great to see the wide variety of donations provided to last year's raffle. Some of these included; novelty baskets, Easter soft toys, colouring and sticker books and Easter moulds. So think creatively and please give these items your consideration when donating.

Three Way Conversations

St Margaret's School will be holding its first semester Three Way Conversations in Weeks 7 and 8. Please note the following dates and times for specific year levels:

Year Prep:	Wednesday 11 th March 3.30 – 5.00 pm
	Thursday 12 th March 3.30 – 6.00 pm
Year 1/2	Wednesday 11 th March 2.30 – 5.30 pm
	Thursday 12 th March 3.30 – 6.00 pm
Year 3/4	Tuesday 10 th March 2.30 – 5.30 pm
	Wednesday 11 th March 3.30 – 6.30 pm
Year 5/6	Wednesday 18 th March 3.30 – 6.00 pm
	Thursday 19 th March 3.30 – 6.00 pm

We ask that **both the child and the parent/s attend these meetings**. There will be some variations on how the Three Way Conversations will be implemented across year levels however, the meetings are structured so that students, parents and teachers all have some level of input and voice.

The meetings will allow parents to share their child's attributes and strengths and how they think the school could further realise their child's potential. Some things that the child may participate in is presenting learning portfolios, sharing strategies they have developed to work towards realising their learning goals and how they see themselves as a learner. Teachers will identify the student's transition into their new learning environment and talk about the strengths of the student. Work samples and assessment tasks may be shared and areas for development that highlight future learning goals presented.

Appointments for Three Way Learning Conversations can be made by logging into:

www.schoolinterviews.com.au

and entering the code **f6rcu** then select the time you would like.

A warm, supportive home atmosphere will influence your child's confidence and motivation to become a successful learner. Our teachers look forward to meeting with you and your child at these upcoming meetings.

Enjoy the rest of your week
Regards Brian

School Community News

Sacrament Bookings 2020

Online Booking Information

For all Sacrament Bookings for 2020 across the four St Mary's Parish Schools, we are asking you to book a place for your child's Sacrament evening online. The bookings will open at 4pm; Monday March 2nd and will close on Monday March 9th at 4pm. This will allow families time to organise celebrations around this special sacred event particularly when extended family and friends are travelling to be with your child. Each of the celebrations will be held at St Mary's Basilica.

It should be noted that only a certain number of places have been allocated to each school based on total numbers of the four schools. Once places have been filled you cannot choose that date and time.

If you want a particular celebration please ensure that you book early. If you have any difficulties accessing this site online please do not hesitate to contact Sam Kerlin. Once you have booked a time you will receive an email confirming your booking.

Go to the web address below and follow the prompts. www.schoolinterviews.com.au Enter the code: **gea9w** (This code is specific to St Margaret's and cannot be used for children from other schools).

In terms of the celebrations, the dress code for the day is very much up to each family. Use as a guide; something that you might wear to a special meal. Stoles will also be optional and your child is not required to wear their baptismal stole unless they wish to.

Sam Kerlin

Religious Education Leader

skerlin@smgeelongeast.com.au



St Patrick's Race Day

This year St Margaret's staff members are coordinating and running the barbeque at the St Patrick's Race Day Meeting (held at Geelong Racecourse) on Saturday, March 14th. Staff members are looking for some additional volunteers to help out with the barbeque. If you could assist with the set up from 8.30 to 9.30 am (2 helpers) or helping with the BBQ from 3.00 – 4.30 pm (3 helpers required) this would be greatly appreciated.

Please fill out the attached helper's form.

Parents & Friends' Association

The next meeting of the P&F is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17th commencing at 7.00 pm. The Annual General Meeting has now been rescheduled to this date. All executive positions will be made available for parent nominations at this meeting.

School Closure Days

School families are reminded that Friday, March 20th is a school closure day. Staff members will be involved in an immersion day at Bellaire Primary School.



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GEELONG

COLLEGE TOURS

Thursday 12 March
Wednesday 18 March
Thursday 19 March
Thursday 26 March
Wednesday 15 April
Friday 17 April
Tuesday 21 April
Wednesday 22 April

Online Applications will be available on our website from Monday 2 March 2020.
Year 7 applications for 2021 close on Friday 8 May 2020.
TOUR REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL
REGISTER ONLINE AT:
WWW.SJC.VIC.EDU.AU

COMPASSION
INNOVATION
INTEGRITY

St Patrick's Race Day BBQ

I am able to assist on Saturday, March 14th

☐ Setting up 8.30 – 9.30 am

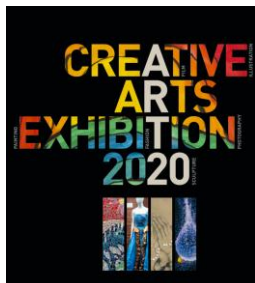
☐ BBQ helper 3.00 – 4.30 pm

Name _____

School Community News

Creative Arts Exhibition 2020

This year, St Margaret's artwork "The Unknown Soldier" (currently on Display at the rear of the school), has been offered a place in this years Creative Arts Exhibition at the Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne.



Artwork from Catholic schools all across Victoria will be on display at the Catholic Leadership Centre, Melbourne during Catholic Education Week 2020.

Our artwork will be taken off our wall on the 9th of March, Judging will commence, Friday the 13th of March, an awards evening on the March 19th, and returned back to our wall by March 25th.

Parents and Students that wish to see this exhibition will be able to view all artwork from Monday, March 16th to Friday March 20th (9am-3:30pm) as well as Saturday March 21st (12pm-4pm) at the Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne 3002. (The centre will be CLOSED Sunday March 22nd).



Alphabet Bird Project

Families are invited to visit the National Wool Museum this school holidays to see artworks by our year four students.

The students have taken part in the Alphabet Bird Project, which looks at 26 waterway and wetland birds that are threatened in the Geelong region.

The exhibition will be displayed during the wider Geelong Nature Forum, which will be held at the Museum from March 28th to April 3rd.

The Museum also hosting the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition and some school holiday programs designed for primary aged students.



Entry to the Museum is free on March 28th, with normal fees to apply on other days.

For more information visit bit.ly/geelongnatureforum2020

Kids Huddle

For the past 2 years, St. Margaret's has been involved with "Kids Huddle", an art based program that celebrates fan art from local school students for Rugby, Cricket and football events.

This year, we have been hard at work, creating master-pieces for the AFLW Collingwood Magpies.

This artwork will be on display, welcoming the visiting teams to our stadium and our town. This artwork will be on the "Kids Huddle" wall where all AFLW players will see.



I congratulate all students on their amazing work and welcoming art pieces.

Many thanks,
Gabrielle Costa

together in faith

SIMON - Parent Communication Tool

Parents are encouraged to activate an account for the learning management system the school has invested in called SIMON. The Parent Access Module (PAM) will allow families to access school calendars, book parent-teacher interviews & sacrament events, sign permission forms and access school reports **all in the one place**. The transition to SIMON will continue to develop over time and we see the program as an efficient tool for parent-teacher communication.

Account activation Instructions

Head to <https://pam.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au/> download the app (SIMON Everywhere). →

Click on "Forgot password" and enter your email address (use the email address that you have given to the school).

You will then receive an email from SIMON to reset your account.

If you require further assistance, click "Request Support"

<https://pam.smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au/>



App Store



SIMON Everywhere +

Connecting teachers and parent

Chris Horden

#115 in Education

★ ★ ★ ★ 2.0, 4 Ratings

Free

Pancake Races!



Environmental Saviours - Snorkelling Excursion



School Community News

PARISH SCHOOLS' MASS

Celebrating 10 Years of our partnership with St Mary Immaculate in Viqueque!

**11 am, Sunday 1st March
St Mary's Basilica, Yarra Street**

To show your support please wear a touch of colour in the colours of the East Timorese flag: red, yellow, black and white.



Upcoming Dates

February

28th School Assembly Years 3-4

March

- 1st Parish Schools' Mass 10-year Partnership with St. Mary Immaculate Viqueque
- 2nd Sacramental bookings open 4pm
- 3rd SEDA sports clinics
- 6th Cross Country Trials
- 9th Labour Day public holiday
- 9th Sacramental bookings close 4pm
- 10th SEDA sports clinics
- 10th 3-Way Learning Conversations 3/4
- 11th 3-Way Learning Conversations P/1/2/3/4
- 12th 3-Way Learning Conversations P/1/2
- 13th Assembly – 1/2 presenting
- 14th St. Patrick's Race day BBQ
- 17th Parents & Friends' meeting 7pm
- 18th 3-Way Learning Conversations 5/6
- 19th 3-Way Learning Conversations 5/6
- 19th Yr 3/4 Netball clinic
- 20th School Closure Day: Staff Professional Learning
- 24th SEDA sports clinics
- 26th Stations of the Cross Paraliturgie
- 26th Easter Raffle 2.20 pm
- 27th School Sports Thomson Reserve
- 27th Final day of term 1.30 pm Dismissal

EAST GEELONG FOOTBALL AND NETBALL CLUB

Players for all grades of Junior Football and Netball welcome.

**Free Auskick and NetSetGo!
on Friday nights.**

CONTACT: Scott Ferguson, Junior Coordinator 0430 020 151
scottferg13@hotmail.com

www.egfncjuniors.sportingpulse.net

f EGFNCjuniors

EGFNC

Aikido Shudokan

Aikido Shudokan Geelong has just opened at Newcomb Hall, Thursday afternoon 5-6pm. Aikido is a great martial art for children, teaching them confidence, respect and discipline. Free trial class for any St Margaret's students. Call 0412 396 884 or email fsmith@aikidoshudokan.com to book.

**Did you hear about the restaurant
on the moon?**

**Great food,
no atmosphere!**



St Margaret's Primary School
83 St Albans Road
East Geelong 3219

Ph 5229 7453 Fax 5229 5531

Principal: Brian Everett principal@smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au

Office Manager: Anne Miller amiller@smgeelongeast.catholic.edu.au

Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au