



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term Four, Week 1
October 7th, 2021

From Brian's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Parents, Friends and Students,

Welcome back to term four which will once again challenge our resilience. Recent State Government announcements indicate that there is light at the end of the tunnel and hopefully we will be able to finish the school year on a positive note.

I would like to once again take the opportunity to go over the return to school regional road map.

Week 1 Monday October 4

All students from Years P-2 are to attend school. On-site remote learning is available to students who qualify from Years 3-6 (authorised worker / provider permit compliance and vulnerable students).



Weeks 2 & 3 Monday October 11

Years P-2 attend school full time. Students from Years 3-4 attend Tuesdays and Wednesdays and our Years 5-6 students attend on Thursday and Friday. Once again on-site remote learning is available to those who meet the criteria.

Week 4 Tuesday October 26

All students from Years P-6 attend school on-site full time.

Please note however, if the Geelong region goes into lockdown we will revert back to the current metro practice.

Keeping COVIDSafe at school

All teachers have been made aware of COVIDSafe practices and St Margaret's School COVIDSafe Plan. I would however like to highlight the following points to assist in keeping our school as safe as possible:

- Visitors should only enter the school for essential reasons – QR code must be used to check in.
- Parents can enter the school grounds for student pick up. Physical distancing must be adhered to and there isn't a requirement to check in.
- All staff, students and visitors to schools should undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after coughing, sneezing or using the toilet.
- Sharing of food is not permitted.
- Unwell students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.
- Routine cleaning will continue at St Margaret's School this term. This involves end-of-school day cleaning, with a particular focus on cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces.
- Students have the option of wearing masks inside classrooms. This will be a family decision.



Current Restrictions

Current restrictions do not allow:

- School tours
- Excursions
- Incursions
- Camps and overnight stays
- Professional Learning and staff meetings (face to face)
- Assemblies (whole school and year level), graduations and liturgies.

...continued over

We are hoping that these current restrictions will be eased sometime in the near future which will allow us to run our final term activities and events to some degree. We will also be looking at running these activities outside which allows us to meet density requirements and possibly provide parent attendance.



We are now looking at holding our swimming program at the later part of this term.

Enjoy the rest of your week.
Brian

School Closure Days Term 4

Monday, November 1 & Tuesday, November 2.

There will be two school closure days this term. Monday November 1st will be a professional day for teachers. Tuesday, November 2nd (Melbourne Cup) will be the designated Term 4 holiday.

Staff Vaccinations

The Victorian Chief Health Officer has determined that COVID-19 vaccinations will be mandatory for staff who work in schools. All staff who work in schools will be required to have a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by 18th October 2021. Staff are required to be fully vaccinated by 29 November 2021.

Ventilation

I am still awaiting confirmation about the installation of air purifiers to the school. In the mean-time teachers have been informed to use natural ventilation as much as possible.

We are also looking at ways to maximise the use of outdoor learning areas or environments. With a preference to use an outdoor space over an indoor space where, whenever, and as much as practicable.

Parents and students are reminded to adhere to the school's sun smart requirements this term.



Welcome Back Miss Ashley

Miss Ashley will be resuming her teaching role at St Margaret's School this term. Miss Ashley will be co-teaching with Mrs Sinead Stevenson in Year 5/6SS-AS. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Mr Jess Barjasic for his wonderful work with our senior students over the first three terms of this year. Mr Barjasic will be continuing to teach Social and Emotional Learning to our junior students for the remainder of the year. Miss Ashley will be returning to teaching on Monday, 18th October.

Mr Jye Boyle - School Counsellor Educational Psychologist

Mr Jye Boyle will be joining our learning diversity team. Mr Boyle will be starting work on November 15 in the capacity as a school counsellor. In 2022 Jye will be commencing his educational psychology internship at St Margaret's. This will allow him to conduct numerous assessments which will provide more depth to our Data Literacy Intervention Plan and Social and Emotional Learning Program.

10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
4. You just tried no. 3
6. When you did no. 3 you realized it's possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You're smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped no. 5
9. You just checked to see if there is a no. 5
10. Share this with your friends to have some fun too! :-)



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