

From Susan's Desk

Dear Families,

World Teachers' Day is held internationally on Tuesday October 5th. As it falls during the school holidays, in Victoria, we celebrate **World Teachers' Day on October 28th**, 2022. It is a chance to recognise and celebrate the teachers who are making, or have made, an impact in our lives. On behalf of the St Margaret's community I extended a thank you to all our amazing teaching staff we have at our school. We graciously thank them for their dedication, passion and perseverance, especially over the last few years, in keeping our students on track with their learning.





A reminder that those students receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation have their preparation night on Tuesday November 8th at 6.30pm. Students are being prepared at school to receive this sacrament, with the evening being an opportunity for families to learn about the sacrament and how this will take place.

The swimming program for our students in years 1-6 will be beginning in mid-November. Please ensure you read the information about this and return the required permission forms. If you would like to help out during this program, especially for our younger students, you must complete the St Margaret's Code of Conduct and return this to the office with a current Working with Childrens Check. We thank those parents who are able to offer assistance to our students during this program.



If you are interested in joining the School Advisory Board for 2023 or know someone who would be good in this role please email me. Positions for Prep, Two, Four & Five are open. We have a representative from each year level on board, and they are asked to advise the principal in the decisions of the school. We usually meet one evening a term. If you would like more information or nominate yourself or another, please contact sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au

A reminder that Monday October 31st is a student free day and Tuesday November 1st is the Melbourne Cup public holiday. We hope you enjoy the long weekend with your families.

Wishing you a lovely end of the week and weekend. Susan

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land that St Margaret's is located on, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to Elders' past, present and emerging and acknowledge the importance of Aboriginal culture in all the work we do.



All students attending St Margaret's Primary School have the right to feel safe. The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a fundamental responsibility of all within our school.

St Margaret's is a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of all children and young people are respected and valued.

Leadership and Management News

Calendar of Events

October

November

Thursday October 27th Friday October 28th Friday October 28th Monday October 31st

Tuesday November 1st Friday November 4th Monday November 7th - 11th Tuesday November 8th Wednesday November 9th Thursday November 10th Monday November 14th Tuesday November 15th Tuesday November 15th Wednesday November 16th Thursday November 17th, Friday November 18th Friday November 18th Monday November 21st - 25th Tuesday November 22nd Wednesday November 23rd Friday November 25th November 28th – Dec 2nd Tuesday November 29th Wednesday November 30th

December

Friday December 2nd Friday December 2nd Monday December 5th Tuesday December 6th Thursday December 8th Friday December 9th Monday December 12th Monday December 12th Tuesday December 13th Tuesday December 13th Wednesday December 14th Wednesday December 14th Bravehearts Incursion Prep 2023 Prep Orientation Session 2 Environmental Saviours Year 6 Port Lonsdale School Closure Day: Staff professional learning

Melbourne Cup Public holiday

Assembly -1/2 presenting Yr 5 & 6 Swimming Program Reconciliation Preparation Family Night 6.30pm Yr 1&2 MOPA Excursion Sacrament of Reconciliation 9.15am 1 /2 Caine's Arcade 5 /6 Golf Clinics School Board 7pm St. Margaret's Day with pizza lunch 3/4 Sleepover P&F special lunch Assembly – Prep presenting 3/4 Swimming Program 5 /6 Golf Clinic 3 /4 Golf Clinic Whole School Advent Liturgy 1 - 9.10am 1/2 Swimming Program 5 /6 Golf Clinic Monday 3/4 Golf Clinic

Assembly – specialist Whole School Advent Liturgy 2 - 9.10am 5/6 Excursion Adventure Park 5/6 Excursion Bounce Prep & Yr 6 buddy movie excursion Whole School Christmas Concert 5pm sharp Whole School Advent Liturgy 3 - 9.10am Whole School Beach Excursion Reports released to parents Whole School Orientation morning 2023 Prep Orientation Session 3 Board Christmas Meeting 6.30pm End of Year Assembly & Graduation Liturgy 11.45am Yr 6 Graduation LUNCH Last Day Term 4 Early Finish 1.30pm

Term 1, 2023 Beginning of the year for students - Monday January 30th



Money raised goes to help supporting our sister parish in Viqueque, East Timor.



School Community News

Changes to COVID-19 Isolation Requirements

The Victorian Government has announced the end of the pandemic declaration and associated pandemic orders. New settings will apply from 11.59 pm on Wednesday October 12th, 2022.

Requirements for close contacts, like continually testing negative on a rapid antigen test (RAT), will become strong recommendations – joining the strong recommendation to wear a mask indoors, which will remain in place.

It is strongly recommended that **students**:

- who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home and isolate for five days
- should not attend school after five days if still symptomatic
- who are symptomatic but have not tested positive should not attend school.

Where **students** become symptomatic at school, they should:

- be collected by their parents/carers
- undergo testing for COVID-19.
- It is strongly recommended that **staff**:
- who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home and isolate for five days
- should not attend school after five days if still symptomatic
- who are symptomatic but have not tested positive should not attend school.

COVID-19 Reporting Requirements

- The Department of Health recommends that a person who tests positive for COVID-19 should inform those with whom they have recently been in contact, including their workplace, school and household.
- Schools are therefore asked to continue reporting positive COVID-19 cases to Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS).

You no longer have to alert your school communities of positive cases.

Face masks

- Staff and students who wish to wear a face mask should be supported to do so, and schools should continue to make face masks available for staff, students and visitors.
- The Department of Health recommends that masks should be worn by a person who is a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 when leaving home.

Additionally, the department recommends that masks should be worn by a person who has COVID-19 for 10 days after a positive test when they need to leave home.

St. Margaret's Day

It's time to celebrate our school! St. Margaret's Day is on November 16th, and we hope you can be a part of the event. We will celebrate our school culture and the positive values the original St. Margaret represented: giving to others, respect for education, and prayer.

As part of remembering St. Margaret's commitment to giving to others, we have a whole school collection of non-perishable foods that we can pass on. Examples could include cereals, pasta, dried or tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, packets of biscuits, canned goods, beverages like tea or coffee.

Please send these items along to school on or before Wednesday, November 16th.

St Margaret's Primary School		Acting Principal: Susan Perks sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au
A get	83 St Albans Road	Office Manager: Anne Miller amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au
	East Geelong 3219	Business Manager: Libby Fitzgerald https://www.ukanabeta.com.au
10.1. S	Ph 5229 7453	Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au



From Molly and Elizabeth's Desk.

Student News

In 3/4 we did not get to go to the Geelong Show so we recreated the Geelong show in 3/4. In JB we made a show bag. In MD MDJ we made a ferris wheel and in LC we made juggling balls and played with ping pong balls and cups.

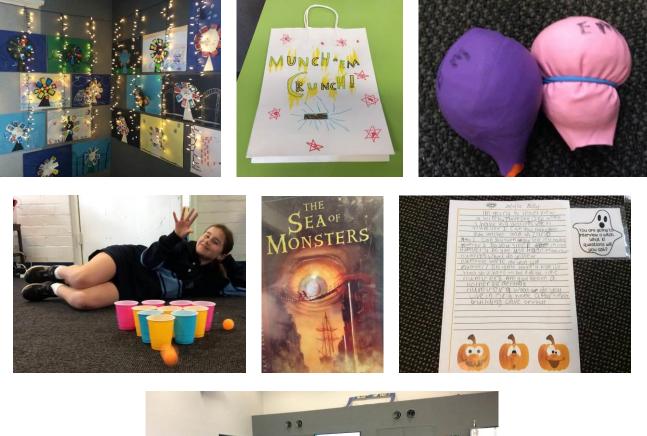
5/6 have been doing inventions. In reading they have been reading Percy Jackson. Percy Jackson is a Greek hero in a book. The 5/6s have been writing Halloween stories. They have to do a lucky dip for what they write about.

In maths 1/2s have been doing fractions and shapes. In writing they have been doing persuasive writing. For some activities they have been doing little learners. They had a toy incursion.

In Prep they have been up to a lot in writing they have been writing letters for the alphabet. In reading they have been up to reading chapter books.

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From Molly Herwynen and Elizabeth Mendiola







School Community News

Term Four School Advisory Council News

An update on recent discussions at the School Advisory Council

Sports Jackets

From 2023 a St Margaret's School jacket will be part of the uniform list. Families will be informed via the newsletter when these are available to purchase.

Enterprise Bargaining Agreement Action

The agreement under which teachers in Victorian Catholic schools are employed expired in April 2021 and the new agreement which would give teachers in Catholic schools the same working conditions as those in state schools has not been signed off on by the Melbourne Archdiocese of Catholic Schools (MACS). Until MACS signs off on this agreement teachers are being asked by the Independent Education Union to work to rule in the *No Freebies* campaign. This means non participation by teachers in the many activities scheduled outside of the school day such as concerts, information nights, camps and meetings.

At St Margaret's we are very fortunate to have teachers who regularly participate in many activities outside of their allotted hours and we express our great appreciation and thanks for this. We are particularly grateful that teachers have indicated they will be available for our end of year concert to support our children and celebrate the end of year with our community. If you have the opportunity to thank your child's teacher for their dedication, please take it!

Advisory Council to meet with MACS on November 15th Regarding Principalship

Juliette Cox from MACS will speak with council members about the future leadership at St Margaret's. Thank you to families who have shared their thoughts on this with council members. The council will raise any concerns shared with us and hope that MACS will be able to share the timeframe in which the 2023 principal will be confirmed. Any information we are able to gain will be shared with the school community as quickly as possible.

We acknowledge the work undertaken by Susan, Rosa and the staff of St Margaret's in keeping things stable for our children while the future leadership remains uncertain. It has been great to have dates of upcoming events shared with so much notice.

2023 Open School Advisory Council Positions

Year 5

Representatives for the following year levels are being sought for next year's council: Prep Year 2 Year 4

To express your interest please contact Susan.

2022 Council Members

Luke Jackson	Prep
Amy Bennett	Year 1
Bridgette Burns	Year 2
Nicole Noonan	Year 3
Megan English	Year 4
Anna Maher	Year 5
Gerard Tognan	Year 6

We were so excited to kick off Term 4 with our sausage sizzle special lunch for a great cause - the Feed Geelong Appeal. It was great to see our own community get behind an incredible fundraiser for our wider Geelong community. We raised \$500 on the day which was matched by the Feed Geelong Appeal Giving Partners to create a \$1000 donation! A big thank you to Bakers Delight Newcomb for the donation of all the bread on the day. An amazing supporter of our school this year.

We are looking forward to our next special lunch on Friday, November 18th with Hot Dogs and as always we will be looking for helpers on the day for a couple of hours if you are free.

With the end of term fast approaching planning is well underway for our Christmas concert, with some special surprises in store for the kids. We are hopping to run a sausage sizzle and icy pole stand on the night (in addition to family's BYO picnic) and would love some helpers to man the BBQ etc. We anticipate these will be super short shifts to ensure everyone gets to relax and enjoy the show!

And, in the giving spirit of St Margaret, we are planning on running a reverse advent calendar in each classroom later this term with donations of non-perishable items for those that are able to do so, more details on this to come soon.

We have had a fantastic year of events where our community has been able to come back together again. We are planning on wrapping up our P&F year with a catch up and a drink with parents and staff at Limeburners on Friday December 2nd. We are hoping to plan some more incredible events for next year. If you have any great ideas we would love to see you at our next P&F meeting on Wednesday 9th November at 6.30pm (at school).

Feed Geelong Appeal raises \$57,000 to go towards G21 food insecurity



Bt Margaret's Primary School in East Geelong held a sausage sizzle on Friday (Oct 14) and raised \$500 for the Appeal. Photos: SUPPLIED BY NATHAN RIVALLAND Feandation CEO Bill M was very grateful for th THE Give Where You Live Foundation 1 THE Give Where You Live Foundation 1 THE Give Where You Live Foundation 1 There is use to con-

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"We can't undertake flu work we given

tricipated in Brown Paper Bag Day donated diei Intech or coffee money October 14 and also included 8-year-Elsena wheinstead of using her Toeth izy money 10 bay a toy or something herrelf, Annated it to the Feed eleng Appel.¹⁵ Withen also thanked local appeal traces including Gioop Digital for using SS fir every social media post





TERM FOUR P&F CALENDAR

Friday, Nov 18th- Hot Dog Day

December 1st - Reverse Advent Calendar Boxes Arrive

Friday, December 2nd - P&F & Staff Break up

Thursday, December 8th - Christmas Concert

MEETING

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT P&F MEETING & HELP PLAN THE REMAINING EVENTS FOR TERM 4 WED NOV 9TH 6.30PM STAFF ROOM

WHAT'S HAPPENING ST MARGARET'S P&F

