



**St. Margaret's**  
Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

**Term One, Week 4**  
**February 21st, 2023**

**#3**

## ***From Susan's Desk***

Dear Families,

It was wonderful to see so many families at the beach picnic last Thursday. It was a great way to start the year and for our students to meet each other outside of the school grounds to play and make new friends. The perfect summer weather made the evening very enjoyable!

The Shrove Tuesday pancake race was once again a highlight of our year so far. Some wonderful images have been posted on our social pages on Instagram and Facebook! As the final day before the Lenten fast, Shrove Tuesday has customs pertaining to food. Pancakes are traditional in a number of countries because eggs, sugar, and fat were commonly forbidden during the Lenten fast and used up so they will not go to waste. We certainly enjoyed eating our pancakes and thank the P&F for organising this for us.

Please note the dates for Term 1 Parent Teacher Interviews. These will be held on Monday 20th March at 4pm-6pm and Tuesday 21st March 2.00pm-5.30pm. Please note that students have an early finish on the 21st at 1.30pm. Bookings can be made through School Interviews and will be opening on Wednesday March 1st. More information about accessing School Interviews will follow shortly.

Kelly Club will offer after school care from 1.30 pm on Tuesday March 21<sup>st</sup>. They will also offer this on the last day of term when we have a 1.30pm finish. On our school closure day, Friday March 24th, Kelly Club will offer care on this day. Please ensure you contact them to make the relevant bookings if you require this service.

The Toastie Truck is making a visit to our school on Friday March 3rd. We need a minimum order of toasties, so students are able to order more than 1 and parents are also invited to share a toastie with us on this day. Classes will be called over once their toasties are ready. We ask parents to wait on the court and once their child's class is called, they can join them to collect their toastie as well. This is a delicious fundraiser for our school and we hope to have many parents join us on this day.

Information has been sent home to all families regarding the ECSI Survey which will assist us in better understanding how our Catholic identity is expressed in work and practice here at St Margaret's. The Catholic University in Leuven was commissioned by the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd (CECV) to design a process and tools, based on sound research, to accomplish the goal of understanding our current Catholic identity and where the school community might like to see itself in the future. The ECSI Survey is a key element of this process and we request the participation of all our families, 5/6 students and our staff. Your responses to this survey are guaranteed to be kept anonymous and I thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Enjoy the week.  
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.

## Calendar of Events

Term 1

### February

Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>  
Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Races 10 am (gold coin donation)  
Prep Rest Day  
Ash Wednesday 9.15 Liturgy in the Church  
Environmental Saviours Excursion  
SEDA Clinics

### March

Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>  
**Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

Prep Rest Day  
**School Interviews open for bookings**  
3/4 group singing at Whitehaven Retirement Home  
P&F special lunch: Toastie Truck  
3/4 Assembly  
SEDA Clinics  
Prep Rest Day  
**P&F meeting 6.30pm**  
Prep Prayers in Pyjamas 5.30pm  
Confirmation Preparation Day  
Catholic Education Week  
**Labour Day Public holiday**  
**School Photos**  
SEDA Clinics  
1/2 Assembly  
Saint Patrick's Day  
NAPLAN  
**Parent Teacher Interviews 4pm-6pm**  
**1.30 FINISH Parent Teacher Interviews 2pm-5.30pm**  
Sacrament of Confirmation - 7pm  
School Closure Day Staff PL  
School Board Meet - 7pm  
P&F special lunch  
School Athletics Day (No Assembly)

### April

Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>,  
Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

5/6 Excursion: surfing  
Easter Raffle Draw - 1pm  
Last day of Term 1 - **1.30pm finish**. PJs day  
School Closure Day  
Term 2 Begins

**\*Please note start of term 3 is Monday July 10th: error in previous newsletter**



St Margaret's Primary School  
83 St Albans Road  
East Geelong 3219  
Ph 5229 7453

Acting Principal: Susan Perks [sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:sperks@smgeelongeast.com.au)  
Office Manager: Anne Miller [amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:amiller@smgeelongeast.com.au)  
Business Manager: Libby Fitzgerald [lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:lfitzgerald@smgeelongeast.com.au)  
Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke [frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au)

## School Community News

### 2024 Enrolments

Monday, February 20th  
Thursday, March 9th  
Friday, March 17th  
Wednesday, April 5th  
Friday, April 28th

2024 Enrolments Open  
School tours 9.30 & 4.30  
School tours 9.30 & 12.00  
School tour 9.30  
Applications close .

### Medication

If your child requires any medication to be administered at school in 2023 please ensure the **MEDICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN** is signed by your child's medical practitioner.

Parents/legal guardians must also complete a **MEDICAL AUTHORITY FORM**.

We can no longer administer medication without both documents being completed in full - this includes both over the counter or prescription medication.

**NB: An 'in date' Anaphylaxis Plan and Asthma Management Plan signed by your child's health practitioner does replace a medical management plan.**

Thank you to everyone for donating and enjoying the Special Morning Tea for Quinnie Westwood's fundraising for her attendance at the Transplant Olympics in Perth.

We raised a profit of \$436, which will go towards Quinnie's travel expenses.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students

#### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



*Do you have a blower vac?*

*Can you spare an hour?*

*We would love your help! Our outdoor play area and synthetic turf on the courts need a quick clean up from leaf litter.*

*Please let us know if you are able to help out!*



## Education in Faith

*Families are welcome to join us for a prayer liturgy where attendees will receive the ashes.*

*Ash Wednesday,  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
in the former church across  
the road from school at 9.15*

9.15 Liturgy  
in the Church



## Project Compassion



Each Lent we support Caritas Australia with their annual Project Compassion Appeal. Caritas does amazing work all over the world (including Australia) to help people and communities. [Their website](#) gives detailed information of the work they do and classrooms all over Australia use their resources to help students learn about social justice issues. The eldest in each family will be given a donation box to take home at our Lent Liturgy after play on Friday. These can be returned to school any time up to the last day of term 1.



## My Parents

I thank you, God, for my Mum and my Dad.  
Bless my Mum and my Dad, and help them to know  
what you want them to do.  
Help them when they are tired, or sick or sad,  
and in the times when they are happy, too.  
Do not let them worry too much,  
and help them to know that you care for them,  
and will always love them.





**St Margaret's**  
Primary School

# Enrolment

## 2024

St. Margaret's Primary School.  
Living our Catholic faith, engaging  
passionately in learning,  
connecting with and shaping our  
world.

Tour Dates:

Thursday March 9th 9.30am &  
4.30pm

Friday March 17th 9.30am & 12pm

Wednesday April 5th 9.30am



It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome you to St Margaret's Primary School. We are a Catholic co-educational primary school in East Geelong, Victoria with approximately 230 children from Prep to Year 6. Our caring and dedicated staff are committed to sharing their passion for learning, helping our students to reach their full academic potential, develop their Catholic identity and acquire social responsibility. Our goal is to support all children in a nurturing environment that promotes academic excellence and a commitment to service.

**Applications open:**  
**Monday 20th February &**  
**close April 28th**

83 ST ALBANS ROAD,  
EAST GEELONG 3219  
TO BOOK A TOUR PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL  
DIRECTLY ON (03) 5229 7453



## School Community News

### Celebrating Community Partnerships

We are very excited to announce that the partnership between St. Margaret's Primary School and the Department of Transport to beautify our local environment is now on display. The art work is located on the corners of Bellarine Highway and Garden Street and Bellarine Highway and Humble Street.

Once again congratulations to Georgia Lydom, Gabrielle Mendiola, Jazmine Coronado on having their artwork chosen and showcased.

## FROM THIS...



Georgia Lydom



Jazmine Coronado



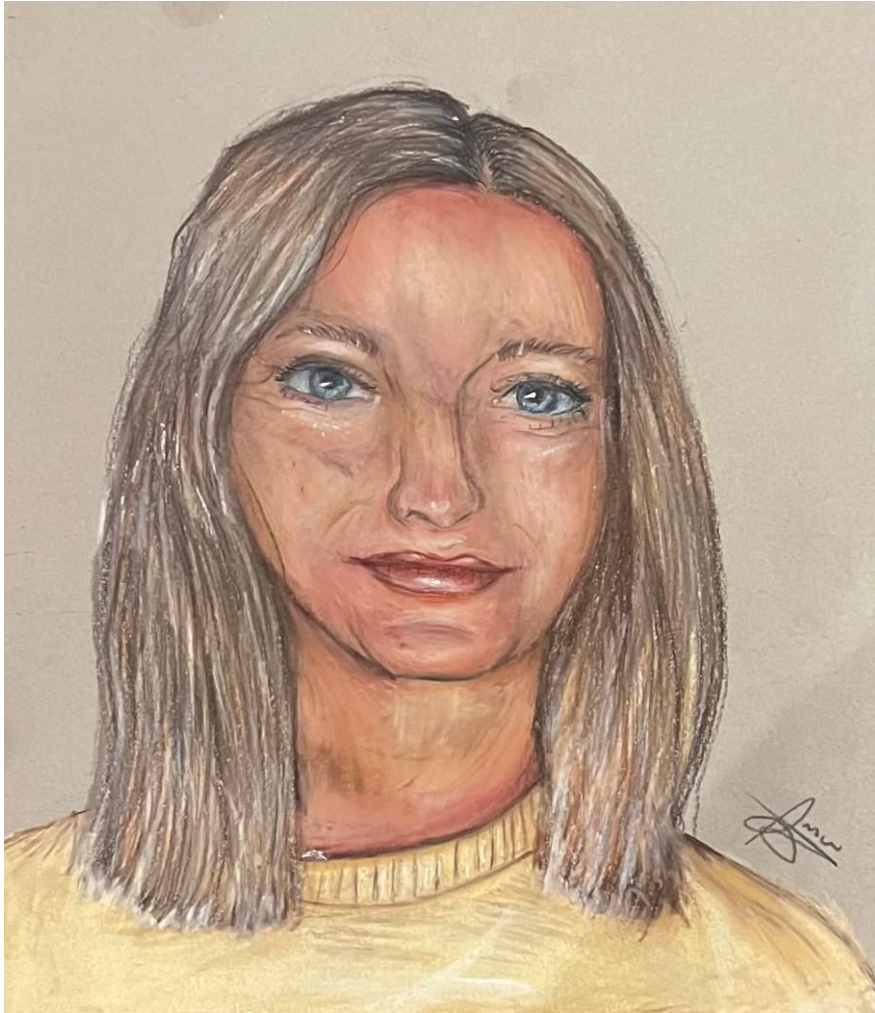
Gabrielle Mendiola

## TO THIS!





## Art News



We would like to share our support for Mia Wootton this week. Mia is a year 6 student who has entered into this years “Young Archies 2023”. The “Young Archies” is a portrait competition for artists between the ages of 5 and 15 held by The Art Gallery of New South Wales.

The portrait must be of a person who is special to you – someone who is known to you and who knows you and plays a significant role in your life. Mia has chosen to create a portrait of her mother Susan. Susan was diagnosed with breast cancer when she was pregnant with Mia. Mia was born 5 weeks early so she could start chemotherapy. Mia’s start was a rough one but they are both so lucky to be healthy and here to tell the tale.

Finalists and honourable mentions will be announced: 27 April 2023  
Winners will be announced: 24 June 2023

We wish Mia all very best of luck,  
Gabrielle Costa



## School Community News

### MEET THE COACH

**NAME:** LACH BROAD

**AGE:** 50

**YEARS AT THE CLUB:** 5

**FAVOURITE PART OF COACHING:** SEEING KIDS AND PARENTS DEVELOP NEW FRIENDS AND SOCIAL SKILLS, BECOMING PART OF A CULTURE OF RESPECT, SHARING AND TEAMWORK, WHERE EVERYONE LOOKS OUT FOR EACH OTHER AND ENJOYS THE RIDE WIN LOSE OR DRAW!

**FAVOURITE MEAL:** MY WIFE LAUGHS WHEN I GET POSED THE HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION "IF PUT TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR WHAT WOULD YOUR LAST MEAL REQUEST BE?" NIBBLES!

**BEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT:** CRIKEY! I DON'T THINK I ACHIEVED TOO MUCH INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A TEAM TO BE HONEST 🐾 ALWAYS CAPABLE (EXCEPT FOR TENNIS) BUT NEVER GREAT. 🐾🐾MAYBE REACHING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR DISCUS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL OR THE HOLE-IN-ONE 🐾 WHEN I WAS 14YO IN BALLARAT 🐾🐾

**BEST JOKE:** HMMM NOT REALLY INTO TELLING JOKES BUT GET A LAUGH





Introducing Lachie Broad (parent of Alastair GR5 & Toby GR3) as the Thomson Football Club U9 coach for season 2023.

Lachie is keen to attract boys & girls born in 2014, 2015 and early 2016, as new players to the club.

The Thomson Football Club is a wonderful, inclusive club that embraces diversity - improves player skills & confidence with a focus on sportsmanship.

If you are interested, please contact Lachie on 0448 378 644, or via email [lbroad72@gmail.com](mailto:lbroad72@gmail.com).

Go Tigers



## WELLBEING - eSafety (Safer Internet Day - 7th February)

Safer Internet Day is a global event that brings together communities, families, schools and organisations from more than 200 countries to help create safer online spaces.

This worldwide initiative is celebrating 20 years in 2023, making it a great time to reflect as well as look forward.

That's why we are calling on our St. Margaret's Community to Connect. Reflect. Protect.

**Connect** safely and with purpose – by keeping apps and devices secure and using social media in positive ways.

**Reflect** before we act – by taking a moment to consider how what we do and say online may affect others.

**Protect** ourselves and others by taking action – by telling family, friends or colleagues about eSafety and how we can help.

Teachers will be focusing on eSafety throughout the year with your children. They have accessed age appropriate learning materials from websites that have been identified by MACs Well Being Team. Over the course of this term I will be sharing Parent Fact Sheets and internet addresses to help consolidate and extend your knowledge about ICT and where to access further support if required.

Kind regards  
Sonja Ginn  
Learning Diversity and Well Being Leader





## Screen time for your child – 7 tips

There is a lot of conflicting advice and emerging research around screen time. But, the right amount of screen time can depend on a range of factors like your child's age and maturity, the kind of content they are consuming, their learning needs and your family routine. It can be easy to focus only on the clock and how long your child is spending in front of the screen, but the quality and nature of what they are doing online, and your involvement are just as important.

Consider your child's screen use in the context of their overall health and wellbeing – for example, is online time getting in the way of their sleep and exercise? Is it impacting on their face-to-face connections with family and friends? The answers to these questions will guide you and help strike the right balance of online and offline activities for your child.



### 1. Be involved

Sharing screen time and online activities like gaming with your child helps you gauge the appropriateness of what they are doing and manage potential risks. It's also a great way to start conversations with your child about their online experiences.



### 2. Work with your child to set boundaries for screen use

If you decide that setting screen time limits is right for you and your child, discuss these new rules with your child. Older children are more likely to cooperate if they have been part of the decision-making process. Colourful pictures or charts of daily limits and other important activities is a fun way to get younger children on board.



### 3. Be clear about the consequences of not switching off

Part of our role as parents is to set clear limitations and boundaries. The same applies to technology limitations so, being clear and consistent about the consequences for your child if they do not stick to these rules is paramount. The [Raising Children Network](#) provides some useful tools and advice.



#### 4. Set device-free zones and times at home

Device-free zones can help you manage your family's digital use. Here are some ideas for setting digital boundaries within your home:

- no devices in the bedroom for younger children
- all screens off in bedrooms after a certain time for older children
- all screens off at least one hour before planned bedtime
- all family members switch off at dinner time
- charge devices overnight in a place your child cannot access



#### 5. Ask your child to explain their screen use

Get your child in the habit of explaining why they want to be in front of a screen or online. It's a great way to get them thinking about their own digital habits and balancing screen time with other activities.



#### 6. Use tech tools to help manage access

There are robust products and device functions which allow you to see which apps are being used in your home and for how long. But try not to use these tools to secretly monitor your child. Instead, be open about the process and check the whole family's usage, including your own. Start with [Google Family Link](#) for Android devices or [parental controls](#) and [Screen Time](#) for iPhone/iPad.



#### 7. Lead by example

Your behaviour is one of the most effective ways to help your child develop a positive digital mindset. Show your child you can put down your device too.





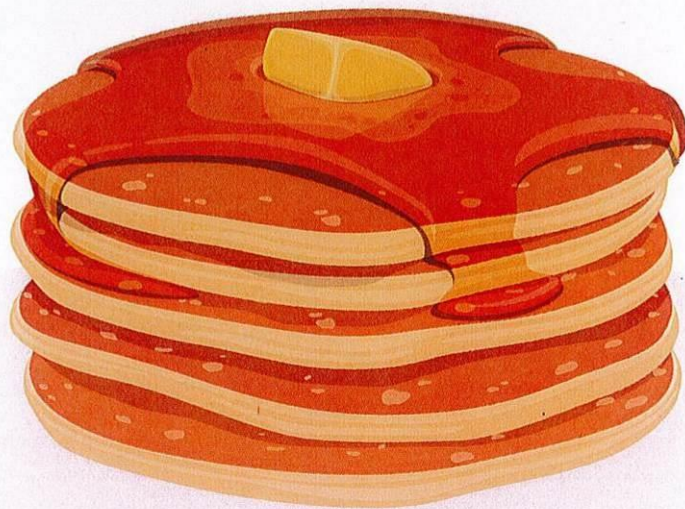
**ST MARGARET'S PS**

*Shrove Tuesday*

# **PANCAKE DAY**

**PANCAKE RACES START  
AT 10.00AM  
ON THE BASKETBALL COURT**

**GOLD  
COIN  
DONATION**



**21  
FEB**

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING A PLATE.**

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR  
VOLUNTEERS**

**Can you help out on the day?  
8.45am-10.45am (or anything in between)  
to cook & serve pancakes.**



# What's Happening

What a cracker of a start to the year we have had with our parents and friends community! We had a record number of donuts ordered for our Valentine's Day morning tea. A big thanks to everyone who donated and helped pack orders, with all profits helping Quinnie get to the World Transplant Games. We are all so proud of you Quinnie!

A big thank you to all our volunteers who mixed up batter, cooked and served up pancakes on shrove Tuesday, and a wonderful donation from East fruit market with some fruit to go along with our pancake spread. It's great to have such a wonderful community supporting us, please support them whenever you can.

We are looking forward to the Cheer toastie truck stopping by on March 3, will be great to have families joining the kids for lunch, please pop an order form in ASAP if you can make it.

And our P&F have loved supporting our Mulcahy (green) house grade 6 leaders to help organise the 'guess how many lollies' competition running from March 10.

## P&F CALENDAR

- MARCH 3 -CHEER TRUCK - PARENTS WELCOME
- MARCH 8 -P&F MEETING - 6.30PM STAFF ROOM
- MARCH 17 -ST PATRICKS DAY - WEAR A TOUCH OF GREEN/GUESS THE LOLLIES IN THE JAR
- MARCH -HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER
- MARCH 30 -SPECIAL LUNCH - PIZZA DAY
- APRIL 6 -EASTER RAFFLE / PYJAMA DAY

## PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING

Wednesday 8th March

6.30pm

Staff room

All welcome

# Special lunch

FRIDAY 3RD MARCH

\$3  
each



Parents & siblings are invited to order  
and join us for lunch from 1pm

THE BEST OF LUCK TO YOU.

# Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Friday 17th March

**GUESS HOW MANY  
LOLLIES ARE IN  
THE JAR.**

YOU WILL FIND THE BIG JAR OF  
LOLLIES AT THE FRONT OFFICE  
FROM THE 10TH MARCH



WEAR A  
TOUCH OF  
GREEN



Gold coin  
donation  
to enter.



# What's Happening

## HOT CROSS BUN

FUNDRAISER

*Bakers Delight*

COMING SOON

ALL ORDERS WILL BE DELIVERED TO STUDENTS ON  
THURSDAY 30TH MARCH

LET'S RAISE SOME DOUGH



## ST MARGARET'S P&F EASTER EGG

*Raffle*

The day everyone looks forward to,  
our famous Easter egg raffle.

DRAWN ON THE  
LAST DAY OF  
TERM  
THURSDAY  
6TH APRIL



We are seeking donations of  
Easter eggs and Easter themed  
prizes for our annual Easter  
raffle.

We are hoping all families can  
seek fair trade chocolate or items  
for our Easter fundraiser.



Please drop all donations to Anne or Libby at the front office.  
We thank you for your ongoing support.

ST MARGARET'S P&F



*Easter  
Raffle*

Tickets

\$1 each or 3 for \$2

PLEASE RETURN TICKETS BY FRIDAY 31ST MARCH

Casual Dress

## Pyjama Day



Last day of term.  
Thursday 6th April

GOLD COIN DONATION - RAISING FUNDS FOR VIQUEQUE

The Geelong Cats have agreed to bring the



2022 AFL

PREMIERSHIP TROPHY



to Thomson Recreation Ground on

Tuesday Feb 28 - 5pm

Come get a selfie!

## **EAST GEELONG GIRLS JUNIOR FOOTBALL!!!!**

### **GIRLS AUSKICK & ALL JUNIOR AGE GROUPS**

**AT THE EAGLES WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON BEING  
COMMUNITY BASED, INCLUSIVE AND A FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB.**

**WE OFFER A SAFE AND FUN ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL PLAYERS,  
PARENTS, AND SUPPORTERS, WHILST BUILDING SKILLS,  
CONFIDENCE AND A LOVE OF FOOTBALL.**

**WITH THE GEELONG & DISTRICTS HIGHEST CREDENTIALLED  
JUNIOR COACHING GROUP. WE INVITE ALL MEMBERS OF OUR  
COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES & ABILITIES TO  
COME AND JOIN THE FUN AT THE EAGLES**

**FOLLOW THE LINK AT THE BOTTOM OR  
CONTACT THE FOLLOWING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**EGFNCJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM  
BEN GELLIE 0409 415 928  
ANDREW HILL 0403 251 122**

**[HTTPS://WWW.EASTGEELONGFNC.COM.AU/JUNIOR-  
REGISTRATION-DAY/](https://www.eastgeelongfnc.com.au/junior-registration-day/)**





# A Lenten Reflection with Maria Forde



"To be free we must be able to give up what is old and so answer God's will today and tomorrow" - *Ernst Käsemann*

We welcome back Maria Forde and we invite you to join the journey as she leads us on a Lenten reflection. Using scripture, ritual, music and conversation we will explore the meaning of Lent and ways in which we can meaningfully enter into this time more fully. We will discuss the meaning of prayer, almsgiving and fasting and its role during Lent.

Maria Forde is an educator, spiritual director, accomplished singer songwriter and liturgist.

**Date: Sunday March 5, 2023    Time: 3.00pm**

**Place: St Mary's Basilica, Geelong    Cost: \$5 pp**  
(followed by a "cuppa" in Café Light (approx. 4pm))



# 2024 ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN



## Open Tour Dates:

- MONDAY 27 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- TUESDAY 28 MARCH 11.30 AM – 1 PM
- THURSDAY 30 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 9 AM – 10.30 AM



**BOOK A TOUR ONLINE NOW**

[iona.vic.edu.au](http://iona.vic.edu.au)

LEARNING TO CHANGE THE WORLD



## ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GEELONG COLLEGE TOURS



### AM Tours - 9.00am start:

Tuesday 14 March  
Thursday 16 March  
Tuesday 28 March  
Friday 31 March  
Monday 3 April  
Thursday 27 April

### PM Tours - 4.00pm start:

Tuesday 28 March  
Monday 3 April

St Joseph's Geelong would like to invite you to join our College tours this semester!

We are proud to continue offering an innovative education, and we welcome all senior primary school boys and their families to come and visit us.

Year 7 applications for 2024 are now open.  
Apply via the College website.

TOUR REGISTRATIONS ESSENTIAL  
REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE

[WWW.SJC.VIC.EDU.AU](http://WWW.SJC.VIC.EDU.AU)

Link to College tour page:

<https://www.sjc.vic.edu.au/future-families/join-us/college-tour>



ST MARGARET'S PS

*Shrove Tuesday*  
**PANCAKE  
DAY**

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPLYING FRUIT  
FOR OUR STUDENTS**



**PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO  
SUPPORT US!**

Visit Greg and the team at  
11 Ormond Road, East Geelong.