



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term Two, Week 1
April 26th, 2023

#7

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

I hope you had a restful Easter and spent quality time with family and friends over the school holidays. Although a short term, we still have many learning opportunities for our students to engage in and it is looking like a very busy term!

On Wednesday we will gather at the Church at 2.30pm for a brief ANZAC remembrance liturgy. You are most welcome to join us.

This Friday we have our school sports day at Landy Field. Students will be bussed to and from the venue and we ask that **parents collect students from school, not from Landy Field**. Kelly Club will also be operating as usual after this day. A coffee van will be onsite for parents. Students are required to bring their own lunch and snacks and are unable to share food. This is in line with our school policies and to ensure the safety of all students who may have allergies.

Our 2024 enrolments are closing soon. If you have a sibling due to start in 2024, please ensure you return the application form as soon as possible. Please let others know that we will offer further school tours as needed and forms can be found on our website or at the front office.

The P&F are running a wonderful raffle to win a new Thermomix. Tickets are limited and information on how to purchase is found in this newsletter. We are asking **all families to promote this raffle at their work, sporting clubs and social events**. Your support to upgrade our library facilities for all students is greatly appreciated and all proceeds from this raffle will go directly to the library. If each family is able to sell 2 tickets we will reach our target. There is an article from Jaki Groves, our Literacy Leader, about the importance of a library space in this newsletter. Please take the time to read and share this in support of our fundraising efforts for all our students to benefit.



I hope to see many of you at the sports day on Friday!
Enjoy your 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 2

April

Wednesday, April 26th
Thursday, April 27th
Friday, April 28th

Term 2 Begins for all students. (Kelly Club begins)
Bully No More Incursion P-6
Whole School Sports Day at Landy Field

May

Friday, May 5th
Tuesday, May 9th
Friday, May 12th

Assembly – 5/6
School Board 7pm
Muffins with Mum 8am.
Thermomix Raffle drawn
Mother's Day Stall
Minibeast Incursion – P-2
Assembly – 3/4
RACV Solar Squad Incursion – Years 5/6

Friday, May 12th
Friday, May 12th
Friday, May 19th
Thursday, May 25th

June

Friday, June 2nd
Friday, June 2nd
Monday, June 12th
Thursday, June 22nd
Friday, June 23rd

Italian Day & Special lunch
Assembly – 1/2
King's Birthday Public Holiday
P&F Special Lunch
Last day of Term 2. 1.30pm finish. Casual Clothes

*Last day of school for the year will be Friday December 15th at 1.30pm.

2024 Enrolments

Friday, April 28th

Applications close



*Quinnie at the Transplant Games
(we'll hear more in an upcoming newsletter)*



School Community News

Uniform Reminder

A uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of our school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the dress code.

With the changing weather approaching we are mindful of this impacting which uniform the students will be most comfortable in. For the first 2 weeks of term 2 we don't mind which uniform your child chooses to wear on dress uniform days - they can choose the summer or winter uniform. However we do ask that whichever uniform is chosen is worn correctly. Eg: all summer or all winter uniform - not a mixture of both.

Other uniform reminders:

- School uniform includes black school shoes.
- All hair that sits below a student's collar must be tied up.
- Hats must be worn until the end of term 1 and from the beginning of term 4 - but are strongly encouraged all year.
- Jewellery is not to be worn apart from a watch (smart watches not preferred) and, for students with pierced ears, a pair of simple studs or sleepers in the ear lobes only.
- Makeup, false eyelashes, nail polish or false nails are not permitted.

Beginning of the Day

As previously noted, due to the incoming EBA, our first bell will now be rung at 8.40am. A wide range of issues and considerations have been taken into account, with this outcome the least disruptive on families and staff. Staff need time in the mornings to prepare their classrooms for the day as well as the school needing to ensure the implementation of the EBA is introduced in a manner that supports teachers' workload. This difficult decision has been negotiated with staff, the union and the school advisory board in a lengthy process.

A staff member will be on duty outside from **8.40am**. We encourage students to quickly drop their bags inside and then spend time with their friends in the yard before the start of classes. Although this may cause some inconvenience for families, Kelly Club is able to be accessed until 8.40am each morning.

Please do not leave students unattended at school prior to 8.40am. It is a child safety risk and they cannot be supervised by staff until 8.40am. We take child safety seriously at St Margaret's therefore students left unsupervised prior to 8.40am will be asked to join Kelly Club. Our staff, many who are also parents and must negotiate a busy morning, appreciate your support and understanding as we adjust to this altered bell time.



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

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

Literacy News

Literacy Update

One of the main curriculum goals this year is to increase a positive reading culture across the whole school. The great news is that teachers have already started making progress in Term One.

The Year 3-6 teachers have continued to use Scholastic's Literacy Pro. A program that matches student's reading ability (Lexile level) to a suitable text. These books are housed in the main hallway and have recently been updated and rearranged for easier student access.

Year 5 and 6 classes have been working on building Reading Stamina: to read independently, for uninterrupted, extended periods of time. Some of our students have been able to build their reading stamina up to 15 minutes, that is an incredible achievement.

The junior classes will be studying minibests and writing information reports this term so we have purchased a large selection of beautiful nonfiction books that will hopefully pique our students' interests.

We have also been able to source some vibrant, nonfiction big books for our preps, who will use these to learn about the wider world and build their vocabulary.

Another crucial step in building and maintaining a strong reading culture is to have a school library that is purposeful, inviting, and conducive to reading. Our hardworking P & F committee has organised a (limited ticket) raffle fundraiser to win a Thermomix. Proceeds of your \$20 ticket will go towards a library upgrade to provide better seating and appropriate shelving. This will create an inspiring space that is designed to encourage learning and will bolster a strong reading culture where literacy is valued.

We know that school libraries play an integral role in increasing educational outcomes for all students, so please purchase a ticket to give our students a wonderful, warm library where they can read, relax, and connect with others.

A promotional poster for a Thermomix raffle. On the left is a photo of a Thermomix machine with a cake on top. The central text reads: 'Win a Thermomix valued at \$2359', 'Tickets \$20 each', 'Only 400 available'. Above this is the St Margaret's Primary School logo. To the right, a dark blue circle contains the text: 'Mother's Day Online raffle. Drawn 12th May 8.30am'. Below the circle is a QR code. At the bottom left is the URL 'https://rafflelink.com.au/stmargpstherrnomix'. On the right side of the poster, white text on a dark blue background says: 'Please continue to share throughout social media and by collecting an A4 poster from the office. To pop up in your staff room or sporting clubs.'

Jaki Groves
Literacy Leader



Project Compassion

If any remaining Project Compassion boxes could be returned as soon as possible, that would be great!

School Community News

Meet the Staff of St. Margaret's (a few at a time!)



Name: Anne Miller

Role: Office Manager

Years at our school: As a student 9 years (the school went to year 8 then, I didn't have to repeat any years) As a parent 12 years and as staff 28 years.

Family: Husband John. children Tim, Clare, Sam, daughters in laws Steph and Ally and 8 delightful grandchildren.

Loves: Family time, friends, garden, being creative, a good movie.



Name: Rosa O'Beirne

Role: Deputy Principal,
Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader

Years at our school: 6 & 1/2

Family: My husband John, my Corgi with attitude Banjo & my fancy Goldfish

Loves: All creatures great & small, stories, sculpting & a good laugh.



Name: Lauren Ruffin

Role: Languages Other Than English (Italian) Teacher

Years at our school: 1.5

Family: A tight knit, loud Italian clan with Arnie our Labradoodle and two Burmese cats: Zara and Xena.

Loves: Living a healthy life! Strength training, eating well + spending time with the people I love.



Name: Marg Dunn

Role: 3/4 Teacher
Education in Faith Leader

Years at our school: 21

Family: Lots! I'm the youngest of 8.

Loves: My home, my cats, my 21 nieces & nephews & all their kids, 'nerdy' tv, books & films, swimming & organizing!

School Community News

‘Bully No More’ and ‘The Cyber Bully’

As part of our ongoing commitment to the wellbeing of our students and child safety, all classes will attend drama presentations on Thursday in the multi-purpose room by Starrs Production.

11.40am ‘Bully No More’ (P/1/2)

12.30pm ‘The Cyber Bully’ (3/4)

2.20pm ‘The Cyber Bully’ (5/6)

These plays end with question and answer sessions with the actors and are followed up with classroom discussion. You can read a little about the shows below.

BULLY NO MORE

Bully No More dramatises a troubled friendship between two students at primary school. Eric can't understand why he is always being picked on by Becksy at lunch time. He confides in his good friend Ralph who gives him a few home truths and some great advice. He sets out to discover why Becksy treats him the way she does.

As Eric begins to understand what is making Becksy act the way she does he discovers that he and Ralph can help her through peer support and friendship. They discover they can be friends after all.

The play dramatises what bullying is; physical, verbal, visual and offers positive strategies that enable children to deal with bullying. A de-brief session is offered after the play.

THE CYBER BULLY

Zoe and her cousin Edward have a lot of time on their hands. They are always online. One day Zoe discovers she can torment the girls she doesn't like in her class using her favourite social networking sites and her mobile phone. She and Edward let loose thinking its harmless fun. Neither realises the impact of their actions. Things get a little crazy and Zoe starts suffering text-iety, post traumatic texting disorder not to mention post text depression. Eventually Edward and Zoe face the consequences of their actions.

The Cyber Bully is an entertaining play that explores the serious issue of cyber bullying among young people. The play looks at the misuse of texting, social networking sites and unauthorized use of pictures and footage. There will be a de-brief session offered after the performance where the actors will address important issues that are raised during the play and occur due to cyber bullying.

COMMENTS FROM SCHOOLS

Great performance from the actors. I like the audience interaction.-**Andrews High School WA**

The children really enjoyed the play and it was excellent to stimulate classroom discussion-Thank you!

-**St Mary's Anglican girls' WA**

The play is a good way to get a serious message across. The students enjoyed the performance especially the comedic aspects but took onboard the serious message.-**Deniliquin South Public School**

Mother's Day Raffle

RAISING FUNDS TO TRANSFORM OUR
LIBRARY



Mother's Day
Online raffle.
Drawn 12th
May
8.30am

**Win a
Thermomix
valued at
\$2359**

Tickets \$20 each
Only 400 available



Help our community raise funds for our Library Transformation Project. We know that school libraries play an integral role in increasing educational outcomes for all students. Providing an inspiring space that is inclusive, warm, and designed to encourage learning will bolster a strong reading culture at St Margaret's where literacy is valued.

Help us raise funds for this much needed project and go into the draw to win an amazing prize of a brand new Thermomix TM6 valued at \$2359!

Only 400 tickets available.

Tickets are for sale in Victoria only.

Tickets are priced at \$20 each, 2 tickets for \$40, 3 tickets for \$55, 6 tickets for \$110

**TO ENTER SCAN THE QR CODE
OR GO TO THE FOLLOWING
LINK**

[HTTPS://RAFFLELINK.COM.AU/STMARGPSTHERMOMIX](https://rafflelink.com.au/stmargpsthermomix)



St Margaret's PS
Athletics Day
28th April
9.30am
Landy Field

↙
**Come & see
our future
Olympians
take the
track.**

Coffee Van available on site.

COFFEE VAN

Pies -\$5.50
Pasties - \$5.50
Sausage Rolls - \$4.50
Hot Dog - \$6.00
Salad Roll - \$8.00
Sandwiches - \$6.00
Focaccia- \$9.00



Coffee/Hot Chocolate
Regular \$5.00
Large \$6.00

Tea \$4.00

Espresso Alfresco

MOTHER'S DAY MORNING TEA

MUFFINS



with mum

Join us for coffee & a muffin to
celebrate the special women in our
life.

Friday 12th May
8am-9am
on the basketball
court.

All welcome.
Please RSVP
by 5th May for
catering purposes

Thermomix
raffle
drawn at
8.30am

