



**St. Margaret's**  
Primary School

# NEWSLETTER

*Term Four, Week 7*  
*November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**#30**

## ***From Rosa's Desk***

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the year, yes, six more weeks until Christmas and the busyness this time of year creates. It is more important than ever that you hold space for your life and the people in it. Think of a small action that can show your gratitude. Try reaching out to someone who makes a difference in your life and your children's. Being thankful for good experiences in our lives and the kindness of others can help us through an overloaded calendar or challenging times.

Therefore, I take the time in particular to thank our amazing staff at St Margaret's. This term has already brought an abundance of experiences for our students. We should not take for granted that these opportunities are a given in every school. An enormous amount of work and thought has gone into creating these experiences. With the support of parents, I believe St Margaret's school community is working hard to provide a learning environment whereby students are 'present' and 'grateful' for their learning and do not simply 'do school'.

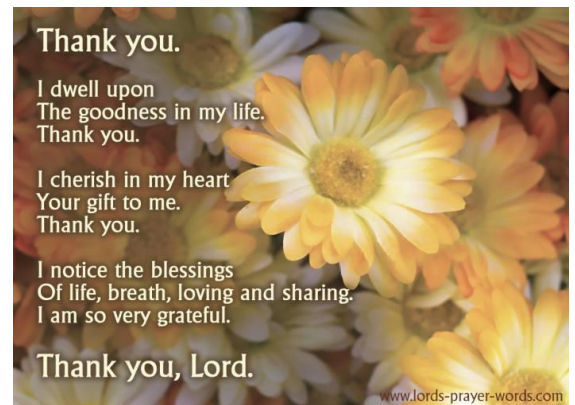
The additional experiences have included camp, sleepover, the Art Show, and community walks. And if that is not enough, there is still more to come, such as St Margaret's Feast Day, Colour Run, Carol singing for our Senior Citizens and a Beach Picnic, to name just a few. Make sure you keep abreast of the events leading up to our final day of Term 4 by placing the Calander of Events included in every newsletter somewhere visible.

This gratitude poem is one of my favourites that might prompt you to stop and reflect on your otherwise busy day and be still.

Last Friday, November 10, students and staff gathered at our newly refurbished flagpoles to commemorate Remembrance Day. Each class laid a wreath that they made at the foot of the flagpole and, like millions worldwide, paused in silence to mark Remembrance Day at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. It gave our students and staff a chance to stop and think about those who have fought and died in conflict since World War 1.

Students last week spent time in class discussing the importance of this day, including the significance of a red poppy. Poppies symbolise hope for our future and commemorate the soldiers who fought and died in war. Although we do not glorify war, it is an opportunity to reflect on those who have given their lives in conflicts so that we may live in freedom and peace.

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.

## ***School Community News***

***Term 4***

Our community wishes to congratulate our Year 3 students who received their Sacrament of Reconciliation last week. In this sacrament, they received the healing forgiveness of our God for times when they had not 'made the right choice'. It is a time of prayerful and meaningful experience. As a school community, we pray this sacrament will further strengthen their relationship with God and others.

Forgiveness is one of the significant characteristics of the Christian faith. God forgives us all our sins and faults, but we, too, are required to be forgiving people. In fact, the words of the Lord's Prayer, which Jesus Christ himself taught his disciples, ask God to 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'. Sometimes, our friends and family let us down, as we sometimes let them down. Forgiveness of each other, as God forgives us, restores the bonds of love and friendship.

Thank you to Marg Dunn for coordinating and making this a special occasion for our students and families. Also, for the support Leonie Cann, Matt de Jong and Jess Barjasic have given in preparing our students.

Have a wonderful week,  
Rosa

### ***The Colour Run***

Congratulations to all those who have been able to contribute to our Colour Explosion Run4Fun; to date, we have now raised over \$10,000 for our school. We are on track to meet a target of \$ 15,000 with only 2 weeks to go.

A consent form was sent home last week. The form is only to be returned to school if you do not wish your child to participate on the day, Thursday, 23 November.

#### **What to Wear**

All students participating are to wear a white T-shirt to school on the day and comfortable bottoms.



### ***Help Needed***

The P&F are looking for 4 more volunteers to help run the event on the day. It promises to be a fun event, so if you have the time, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the office if you are willing and able.



## Calendar of Events

Term 4

### November

Tuesday November 14 <sup>th</sup>	P&F Meeting 7pm in the staff room
Thursday, November 16 <sup>th</sup>	St. Margaret's Feast Day
Friday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>	2024 Prep Orientation Session 2
Monday, November 20 <sup>th</sup> (week)	3/4 Swimming Program (not Thursday)
Thursday, November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Colour Explosion Run P&F (no assembly)
Monday, November 27 <sup>th</sup> (week)	5/ 6 Swimming Program

### December

Friday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Yr 1-2 Christmas Extravaganza
Friday, December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Assembly – 3/4 presenting
Tuesday, December 5 <sup>th</sup>	2024 School & House Captain Speeches
Friday, December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly – Prep presenting
Monday, December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Beach Picnic
Tuesday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	2024 Prep Orientation Session 3
Tuesday December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Step Up Day
Tuesday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	School Board
Thursday, December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Graduation 2.30pm
<b>Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Casual Clothes (touch of Christmas)</b>
	<b>End Term 4, 1:30 finish</b>



2024

### January

Tuesday, January 30 <sup>th</sup>	Students start
<i>Preps will attend Tuesday to Friday for Week 1 with a 1.30pm finish each day</i>	

### Icy Poles



Our Year 6 leaders will be selling icy poles weekly on Fridays. These will be \$1 per Zooper Dooper! All funds raised go to support Viqueque. Thank you for your support.



St Margaret's Primary School

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Parish Priest: Father Jim Clarke [frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au](mailto:frj@stmarysgeelong.com.au)



*School Community News*

# *Aussie of the Month*



*This month's nominated student has been acknowledged for displaying the value of Respect for self, others, our community, and the environment.*

*Congratulations to  
**Estelle Calabrese**  
for receiving this acknowledgement  
from peers and staff at St  
Margaret's.*



## *St. Margaret's Feast Day*

On Thursday we celebrate our Saint Margaret's Feast Day. It will be a somewhat smaller celebration than last year. Please note: students will eat their lunch and snack at different times than usual and have their lunch first. Students should also wear their sports uniforms and make sure they have a drink bottle and a hat.

### *Timetable for the Day*

- 9.05 Liturgy under playground tree  
(in the church if the weather is not nice)  
Advent boxes launch
- 9.30 Classroom working time
- 10.50 Fruit but no snack
- 11.00 Recess with disco run by P&F
- 11.40 Students eat (early) lunch
- 12.15 Kaboom Sport rotations on oval
- 1.45 Students have their snack
- 2.20 Normal afternoon

Parents are welcome to join us for the morning liturgy to remember the life of Saint Margaret and her values that we try to live by each day at our school. If you'd like to help with the disco, please contact the P & F.

*Student Voice*

*Five / Six NA*

# My highlight from Camp Kangaroobie was...

## Miller Y

..... running through the obstacle course with Jude, Dom, Nash and Miss Niah and getting really muddy.



## Lachlan R

... playing life or death, working with other carnivores and developing new codes to help out each over.



## Jude Q

...playing mugby in the sand and having fun with my mates.



## Georgina M

... playing life or death with Izzy and having hot chocolate watching space jam. The night walk with Mat was fun because all of the scary stories he told.



## Lucas W

... visiting the pigs every day and feeding them fruit.



## Alex W

...riding in the cage on the farm tour going like 50 km an hour was so exhilarating!





## Gabriele I

...life or death because I was in nature and it was really exhilarating.



## Charlotte B

... farm activities, especially feeding the cows.



## Jonathan M

...playing with the two dogs Luna and Echo. I loved play with them and they were so adorable and nice to all of us.



## Isla E

... the obstacle course because I've never done something like that and I had so much fun and couldn't stop thinking talking about it.



## Eloise B

... the obstacle course and getting the muddiest of anyone, my favorite obstacle was the slide because at the bottom there was loads of mud and I covered myself in it. I am proud of my classmates for having a go!



## Adriel S

... when Mr De Jong screamed as if he was being attacked by the Otway panther!



## Tom H

... was the obstacle course because I got to try something new and getting muddy and working with Izzy but the tunnel of love was great and bad at the same time



## Kiana W

...obstacle course because I loved getting muddy and working with Charlotte Butcher but the bad part was the tunnel of love. I also loved hanging out with Jazmine, Mia and Chesta!



## Nash G

... seeing Richard the steere and getting to feed him and getting to see his waves and getting to pat him.



## Stella H

...kissing the pigs bum!



## Estelle C

... mugby because I never thought I would enjoy it but in the end I loved it and I would do it again maybe I could do mugby when I grow up.



## Clayton C

... doing the night walk and getting soaked by the rain. Then coming back Drinking hot chocolate and eating cake.

My Favourite part was getting soaked.



## Izzy F

... gaga ball because everybody was inclusive and we all had a go. The teachers brought out the speaker, Miss Niah put on cool jams and we all had fun. I also loved the hot chocolate since it was nice and warm.



## Mr Aulsebrook

... canoeing with Lucas and seeing everyone else do so well.



## Dominic N

... doing the beach walk and knocking people down in mugby.





## Student Voice

**Remember**  
**By Charlotte Butcher**

**20th of November, 1918**

He was gone.  
Lost in time.  
The war was over.

The big tree swayed with the wind like a pair of graceful dancing flamingos. The town was silent. The usual roar of cars was absent. Because everyone was mourning. Mourning for their loved ones that they'd lost. Tears like tiny, glittering diamonds rolled down my cheek like a waterfall of sorrow. A sad tune played by the trumpet filled my ears as the town bowed their heads in remembrance of the brave, courageous and valiant soldiers who fought in the barbaric war.

I sat beside the tree away from the crowd. I watched as the sun sank below the horizon, spilling its last burst of light beyond the town. I thought of how my dad had said that the sun would follow me, guide me through hard times. But all I felt was that the sun was my foe leaving me behind. We used to play in the big tree and pretend that the trunk was our seats and the leaves were our joy ride to paradise. We were destiny's best friends. But he perished in the war. Never to return.

I curled up under the tree and imagined the great big car that rich men drove around the village. Suddenly the branches of the tree curled into a large shiny car with fire flies as lights and big leaves as extremely comfortable seats. I gasped with astonishment as the car revved and the engine roared like an infuriated tiger. I grasped the wooden steering wheel, doubt running through my veins. Was this a dream? I pinched myself hard on the cheek. Negative. It really hurt. I suddenly felt nauseous. Why did I pinch myself? I took a deep breath and imagined something else.

I imagined a crazy vehicle with wings made of iron and a body of steel. Inside were hundreds of seats with a pilot's area at the front and a restroom at the back. This vehicle would be unique. It would be the first machine made by a girl. What made it even more wonderful is that this vehicle could fly. It would cut through the strongest of winds in the highest of skies. The vehicle would soar over the

## Five / Six NA

heads of mesmerized men and women. This vehicle would be called the plane.

This time I was ready. The leaves and branches of the tree came alive like squirming snakes, as they entwined with each other to make the machine of my dreams. Because I knew it was my dreams. My thoughts. But it was somewhat real in its own magical way. I opened my eyes to the real world. The dazzling sunlight showered my features. I was on the soft, cool green grass, laying under the trunk of the tree. The mysterious *uncanny* tree. It wasn't a dream that had just happened. It was a memory. A memory of my father. He would always be with me in our favourite meeting place. The big magical tree.

Out of my dress pocket I pull an old tethered peacock feather. It was my father's favourite from his collection.

'This is for you Faye,' my father had said as people scurried by saying goodbye to their loved ones. He handed me a magnificent peacock feather.

'But Daddy this one's your favourite,' I had said, shocked. He and my mother exchanged a gloomy look. I was too young then to know but now I do. My father wouldn't tell me that he might not come back. He was too afraid that I would become miserable when he left for the journey of his life.

'That's right, and that's why I'm giving it to you. You're even more special than this gorgeous feather. You deserve this more than anyone in the entire world. *Keep going when I'm gone Faye. Promise*'.

I hugged him tight. I promised to keep this feather safe as a memory of him.

But this power might be dangerous and people might think I'm going crazy. Me and my mother might be isolated from other people.

So for the last time I closed my eyes and imagined my father for he would always be with me. I opened my eyes. There, in front of me was my father. He wasn't real. But ghostly, and his features were weirdly non-existent. Yet he was still beaming. From that day on I knew that my father would always be with me. Always be with me in my heart.

***Forever and Always.***



## **Super Sleepover Summary Sentences!**

### **By JB**

Man, when I left school on the day of the sleepover I was bursting with excitement. For 1, it was one of my first incursion of the year, and 2, it's a sleepover!! Ishea

I was so excited to come to the school sleep over and when we got there we played a game of dodgeball. Zac

I played basketball for ages! I was so tired. We also played murder in the dark with our torches, it was super fun. Thomas

At the sleepover I ate a pineapple zooper dooper while hanging on a bar. Freya

When we played the games it felt different being at school after hours. Frankie

We started setting up like finding a spot you wanted to sleep, unpacking all the stuff we brought. I brought a mattress, sleeping bag and pillow but I did not sleep good. Finley

We ran around in the 5/6 room to find the letters. It looked very different in the dark, as it was usually pretty bright! (by the way, the word was "excitement") Maeve

It was dark and spooky and our torches were shining everywhere and we were playing murder-in-the-dark! Madison

We went outside and played murder in the dark. It was such a blast. Isaak

It was so cool seeing the school; it looked haunted and spooky. I got to hide in murder in the dark and no one found me in the rosemary bushes. That was my favourite thing. Emilyya

Before we went to sleep we watched a movie. It was amazing! Miya

My favourite time was when I was sleeping with my friends. My dad loaned me his mattress. Ivy

When Mr B left the classroom we went crazy but when Mr B came back we were silent. Bella

Mr B made us play silent ball in our sleeping bags. When you missed the ball then you lay down. Aryan

When we woke up I was still tired from going to sleep at like 11.00. Archer

I was so tired! The boys woke me up at 6 o'clock. We had breakfast and we got to play outside. Quinnie

When it was pickup time, I was excited and sad that it was over but I will remember the FUN! Piper

I hope everyone enjoyed the sleepover and it was amazing to see lots of smiles at the sleepover activities. Rylan

The 3/4 sleepover was a blast! The thought of being able to sleep at school? Cool! Harriet

## Student of the Week

CLASS	STUDENT	AWARD
PREP	Isla Ventieri	For her amazing writing about our Scienceworks excursion
PREP	Ihsan Fareed	For his engagement and enthusiasm at Scienceworks
1 / 2 KH	Mila Ghin	For working really hard in numeracy to learn 3 and 4 digit numbers fluently.
1 / 2 KH	Ava Addy	For her excellent progress in her reading and writing this year. Well done Ava
1/2 KH	Jake OToole Ludena	For his excellent attitude towards school and his learning. Well done Jake.
1 / 2 JK	Mac Salkeld	For consistently demonstrating the qualities of an effective learner
1 / 2 JK	Killian Chui	For his wonderful contribution to our classroom this year.
1 / 2 PB	Aiden Coumans	For his effort in writing a creative and detailed narrative.
1 / 2 PB	Boston Coots	For continually displaying a positive and persistent attitude.
1 / 2 AC-EB	Annie Butcher	For your exceptional effort and positive attitude towards learning. Well done!
1 / 2 AC-EB	George Vapp	For including lots of descriptive language in your writing. Well done!
3 / 4 MD-MDJ	Juan Mathew	For the enthusiasm and effort she places into every task and the improvement she is making.
3 / 4 MD-MDJ	Eliana Vaz	For the wonderful manner she interacts with all those around her and the smiles she brings to the class.
3/4 LC	Harry Lydom	For his reliable, practical and invaluable assistance in the classroom.
3 / 4 LC	Tamiko Kai	For her creativity and enthusiasm for learning and sharing.
3 / 4 JB	Rylan Littlewood	For showing his best behaviour throughout the day.
3 / 4 JB	Quinnie Westwood	For always trying her best in all areas of learning.
5 / 6 NA	Stella Hayes	For having a go at every opportunity that Camp Kangaroobie has to offer
5 / 6 NA	Gabriele Ienco	For meeting every challenge at Camp Kangaroobie with a growth mindset
5 / 6 LD	Alastair Broad	For your insightful contribution to class discussions and helping hand to others while on camp
5 / 6 LD	Logan Blackwell	For giving everything your best shot on school camp! Well done Logan!
5 / 6 JW	Khalil Chui	For his kindness and mateship throughout the year.
5 / 6 JW	Leo Rivo	For his efforts and being a hero on school camp last year.



## School Community News

### Christ Breakfast Program

We have vacancies for 2 volunteers per date below for the Christ Breakfast Program:

29th December

12th January

26th January

Please email Joel Kearney [jkearney@smgeelongeast.com.au](mailto:jkearney@smgeelongeast.com.au) if you are available and Joel will add you to the roster and provide you with more information.

## Social Justice Action 2023 Yr 1-2

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Calling all our families to support Geelong Mums through donating good pre - loved children's clothing from Monday 13th to 30th November. [Wk 7-9]  
Drop them off at the front office or outside Rm 4 - 1-2 KH]  
Thank You for your help, kindness and generosity. Yr 1-2 Level



Our school commemorated Remembrance Day last Friday.  
Students were attentive and very respectful.





**St. Sebastian's Syro-Malabar Mission, Geelong**  
Syro-Malabar Eparchy of St. Thomas the Apostle, Melbourne  
46, Lomond Terrace, East Geelong

We would love you to be with us for the  
Syro-Malabar Cultural Night @

**GEELONG WEST TOWN HALL**  
**153 PAKINGTON ST,**  
**GEELONG WEST**  
**VIC 3218**

**INDIAN FOOD MUSIC**  
**LIVE PERFORMANCES**



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NOVEMBER  
**18**  
2023  
Saturday  
5.00PM



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Dr. Seuss's  
**THE CAT**  
IN  
**THE HAT**



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**SUMMER HOLIDAYS!**

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