



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term Four, Week 11
December 12th, 2023

#35

From Susan's Desk

Dear Families,

We have reached the end of the 2023 school year and we have a very busy week ahead to celebrate our achievements!

Last week our Year Five students applying for a 2024 school leadership position presented their speeches to their peers, teachers and parents. All those that attended were truly impressed. The students' courage and determination in presenting these is admirable. Their work over the past few weeks was very clear to see. Our student leadership structure will look slightly different in 2024, providing more opportunities for our students to engage in student voice and learn valuable leadership qualities. Students and staff voted for those they think will fulfil the requirements of these positions irrespective of gender.



2 School Captains
2 Vice School Captains
2 House Captains for each House

2024 Year 6 students were also able to write an application to apply for the following leadership groups:

Social Justice Leaders
FIRE Carrier Leaders
ICT Leaders
Sustainability Leaders

Our 2024 Year 5 students also had an opportunity to apply for a student leadership position as a FIRE Carrier. This ensures more of our students experience a leadership role and develop skills in readiness for our Year 6 positions. All positions will be announced at the final assembly on Friday.

Monday was a fabulous day at Torquay for our whole school beach picnic. Our Yr 6 students enjoyed spending time with their buddies and all our students enjoyed the day!

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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

On Tuesday we have our step up morning from 9am to 11am. Our students will work with their 2024 teacher and classmates for this time, getting to know each other and the room where they will be working in for 2024. We will also welcome our 2024 Prep students for their final orientation session and any new students joining our school in the new year. After recess students will return to their 2023 classrooms.

Thursday we will celebrate and farewell our Graduating class of 2023. All families are invited to our whole school liturgy in the church beginning at 2.40pm. It is a time to reflect on their years at primary school and give thanks for all they have contributed to our school community. We will also farewell our Year 6 leaving families.

On Friday we will celebrate the 2023 school year with a whole school assembly at the church after recess. We plan to begin this at 11.50pm. Our Preps will perform their traditional Nativity Play before we farewell Ned Aulsebrook, Laura Doran, Leanne Donovan and Jess King. Our 2024 school leaders will also be announced.

We are so fortunate to be part of such an amazing school community. I met with the P&F last week, who have done outstanding work raising an incredible amount of funds for our school and for all our students. It is a small group of hard working mums that meet and arrange these incredible events. It is also the generosity of our families that ensures the donations we receive.

This year alone the P&F have donated:

- \$10,000 towards the library refurbishment
- \$2000 towards sports equipment
- \$2000 towards classroom resources
- \$7000 towards decodable take home readers
- \$6000 towards digital technology equipment
- \$1000 towards wellbeing

These are items that the school could not afford, yet benefits the learning, teaching and wellbeing of every student in our school. I wish to thank the P&F regular committee members for 2023:

Nicole Noonan	Bethany Young
Virginia Salkeld	Libby Fitzgerald
Natalie Hearsch	Sarah Poole
Fran Jackson	Narelle Belle
Sarah Hanan	Hayley Stephenson

I also acknowledge Nicole Noon who is stepping down as president. Her leadership, dedication and energy will be missed. We thank her for many years of service, including throughout Covid.

These events need volunteers. We are hoping that all families in 2024 can volunteer their time to support just one event throughout the year to ensure the workload remains manageable, and our students continue to benefit from this incredible fundraising!

Our School Advisory Board meets regularly to discuss items of interest and concern around school matters. I would like to thank them for their continued dedication to our school and for their advice and support throughout the year. I particularly thank Anna Maher and Gianfranco Natale for participation on this board, as they step down from their roles.

Prep:	Kristy Fletcher	One:	Luke Jackson
Two:	Janelle Geoghegan	Three:	Gianfranco Natale
Four:	Virginia Salkeld	Five:	Sam Butcher
Six:	Anna Maher		

Leadership and Management News

I also wish to thank our dedicated crossing supervisors that keep our children safe no matter the weather. As you pass them this week, please ensure you thank these hard working supervisors. Our school always looks amazing and this is due to our incredible cleaning team. Thank you to Rod, Colby and Cheryl for their ongoing cleaning of our school. Nothing is ever too much trouble. Our garden and outdoor space this year has been well looked after by Andrew Herwynen and his team from Jim's Mowing. Thank you for your ongoing support in this space.

Finally I would like to extend my sincere and unwavering gratitude to all our staff at St Margaret's. I am constantly amazed at their enthusiasm, dedication to education and the care for each and every student within our school community. They are constantly thinking of ways to engage our students, make learning enjoyable and offer the best education possible. This is clear to see in their daily interactions, and the planning of each lesson. I am so grateful that we have such a strong team of office staff, LSOs, and teachers. To them I sincerely thank you for all your efforts in 2023.

Please remember we have a 1.30pm finish on Friday. Students do not need a coin donation, but are able to wear casual clothes with a touch of Christmas.

Enjoy your summer break and I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas with your family and Santa visits each house. If you are staying home, or travelling please stay safe and I look forward to seeing you all in 2024.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Susan

Reminders

Graduation

***Thursday at 2.30
in Saint Margaret's Church
then the Multipurpose room***

Final Assembly

***Friday at 11.50
in Saint Margaret's Church
Prep Nativity Play
Announcement of 2024 Leadership***

Friday is our Final Day

***Students may wear casual clothes with 'a touch of Christmas'
(NO coin donation needed)***

Dismissal at 1.30



St Margaret's Primary School
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Ph 5229 7453

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

Leadership and Management News

School Fees

In accepting enrolment at St Margaret's it is an expectation that families pay school fees. These contributions help to supplement funding the school receives from State and Federal Government Grants.

School Fees for 2024

The Family Fee:	\$1,600.00	per family
Building Levy:	\$ 200.00	per family
Student Levy:	\$ 300.00	per Student
Camp Levy:	\$ 50.00	Year 3 & 4 Students
Camp Levy:	\$ 300.00	Year 5 & 6 Students
ICT Levy	\$ 50.00	Prep – 2 Students
ICT Levy	\$ 100.00	Year 3 – 6 Students

Payment due dates and amounts are as follows.

Term	Due Date	1 child	2 children	3 children	4 children
1	16 th February	525.00	600.00	675.00	750.00
2	17 th May	525.00	600.00	675.00	750.00
3	16 th August	525.00	600.00	675.00	750.00
4	18 th October	525.00	600.00	675.00	750.00

The above amounts do not include the Camp or ICT Levies

A statement will be sent out each term and we ask that **all fees** be finalised by **Friday 18th October.**

Fees can be paid by the following methods:

- Internet banking: BSB: 083347 Account: 658335261

Reference: Family name & Initial or Account Code

- At the school office by EFTPOS

Direct Debit – Forms available from the school office

Parents who are Health Care Card Holders may be eligible for a rebate. Please contact the office for more information.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns regarding payments.

Student of the Week Awards

CLASS	STUDENT	AWARD
PREP	Darcy Menheere	For her commitment and wonderful efforts in the Nativity Play.
	Louis Gray	For rehearsing his role as Angel Gabrielle beautifully.
1 / 2 KH	Oscar Poole	For an outstanding year - Congratulations and good luck!
	Summer Ryan	For an outstanding year - Congratulations!
	Olive Spencer Harmer	For an outstanding year - Congratulations!
1 / 2 JK	Sarah Smith	For being a great friend
	Lacey Chapman	For being a patient and empathetic class member.
1 / 2 PB	Boston Coots	For an outstanding year. Well done!
	Mackenzie Ballard	For her progress this year. Well done!
3 / 4 MD-MDJ	Willow Clarke	For her everyday unassuming attitude and creative style.
	Miller Clarke	For being a source of optimism and enthusiasm for learning in the classroom.
	Ivy Simonsen	For being a great helper elf in our Christmas classroom.
3/4 LC	Airlia Likoudis	For being a courageous learner with a positive attitude.
	Archie Turner	For his respectful manner and kindness to others.
3 / 4 JB	Chloe Bidlo	For putting others first and demonstrating a positive mindset at all times.
	Finley Vaughan	For putting her best foot forward in the classroom at all times.
5 / 6 NA	Isla Eslick	For her moving poem reflecting on her time at St Margarets.
	Johnny Michael	For creating and presenting a great speech.
5 / 6 LD	Lachlan Werner	For always being a role model and demonstrating the school values .
	Georgie Seaman	For maintaining a positive attitude and a growth mindset.
5 / 6 JW	Jock Golding	For your efforts in 2023, thanks for a great year.
	Jack Hagebols	For being responsible, respectful and safe. Great work mate.

Carol Singing

Holly Maloney

This week the 3/4s went to Whitehaven Haven nursing home and Grovedale nursing home to go carol singing. The 3/4s had so much fun singing. We think the residents there really enjoyed us there and would love us to come again. We could tell by their smiles they loved us there as much as we loved being there.



Colour Run with 5/6 JW

Student Voice

My favourite part of the colour run was when we ran with our buddies and I got so much powder on me and I fell over on the floor.



BILLY

My favourite part of the colour run was the teachers getting slimed!!

SHERMAINE



My favorite part of the colour run was doing a second lap around the course with my buddy (Aj).



DAISY

My favourite part of the colour run was when Ms. Tania got slimed because she fell over when she was coming out of the slime pit.



MIA MASON

My favourite part of the colour run was, when I got a bottle and tipped water on Mr Wilson's head and got to run around again with my mates.



JACK HAGEBOLS

My favourite part of the colour run was, watching Mr Wilson getting slimed.



MAX RUSSELL

My favourite part of the colour run was having dance contests against Miss Doran, which I won most times.



LEO. R

My favourite part of the colour run was when the teachers were getting slimed by the students.



Solomon

Colour Run with 5/6 JW

Student Voice

My favourite part of the colour run was, at the end when everyone went around the course again. We swam in the slime pools and threw them at each other.



NASH O'LEARY

My favourite part of the colour run was seeing everyone have so much fun and enjoying the event.



**LILLY
GEOGHEGAN**

My favourite part of the colour run was when Mr Wilson got slimed. Also watching everyone else having fun.



SOPHIA

My favourite part of the colour run was, The colour ruining my sister t-shirt, it was really fun because the social aspect felt like I was at a concert! Overall 9/10



SETH STEVENSON

My favourite part of the colour run was getting to run around the course and getting covered in powder that tastes disgusting.



RILEY BUDGE

My favourite part of the colour run was Mr Wilson got slimed.



LYLAH.C

My favourite part of the colour run was at the end when everyone went around the course again.



JOCK

My favourite part of the colour run was when Mr. Wilson got slimed because it was hilarious.



GEORGIA

Colour Run with 5/6 JW

Student Voice

My favourite  part of the colour run was when me and my friends were running to get more powder and water sprayed on our shirts during and after the race course.



MIA.W

My favourite part of the colour run was when Loui slipped over in the water when he was running. **ZACH HARVEY**



My favourite part of the colour run was when Miss Niah got 2 buckets of Slime on her!!! 



IVY.T

My favourite part of the colour run was when I got to run with my buddy and watch the teachers getting slimed.



CHESTA



Five / Six NA – A Christmas Carol!



together in faith

Christmas Extravaganza



St Margaret's Parents and Friends

Auxiliary Report

for 2023

St Margaret's P & F would like to thank our community for helping us raise funds for the school, as well as provide wonderful events and eight special lunches for our students.

We are sure the students will have fond memories of all the events held this year, including the Art Show, Colour Explosion, pancake races, mother's day cake stall, muffins with mum, donuts with dad, footy jumper raffle, Easter egg raffle, thermomix raffle, and the mothers and fathers' day stalls.

The grown-ups also enjoyed the Bogan Bingo Night too.

Our profit for the year was \$29,200.

Included in this is the profit from the Colour Explosion of \$11,930, which was an amazing effort. Special lunches made a profit of \$6,384.

This has been contributed to the school to go towards:

STEM \$6000, Literacy (decodable readers) \$7000, wellbeing resources \$1000, and sporting equipment \$550.

Other contributions during the year to the school also include over \$10,000 for the library upgrade.

This would not be possible without the help of the P & F President Nicole Noonan, Vice President Bethany Young, and the P & F committee who put their hands up regularly. We appreciate all of your support.

For anyone wanting to help and contribute their time towards any fundraising and events next year, please look out for the AGM notice in early February 2024 and come along to a meeting. New appointments and committee members are needed.

We hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.


Thank you!



Reverse Advent Calendar



This year, the St Margaret's P&F, in collaboration with Ms Marg and the grade 6 leaders, are embarking on a heartwarming initiative to spread the joy of the holiday season. We are thrilled to announce that we will be delivering boxes to all classrooms, aimed at filling them with not only food but also Christmas cheer.



Our mission is to extend compassion and kindness to families throughout Geelong, ensuring that everyone can experience the magic of Christmas. With that in mind, we kindly ask all families who are able to contribute to this wonderful cause, by sending along thoughtful items to be included in your classroom reverse advent box. You can even create your own family box and deliver it to the school for us to share with those in need - simply let us know, and we will provide you with a box.

Now, let's delve into the workings of our Reverse Advent Calendar. Starting from St Margaret's Feast Day on the 16th of November until the 14th of December, an empty box will gradually transform into a symbol of hope, generosity, and abundance. Each day, for 28 days leading up to Christmas, we kindly ask you to place one or two non-perishable food items or toiletries into the box.

After the 28 days, our dedicated school leaders will collect your filled Reverse Advent Box and convey it to The Parish Pantry, where it will be distributed to people in our immediate community who are experiencing food insecurity. Through this initiative, we hope to make a tangible difference in the lives of those less fortunate, offering a helping hand of support and love during the holiday season.





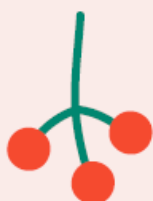
So, how can you contribute to this incredible cause?

It's simple! Begin by sending along items to put in the box, which will undoubtedly make a significant impact on another family's Christmas. To assist you, we have compiled a list of suggested items.

Meal boxes, Jar fruit, canned meals, dried fruit, nuts, crackers, biscuits, juice, tea, coffee, milo, peanut butter, Vegemite, jam, rice, pasta, noodles, pasta sauce, cereal, pancake mix, maple syrup, muesli bars, shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, tissues, toilet paper, treat food, chips, chocolate & Christmas items.



Together, let's make this holiday season a truly unforgettable one for those in need. Join us in spreading love, joy, and hope by participating in our Reverse Advent Program. Your contributions will undoubtedly bring smiles to the faces of families throughout Geelong, inspiring compassion and making a lasting difference in our community





**KELLY
CLUB**

THEME: Deck the Halls

Term 4 Week 10, 4th December 2023

Weekly Activities Plan
Kelly Club St Margaret's

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00 - 8:30 am	Breakfast & Projects Silent Ball	Breakfast & Structured Free Time Brain Break	Breakfast & Projects Heads Down Thumbs Up	Breakfast & Structured Free Time Brain Break	Breakfast & Projects Silent Ball
8:30 - 8:40 am					
3:20 - 3:50 pm	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)
3:50 - 4:10pm	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time
4:10 - 4:45pm	CRAFT Santa Head Advent Calendar 	COOKING Gingerbread Men 	DECORATIONS Create Your Very Own Christmas Decoration to Put on Your Christmas Tree 	CRAFT Reindeer Feet 	MINDFULNESS Christmas Mindfulness Colourings 
	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time
	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box
4:45 - 5:15pm	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time
5:15 - 5:30pm					
5:30 - 6:00 pm					

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**KELLY
CLUB**

THEME: Santa Claus Is Coming

Term 4 Week 11, 11th December 2023

Weekly Activities Plan
Kelly Club St Margaret's

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00 - 8:30 am	Breakfast & Projects	Breakfast & Structured Free Time	Breakfast & Projects	Breakfast & Structured Free Time	Breakfast & Projects
8:30 - 8:40 am	Silent Ball!	Brain Break!	Heads Down Thumbs Up	Brain Break	Silent Ball
3:20 - 3:50 pm	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)	Sign In & Goals and Values Afternoon Tea (See Menu)
3:50 - 4:10pm	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time
4:10 - 4:45pm	GAMES Human Wrapping or Kelly Sports 	CRAFT Candy Cane Felt Trees 	KINDNESS DIY Christmas Cards 	COOKING Decorating Sugar Cookies 	EARLY FINISH Christmas Movie and Christmas Party 
4:45 - 5:15pm	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time	Tidy Up and Free Time
5:15 - 5:30pm	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box	Late Snack Box
5:30 - 6:00 pm	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time

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