



St. Margaret's
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term One, Week 3
February 13th, 2024

#3

From Susan's Desk

Leadership and Management News

Dear Families,

Last Friday, at our first assembly for the year, our student leaders were presented with their badges for 2024. It was lovely to see many family and friends join us at assembly and to congratulate these students in their new roles. These students have already begun displaying their leadership qualities in our school community. Our FIRE Carriers experienced the LUME exhibition and have prepared a report about their experiences later in this newsletter. Our Sports Captains will be organising our pancake relays this week, and our School and Vice School Captains will be leading our Ash Wednesday Liturgy on Wednesday. I have enjoyed meeting with each leadership group and listening to their enthusiastic ideas for the year ahead.

Today, for Shrove Tuesday, the P&F kindly cooked our students' pancakes. It is always a highlight of term 1, and we thank those parents who donated their time for this event. The Sport Captains organised our students for their pancake races with much success. It was a wonderful morning learning about Shrove Tuesday. Tomorrow our students will be attending an Ash Wednesday Liturgy in the church at 9.15am. We invite families to join us at this time to mark a very special date in the Liturgical calendar. Thank you to Joel Kearney for supporting the students and in organising these 2 whole school events.

Please note the change due to a late clash in dates, we will need to postpone our whole school athletics day. This was to be held on Wednesday March 6th. We are now having this at Landy Field on Friday May 17th. Thank you for your flexibility and support and we apologize for any inconvenience caused to families.


This week we have begun our school tours for 2025 Prep families. We had a large turn out for our 2 tours yesterday. Please let family and friends know they are welcome to attend a school tour on Friday the 16th of February at 9.30am. We are also happy to arrange 1-1 tours at a convenient time. Enrolment packs can be collected from the front office.

Hot Cross Bun fundraiser information was sent last week. Check your child's bag for these or contact the front office if you require more forms. Easter raffle tickets will go home this week; one booklet per student. The P&F are requesting donations of Easter eggs for the raffle. Please hand these into the front office when you are next at school.

NAPLAN is fast approaching for our Year 3 and 5 students. If you do not wish for your child to sit NAPLAN or have any questions, please make contact with their classroom teacher or Renee Cunningham as soon as possible. Parent teacher interviews are also a good time to have these discussions.

Have a great week!

Susan



Dear Lord,
As we enter this Solemn and Holy Season, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might prepare ourselves for these coming 40 days of Lent. Help us to humble ourselves so that we can understand the magnificence of Your Love for us as, You humbled Yourself and gave your Life on the Cross that we might receive the gift of Eternal Glory with you.

Amen.

Share Catholic
www.sharecatholic.com

Child Safety Standards

St Margaret's is resolutely committed to promoting the inherent dignity of children and young people and their fundamental right to be respected and nurtured in a safe school environment. This is particularly so for the most vulnerable children, including Aboriginal and Torre Strait Islander children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with disabilities.

When allegations of abuse concerning children and young people are raised, St Margaret's will take prompt action to have these appropriately referred and investigated. The fundamental issues of understanding effective practices in child safety and identifying and responding to child harm are paramount for our school. We will strive for continual improvement that is responsive to emerging thinking, evidence and practice, so as to eliminate the possibility of abuse occurring in the first place.












Creating a child-safe school environment is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by the school, our families and our community. It is marked by collaboration, vigilance and proactive approaches across policies, procedures, curriculum, and practices.


Every person involved at St Margaret's has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people are at the forefront of all we do and every decision we make.

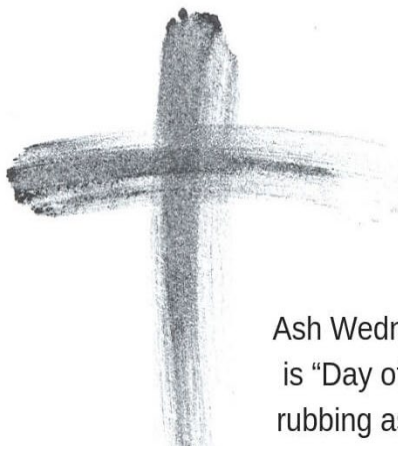
In accordance with requirements of the Victorian Government's Ministerial Order No 1359, St Margaret's maintains a culture of 'no tolerance' to child abuse. We ask that parents wishing to volunteers at our school complete the updated Child Safe Code of Conduct and give a copy of your Working With Children's Check to the front office.

Victoria's Child Safe Standards

Plain language summary

- 1** Your organisation welcomes Aboriginal children. You support them to express their culture and to enjoy their rights. You don't allow racism.

- 2** Child safety is important to everyone at all levels in your organisation. You document how you find, avoid, and stop risks of child abuse or harm.

- 3** Your organisation supports children to know their rights to be safe from abuse, informed, and involved. You help them to talk openly and take part in decisions that affect them.

- 4** Your organisation tells families and the community about what you do, and how you keep children safe from harm and abuse. You help families to have a say and to take part in decisions that affect their child.

- 5** Your organisation understands that every child is different and has different needs. You make sure that they can get the information and help that they need.

- 6** Staff know what they must do to keep children safe from abuse and harm. They record, report, and share information about child safety when they should. Staff who work with children have had the background checks they need.

- 7** Children and their families know how to make a complaint and what happens when a complaint is made. Your staff know how to respond properly to complaints.

- 8** Your organisation trains and supports staff to keep children safe from abuse and harm. Your staff know the signs of child abuse and harm and what to do if there are issues of abuse and harm.

- 9** Your organisation makes sure children are safe when they use your services, settings, and activities. This includes when children are online.

- 10** Your organisation checks and improves the ways you keep children safe from abuse and harm.

- 11** Your organisation has written policies about how you keep children safe from abuse and harm. They are easy to understand, and all staff follow them.


For more information, contact the Commission for Children and Young People
www.cccyp.vic.gov.au




What is *Ash Wednesday?*

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Its official name is "Day of Ashes," so called because of the practice of rubbing ashes on one's forehead in the sign of a cross.



Have you got your 2025 enrolment in?

School tour dates
Monday 12th Feb 9.30 & 4pm
Friday 16th Feb 9.30am

Or

Call our office to arrange a 1-1 tour.

TO BOOK A TOUR PLEASE CONTACT THE
SCHOOL DIRECTLY ON (03) 5229 7453

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 13th February

Shrove Tuesday. Gold coin donation
School Board 7pm

Wednesday 14th February

Ash Wednesday **Liturgy in Church 9.15am**
Prep Rest Day

Friday 16th February

School Tours for 2025 Preps 9.30am

Monday 19th February

Parent Teacher Interviews 3.40pm-6pm

Tuesday 20th February

Parent Teacher Interviews 2pm-5.30pm

Wednesday 21st February

Prep Rest Day

Friday 23rd February

3/4 Assembly

Saturday 24th February

Sacramental Enrolment Mass 6.00pm

Sunday 25th February

Sacramental Enrolment Mass 7.30am, 9.30am, 11 am

Monday 26th February

P-4 Responsible Dog Ownership Incursion

Tuesday 27th February

P&F Meeting 7pm Staffroom

Wednesday 28th February

Prep Rest Day

March

Saturday 2nd March

Sacramental Enrolment Mass 6.00pm

Sunday 3rd March

Sacramental Enrolment Mass 7.30am, 9.30am, 11 am

Wednesday 6th March

District Sport 5 /6 students

Thursday 7th March

Confirmation Preparation Day Yr 6 students

Friday 8th March

1 /2 Assembly

Monday 11th March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 12th March

School Captains & Vice Captains Leadership Conference Melbourne

Thursday 14th March

School photos

Friday 15th March

Indigenous author visit - Gregg Dreise

10th-17th March

Catholic Education Week

Monday 18th March

St Patrick's Day wear a touch of green. Yrs3-6 Liturgy. Guess the lollies

18th- 25th March

NAPLAN

Tuesday 19th March

School Board 7pm

Wednesday 20th March

Confirmation 7pm

Friday 22nd March

Prep Assembly

Thursday 28th March

Special lunch Hot Dog Day P&F

Last Day Term 1 1.30pm finish. Easter Raffle Draw.

April

Monday 15th April

School Closure Day. Staff Professional Learning

Tuesday 16th April

Term 2 Begins for students

NEW DATES

Friday 17th May

Whole School Athletics

Friday 6th September

Italian Day



St Margaret's Primary School

83 St Albans Road

East Geelong 3219

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

School & Community News

ST MARGARETS PRIMARY SCHOOL

BASKETBALL GAME



STAFF **VS** STUDENTS

MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2024

LUNCHTIME

TIP OFF - 1:45PM ON THE BASKETBALL COURT

RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE
1X TICKET = \$0.50C
3X TICKETS = \$1.00
5X TICKETS = \$2.00

WINNER OF RAFFLE WINS SIGNED GAME BALL

THE BEST OF LUCK TO YOU.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



WEAR A TOUCH OF GREEN

Drawn
Monday 18th March

GUESS HOW MANY LOLLIES ARE IN THE JAR.



Gold coin donation to enter.

YOU WILL FIND THE BIG JAR OF LOLLIES AT THE FRONT OFFICE FROM THE 4TH MARCH

ST MARGARET'S P&F
EASTER EGG

Raffle

DRAWN ON THE
LAST DAY OF
TERM
THURSDAY
28TH MARCH

Easter Donations



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 the school office.
We thank you for your ongoing support.

FIRE CARRIERS 2024



Welcome to the FIRE Carrier Program.

The aim of the FIRE (Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education) Carrier Project is to promote respect, fairness and inclusion for Aboriginal people. The FIRE Carrier Project promotes enculturation and reconciliation in Sandhurst schools. The FIRE Carrier project Covenant is like a Reconciliation Action Plan.

What is the role of a FIRE Carrier?

To be a FIRE Carrier is to exercise an important leadership role in the school community. FIRE carriers are students and teachers that share a passion for learning about Aboriginal culture and history and are committed to sharing this knowledge and promoting reconciliation within and beyond the school community.

CONNECTION EXPERIENCE @ THE LUME



On Friday the second of February, the Fire carrier team along with some of the teachers went and headed to Melbourne to visit the Lume exhibition about indigenous art, music and photos. These are some reflections from the students-

"I just kept coming back to that one painting, it which made feel really connected"

-Harriet

"It was of the most calming experiences I've ever been in"

-Nuwain

"The whole time I felt relaxed, and calm and in the moment"

-Molly J

"It was one of the best things in my life, it made all my senses tingle"

-Aiden

"I thought it was a great opportunity and, it was an immersive experience"

-Willow

"The atmosphere was simply amazing, the best thing I have experienced to date"

-Adriel

"I could've stayed there for ages"

-Jack

"I couldn't stop looking at the lights!"

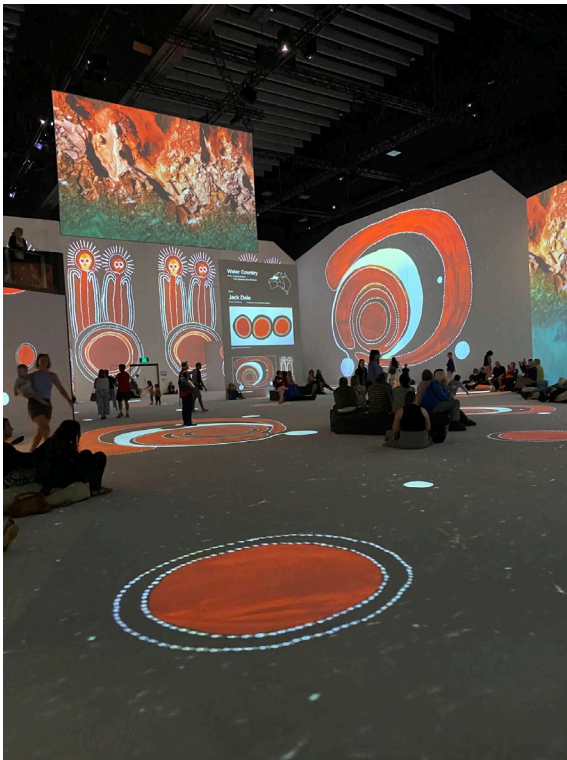
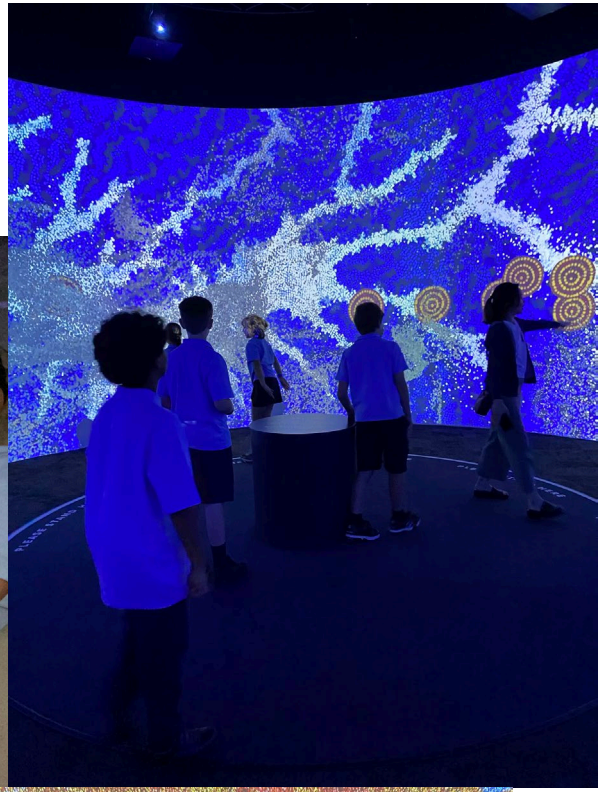
-Mia

"I was amazed how the pictures, the music and the light connected all of us. There was no need for words, we were all connected to the land and our rich indigenous culture. It was such a privilege to share this time with everyone.

-Ms. McBride

"I felt connected to all the art"

-Harrison



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

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:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/pages/csef.aspx>

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, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE GEELONG

COLLEGE TOURS

St Joseph's College Geelong 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 2025 are now open, apply via the college website.

Bookings essential, register via our College Website: sjc.vic.edu.au



Tours commence at 9:00am

Monday 18 March Wednesday 20 March
Tuesday 26 March Wednesday 27 March
Wednesday 17 April Friday 19 April



ENROL NOW FOR YEAR 7 2025

Open Tour Dates:

- MONDAY 18 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM
- TUESDAY 19 MARCH 11.00 AM – 12.30 PM
- WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 11.00 AM – 12.30 PM
- THURSDAY 21 MARCH 9.00 AM – 10.30 AM
- THURSDAY 21 MARCH 4.15 PM – 5.45 PM

BOOK A TOUR ONLINE NOW

IONA.VIC.EDU.AU



**KELLY
SPORTS**



SIZZLING

SUMMER SPORTS!

LEARN NEW SPORTS IN TERM 1



Have heaps of fun with your friends while playing a range of dynamic and active sports throughout term 1.

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

 KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU